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**U.S. Department of Energy**  
National Energy Technology Laboratory  
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## ***NETL* REPORTS:**

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Dimitri Hughes, a fourth year graduate student at the Georgia Institute of Technology, was selected as a fellow under the U.S. Department of Energy's Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship program. Hughes is completing the 10-week summer fellowship at the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) at the Morgantown, W.Va., research site. NETL also has major research facilities in Pittsburgh, Pa., and Albany, Ore. The fellowship program is sponsored by DOE's Office of Fossil Energy.

A native of Middletown, Conn., Hughes is pursuing a doctoral degree in mechanical engineering. She is working with her mentor, NETL researcher David Tucker, on a project employing the use of solid oxide fuel cell/gas turbine hybrid systems. The work has potential for efficiently producing energy on a large scale in an extremely efficient and environmentally benign manner.

The Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship program offers summer fellowships to students from underrepresented groups in science, technology, engineering and mathematics 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 fellows 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 fellows the opportunity to develop their professional, technical, leadership and communication skills, while promoting careers in energy, particularly in fossil fuel research and development.

NETL is one of the U.S. Department of Energy's national laboratories. NETL – "the ENERGY lab" – focuses on America's economic prosperity, which requires secure, reliable energy supplies at sustainable prices. Three overarching issues characterize the energy situation in the United States. They are energy affordability, supply security, and environmental quality. The Department of Energy's only government-owned, government-operated national lab, NETL is a research and technology center where these energy challenges converge and energy solutions emerge. NETL implements a broad spectrum of energy and environmental research and development programs through its own research staff and through funded research at other labs, universities, and industry that will return benefits for generations to come.