

Office of the Dean

Dean's Welcome Letter

Professor James VanNatta — Founder & Dean Vortex Energy University Established 2025

To all future scholars, partners, and vision-makers,

It is my honor to welcome you to **Vortex Energy University** — an institution born not from tradition, but from purpose. VE-U exists because the world is changing, and the challenges confronting our communities demand knowledge that is grounded in truth, strengthened by engineering, and guided by compassion.

This university began as a collection of research, field experience, and technical discovery spanning energy systems, climate inquiry, infrastructure resilience, and humanitarian impact. Over time, it became clear that this body of work represented something far greater than a set of documents.

It represented – a *curriculum* ... a *mission* ... a *calling*.

At VE-U, we believe that the pursuit of knowledge carries a responsibility: **To use what we learn for the benefit of others** — **especially those we may never meet.** Whether that means stabilizing a fragile electrical grid, transforming waste into opportunity, developing safe and innovative thermal technologies, or providing balanced understanding in the climate debate, our purpose is the same:

### To bring energy, security, and dignity to communities who need it most.

We stand for scientific integrity in a time where information is often shaped by politics or profit. We present opposing ideas with respect. We examine evidence without fear. And we never forget that real solutions must function in the real world.

You will find no ivory towers here.

What we build is practical, durable, and designed for service.

Our work is guided by three principles:

### 1. Truth over trends.

We investigate complex issues — from thermodynamics to climate science — with clarity and courage.

# 2. Engineering with empathy.

Technology means nothing if it does not help people.

### 3. Resilience for all.

Every community deserves access to reliable energy, clean environments, and safe infrastructure. As you explore the divisions of Vortex Energy University — Puerto Rico Resilience, Energy Principles & Technical Sciences, and Climate Studies — I encourage you to approach each page with curiosity, humility, and a willingness to see beyond familiar narratives.

VE-U is not just an institution. It is an invitation:

## To learn deeply, build boldly, and serve generously.

Thank you for joining us on this journey to create a safer, cleaner, and more resilient world. The work ahead is significant — and the impact will reach far beyond what we can imagine today.

Together, we will make a difference.

With purpose and resolve,

James B. "Jim" VanNatta

Founder & Dean

Vortex Energy University

Energy for Life