



July 2024

## Dear OpenMinds Colleagues and Friends:

Summer is in full swing and for OpenMinds, progress continues. We believe there is much reason for optimism – though limitless work remains. Here are some highlights from the second quarter:

### New Experts

*Communications*



**Bridgitt Arnold**  
Vice President - Communications  
Google

*Connecting America*



**Jayshree Desai**  
Chief Financial Officer  
Quanta Energy Services

*Decarbonizing Generation*



**Mateo Jaramillo**  
CEO  
Form Energy

*Communications*



**Nate Nickerson**  
Communications and  
Public Affairs Partner  
DCVC

*Decarbonizing Generation*



**Heather Redman**  
Co-Founder and Managing Partner  
Flying Fish Partners

*Communications*



**Rachael Porter**  
Chief Marketing Officer  
Oxy

*Decarbonizing Generation*



**Darryl Willis**  
Corporate Vice President,  
Energy and Resources Industry  
Microsoft

We are pleased to announce that **seven new experts have joined OpenMinds**, adding to our global expertise, skill mix, and diversity, and raising our capacity to advance our Impact Steering Committees' work.

## **Impact Committee Highlights**



### **NextGen Leaders**

Our amazing cohort of 30 future climate + energy leaders met in Houston for our **first- ever NextGen Boot Camp**. This inaugural class will work to directly shape the NextGen program to ensure a long-term coalition of future leaders. Speakers included [ExxonMobil](#), Cemvita, TexE, [Microsoft](#), Grid United CEO [Michael Skelly](#), and former Colombian President [Ivan Duque](#).

Next up for NextGen are small-group **impact projects with OpenMinds company sponsors** that will continue into early 2025. Their project areas are [\(1\) CCUS](#), [\(2\) methane abatement](#), [\(3\) coal-to-x switching](#), [\(4\) accelerating renewables](#), [\(5\) direct air capture](#), and [\(6\) transmission](#).

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## Communications

The Communications Steering Committee met in person and aligned on **strategy, audience definition, key differentiators, and initial tactics**, for further review at our Telluride Impact Summit. Outputs included specific messaging guidelines, website updates, and a LinkedIn template. These, and other planned “soft launch” tactics can increase awareness within our defined target audience of decision-makers and do’ers.

The committee also outlined an **“OpenMinds” playbook that can be used with specific use cases** to demonstrate how OpenMinds’ unique methodology can accelerate progress in energy transition and emissions reduction. Our partners at Bain have developed an early draft of the ‘playbook’, which will be available at the Telluride Impact Summit.

## Decarbonizing Generation

We are excited that **Bain’s Intersect Modeling Team** is developing a customized energy and emissions systems model for OpenMinds with a **P50 forecast to 2035**. Simultaneously, the Decarbonizing Generation Steering Committee is working on a **rollup of U.S. utility integrated resource plans**. These modeling efforts will provide unbiased data, and their foundational outputs will allow the committee to prioritize critical gaps and opportunities.

## ‘Connecting America’

The Connecting America Steering Committee is working on resources for lawmakers **proving the benefits of new and upgraded transmission capacity** as well as a ‘best practices’ guide for community benefit agreements. These resources

both address identified hurdles to accelerating infrastructure buildout and will help inform the committee's strategic priorities.

## **Kudos**



Congratulations to **Fervo** on its [record-setting deal](#) with Southern California Edison on the largest ever geothermal power purchase agreement, and to **Grid United** on its [agreement with PGE and ALLETTE](#), which can double transfer capacity between the eastern and western U.S. grids.

We also want to highlight **our continued gratitude to our tremendous partners in the Bain team led by Pete Guarraia**. In London and Brussels last month, Pete and David Baldwin met with Bain's UK/European leadership to better consider European insights and solutions into our Dual Challenge action, to explore how and when we might expand our work into Europe and the UK, and to better integrate Bain's global reach into our collective impact work.

## Looking Ahead

This year's **Telluride Impact Summit** will include current steering committee members and will be focused on accelerating committee work. Our agenda will center on specific **strategies for impact, engagement with external communications strategy, and formalizing KPIs** for accountability across the impact pillars and the OpenMinds organization. Alongside our work on the summit, we are exploring the best ways to effectively engage and update each of our valued experts and guests.



Our first class of NextGen Leaders, with their Steering Committee and OpenMinds co-founders David Baldwin and Jeff Katz.

## Get Involved

If you have suggestions for how OpenMinds can be better — and do better — kindly let David or Jeff know! **If you want to be involved as a mentor to a NextGen Leader**, please reach out to Mara Abbott.

For easy reference, we have attached the latest OpenMinds overview in PDF for you to share with your key constituencies.

Thank you, and we look forward to making more progress with your help, expertise, and input.

With gratitude,

*David*

– David Baldwin

*J. Katz*

– Jeff Katz