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## ***LOCAL COLLEGE STUDENTS INTERNS AT NATIONAL LABORATORY***

Morgantown, W.Va.—Eva Salas, a Denver, Colo., native, was selected as an intern under the U.S. Department of Energy's Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship program. Eva is completing the 10-week summer fellowship at the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) in Morgantown, W.Va. The fellowship program is sponsored by DOE's Office of Fossil Energy.

Eva is pursuing her bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering at the Colorado School of Mines. She is working with NETL researcher Kirk Gerdes to investigate the effect of common syngas trace elements on the performance of solid oxide fuel cells (SOFC). At the Colorado School of Mines, she has been working with Dr. Neal Sullivan, director of the Colorado Fuel Cell Center, as well as an engineering professor on campus, helping to conduct corrosion analyses on SOFCs. She is also involved with the several academic, professional and community programs that fall within the Minority Engineering Program at the Colorado School of Mines.

The Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship Program offers summer internships to minority students to enhance their knowledge and gain hands-on experience. To participate in the program, students must be enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student pursuing a degree in mathematics, science, engineering or technology and must hold a minimum grade-point average of 3.0.

Mentored by scientists and researchers, the interns are assigned specific projects related to their skills and qualifications, and they write, present and publish a technical paper at program's end. The fellowship provides interns the opportunity to develop their professional, technical, leadership and communication skills, while promoting careers in the Fossil Energy Program, particularly in fossil fuel research and development.

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