



News, Research and Events

May 19, 2021



The future of Houston as energy transitions

Houston is well-positioned to pioneer the continuing evolution of the global energy system, writes [Center for Energy Studies](#) Senior Director [Ken Medlock](#) in a new report. Its comparative advantages — including the region's engineering talent, subsurface expertise, depth of knowledge in the chemical and conversion industries, significant experience in logistics and supply chain management, and favorable business environment — in addition to the state's tremendous energy resource wealth, have already placed Texas in a leading position nationally in several different areas. For Houston to retain its reputation as the "energy capital of the world," a strategy is needed that adapts its existing advantages to the temper of the times. Read Medlock's [full report here](#).

"There is a moral and ethical obligation for the government and the health sector to make sure that everyone gets a fair shot at a healthy life. With more intentionality to the issue of [racial and ethnic] equity, we can do better next time."

[Elena Marks](#), Nonresident Fellow in Health Policy,
in ["Equitable Vaccine Distribution"](#)



Baker Institute summer interns to head for D.C.

Congratulations to the 10 Rice students selected for our 2021 [Summer in D.C. Policy Research Internship Program](#)! Now in its 18th year, the prestigious program offers living stipends to students who secure their own internships with government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and think tanks in Washington, D.C. At the end of summer, the interns return to campus to present their research to an audience of Baker Institute fellows and Rice faculty members (pictured above).

Like other [student opportunities](#) at the institute, the D.C. program is “a central element of our mission — educating and nurturing the next generation of decision-makers, public servants and thought leaders who will shape our nation,” said [Ambassador Edward Djerejian](#), the Baker Institute's director. “These programs have a unique track record of helping students gain valuable experiences they can build on throughout their lives.”

Program alumni have gone on to clerkships with federal judges, become foreign service officers at the State Department, and secured jobs in Congress and at global nonprofit organizations, among others, said [Steve Lewis](#), who leads the initiative and is the institute's C.V. Starr Transnational China Fellow. “Many of the 160 alumni of the program have told us it played a critical role in their early professional development for public service careers,” he said.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the program and this year's outstanding participants, and [here](#) to see where the first 16 cohorts of Rice students interned in D.C. and where they are today.

Upcoming Events

Webinar — Regenerative Medicine: Proven Treatments, Unproven Treatments and the Policies That Promote Both. Experts explore stem cell therapies and the unproven treatments that impact patient health and clinical research. **May 20 | Noon CDT**

Webinar — Preventing the Next Pandemic: Vaccine Diplomacy in a Time Of Anti-Science. Vaccine scientist and Baker Institute fellow Peter Hotez discusses his new book on preventing the next pandemic. **May 24 | 2 p.m. CDT**

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