

Center for Next Generation PV Sector Challenges



Heath Naquin



Initial Thrust of Center

- Started Journey in 2010 at CSU
- UT Austin Added as Site
- 9 Members early on
- Materials Research focused on PV Cells
 - CIGS
 - CdTe
- Thin Film materials were the way to go in Solar at the time



Solar Industry Evolution and Challenges

- In 2008: More than 200 VC and Industry Backed Solar Companies
- Between 2009–2012 more than 90 had gone bankrupt or were sold at a loss
- Companies stopped taking chances on materials research
- Membership Value Proposition unclear
- Membership Dwindling (down to 6)



- In 2012 the IUCRC looked to redefine value proposition for industry in solar
- Utilized Customer Discovery Process (I-Corps) to build awareness across industry
- Restructured leadership
- Increased collaboration with new institutions
- Focused on leveraging existing members



- Two Institutions (Third on the way)
- 12 Members (3 more in final stages)
- New Thrusts
 - Materials
 - Balance of Systems
 - Education and Policy
 - Energy Storage
 - Defense Applications



Questions?

