

Alternative Energy Committee Announces Lecture Series

Lafayette, LA— The Acadiana Alternative Energy Committee will hold the first lecture in its Fall Lecture Series on Thursday, October 22. Dr. Mark Zappi will present *An Introduction to Alternative Energy Technologies* at 1:30-2:30 p.m. and 6:00-7:00 p.m. All lectures are free and open to the public and will be held at the Lafayette Economic Development Authority (LEDA) Resource Center, 211 Devalcourt Street.

The Acadiana Alternative Energy Committee was established in response to the growing national commitment to clean and renewable energy and as an effort to maintain Acadiana's place as a leader in energy production and services.

The committee is spearheaded by Dr. Mark Zappi, Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, along with Chad Hanks, President of the Lafayette Parish Farm Bureau, and Gregg Gothreaux, President and CEO of LEDA.

Key stakeholders in the region make up the committee, including representatives from state and local government, members of the agricultural community, researchers from UL Lafayette and the LSU Ag Center, economic development officials and business leaders.

The committee will analyze regional strengths for alternative energy production, the recruitment of alternative energy businesses to the area, and build upon identified strengths including existing energy infrastructure, a well-trained workforce, suitable climate conditions and natural resources, and ample expertise in renewable energy technologies at UL Lafayette.