Global Renewable Energy Education Network: My GREEN Experience

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My name is Cal Reese and I am a 4th year student studying Electrical Engineering. As a boy I was captivated by the size and mechanics of wind turbines, and since then I’ve maintained an interest in Renewable Energy and Sustainability. Imagine my excitement when in May I was able to participate in an amazing, life changing experience in Costa Rica with motivated students from around the world. I spent twelve days gaining hands-on experience, fueled by exclusive access in different types of Renewable Energy facilities. Site workers taught us first-hand the technical aspects of these energy systems, policy implications, environmental impacts, and the business implications of these energies. I, along with my twenty new friends from Universities nationwide, worked on community service projects in a developing community, giving back to people that were so welcoming and willing to share their culture with us. We also worked in teams to create business models focused on renewable energy and sustainability. These proposals could easily turn into a successful business, which could potentially have a lasting positive impact on the planet and its' people. Not only did I learn a ridiculous amount, I also pushed my personal barriers by stepping out of my comfort zone with adventure excursions such as surfing, hiking in the jungle, waterfall jumping, zip-lining alongside monkeys and sloths, and much more. I was able to experience a new culture, giving me a new perspective on life and allowing me to become a global citizen. I built amazing relationships that will last forever, and I accomplished all of this in twelve action packed days.

I want to share my story with other students and the University of Toledo community. Please consider reaching out to me to learn more about my story. If you’re interested in Renewable Energy, there may be a chance for you to experience a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Costa Rica through GREEN.

Thank you.