

Institutional Strategic Initiatives (ISIs)

Leah Cowen

Vice-President, Research and Innovation, and
Strategic Initiatives

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**Institutional
Strategic Initiatives**



Institutional Strategic Initiatives (ISIs)

ISI Portfolio Objectives:



Launch, grow, and sustain interdisciplinary research networks



Address grand challenges through integration across domains



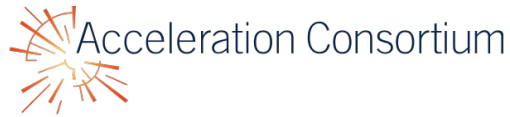
Raise the profile of the university through coherent excellence-driven research narratives



Position the university to compete for talent and funding



ISI Supported Initiatives to Date



Climate Positive Energy (CPE)

Re-envisioning our energy systems

- University of Toronto's centre for interdisciplinary clean energy research.
- Linking science, social science, engineering, economics and policy researchers to transform our energy systems and ensure energy access and production is equitable.
- Works to support Canada in reaching its net-zero 2050 targets and becoming a global clean-energy model.
- Facilitates collaborative research, builds partnerships, promotes knowledge translation, and provides training opportunities for students and faculty.



Academic Director: Professor David Sinton, Professor and Canada Research Chair in the Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering

CPE | Engaging Industry and Community



Fireside Chat on Innovation for Carbon Capture & Utilization

- CPE and the Ontario Clean Technology Industry Association (OCTIA) welcomed more than 60 researchers, policy makers, and industry experts to the University of Toronto for a sold-out event celebrating innovation in carbon capture and utilization.

CPE | Grid Modernization Centre

First-in-Canada Centre will support business and organizations as they accelerate clean technology development



- \$10 million investment from the Government of Canada.
- 50 partners from the energy ecosystem including: federal agencies, industry, utilities, regulators, start-ups, as well as industry associations.

Minister Ya'ara Saks highlights the importance of the Centre in supporting Canada's electrical grid and business developing clean technologies (photo by Liz Beddall)

CPE | Siemens Canada



U of T and Siemens Canada partner to transform the energy grid

- Multi-year agreement that seeks to transform the energy grid and boost Canada's ability to provide clean energy to communities.

Siemens Canada CEO and President Faisal Kazi and Leah Cowen, U of T's vice-president, research and innovation, and strategic initiatives, after signing an institutional partnership agreement focused on advancing sustainability energy systems (photo by Liz Beddall)

CPE | CANSTOREnergy Research Technology

To mitigate climate change and address social inequality, energy systems need to be re-envisioned

- Climate Positive Energy led the development of CANSTOREnergy: Seasonal Storage of Renewable Energy, a collaborative effort being supported by \$24M through the federal New Frontiers in Research Fund's 2022 Transformation Competition.



Leading in Sustainability



- The 2025 edition of the QS World University Rankings: Sustainability ranked U of T first out of more than 1,700 institutions across 95 countries.
- U of T performed particularly well in the social impact category this year, moving up three spots to first globally.
- U of T is playing a leadership role in sustainability by engaging with regional, national and international partners.

Thank you!



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Institutional Strategic Initiatives 2019-2024

Interdisciplinary research excellence



<https://isi.utoronto.ca/report>