## Rocky Mountain INFORMS: Save the Date - November 4, 2021

The Rocky Mountain INFORMS Chapter is pleased to host Jahi Simbai and Dr. Ben Kneuven. Jahi is the Senior Manager, Workforce Development, in Human Resources at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). In this role, he partners across NREL to build an integrated strategy and plan for the "Workforce of the Future," primarily focusing on internship and post-doctoral programs. Prior to NREL, he was the Assistant Dean, Office of Graduate Studies at Colorado School of Mines. Earlier in his career, he worked as a structural analyst for Ball Aerospace. He holds a BS in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Colorado at Boulder and an MBA from the Leeds School of Business at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Dr. Bernard (Ben) Knueven is a Research Scientist at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. He holds an M.S. in Mathematics from Miami University and earned his PhD in Industrial Engineering from the University of Tennessee in 2017. Prior to joining NREL in 2020, Ben was a Staff Scientist at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM.



Title University Engagement for Workforce Development and an Overview of Operations Research at NREL

**Abstract** The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) states "the energy transition will be enabled by information technology, smart technology, policy frameworks and market instruments." What's missing in this statement is a reference to the workforce that must be present to enable these elements. At the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) the Workforce Development team in Human Resources, passionately advances the mission of NREL by sustaining, cultivating, and creating strategic pathways for interns, postdoctoral researchers, and others to work within the lab and further their knowledge and careers in the fields of renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Complex Systems Simulation & Optimization Group, part of the Computational Science Center, in the Materials, Chemical, and Computational Science (MCCS) Directorate has direct research in multiple areas across the lab, focusing on renewables integration and expansion. Learn about the pathways into NREL and the intersections of Operations Research.

We will then discuss research opportunities in energy systems applications of operations research, in particular, appplied to the planning and operations of large-scale electric grids. We will examine open-source optimization-based software packages, including MPI-SPPY, a library for stochastic optimization, and EGRET, a library of optimization models and meta-solvers for electric grid operations.

anewman@mines.edu is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Jahi Simbai Zoom RMIC Time: Nov 4, 2021 05:30 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada) Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: https://mines.zoom.us/j/96456783746?pwd=QVJsRmY4eVRLbXVLYTVEZmN5QXJCZz09 Password: 724245 Or iPhone one-tap: 13462487799,96456783746# or 16699006833,96456783746# Or Telephone: Dial: +1 346 248 7799 (US Toll) or +1 669 900 6833 (US Toll) Meeting ID: 964 5678 3746 International numbers available: https://mines.zoom.us/u/ahFoXp2l1 Or a H.323/SIP room system: H.323: 162.255.37.11 (US West) or 162.255.36.11 (US East) Meeting ID: 964 5678 3746 Password: 724245 SIP: 96456783746@zoomcrc.com Password: 724245