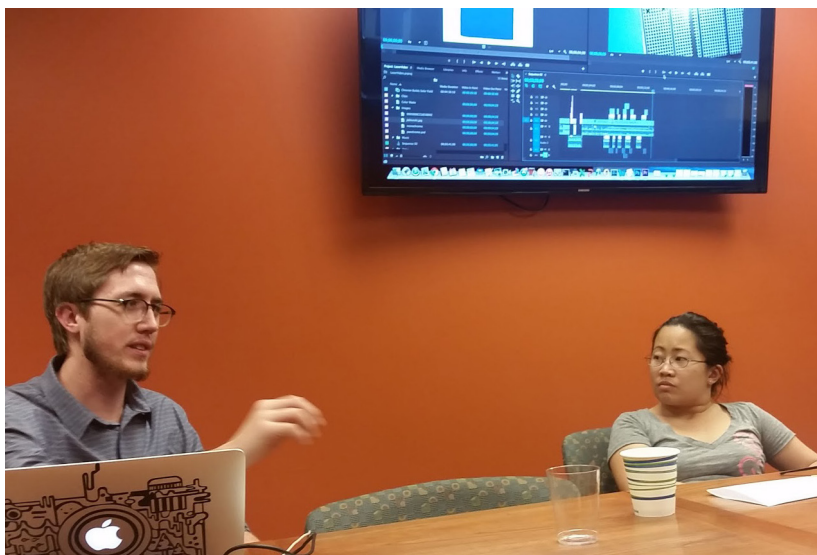


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## ENERGIZE NEW MEXICO INNOVATION WORKING GROUPS

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YEAR 3 ANNUAL REPORT: EDUCATION & OUTREACH



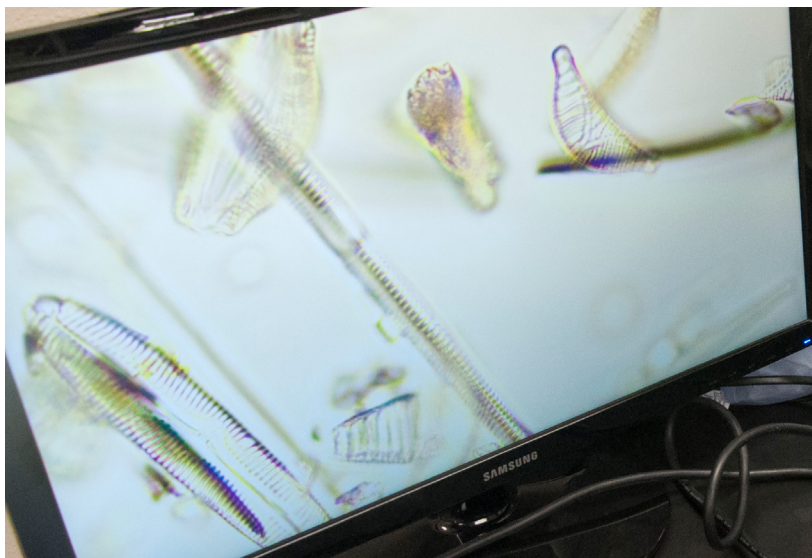
Interdisciplinary Innovation Working Groups (I-IWG) provide a venue for researchers, educators, and nationally recognized experts to address grand challenges that require an interdisciplinary approach to transform science. I-IWG support is aimed at groups that emphasize the collaborative development and testing of important ideas and theories, cutting-edge analysis of recent or existing data and information, the use of sound science policy and management decisions, and investigation of social issues that pertain to energy development that minimizes impacts on water and the environment.

In Year 3, we awarded three I-IWGs: *Linking Desalinization Technologies to Geothermal Greenhouse Operations*; *In-situ Leaching of Uranium: Methodology and Environmental Aspects*; and *Developing Effective Communication Techniques to Relate Graduate-Level Research toward Informal Educational Audiences*.

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The intent of the Infrastructure Seed Awards (ISA) program is to increase the access of undergraduate students, especially women and members of underrepresented groups, to research experiences by increasing non-PhD granting institutions' capacity to provide research experiences for students. Faculty members at any public 2 or 4-year New Mexico institution of higher education that does not offer STEM PhD degree programs are eligible to apply for these awards.

In Year 3, NM EPSCoR funded three ISAs: *A Storage Area Network to Enhance the Capacity of Northern's Undergraduate STEM Research and Training Experiences* at NNMC under Jorge Crichingo; *Growth of Heat/Salinity-Tolerant Microalgal Strains from Cheese Whey Wastewater in Photobioreactors* at ENMU under Juchao Yan; and *Optimization of Algal Culture and Lipid Extraction Techniques for Use in Biodiesel Production* at WNMU under Shawn White.



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## ENERGIZE NEW MEXICO INFRASTRUCTURE SEED AWARDS

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