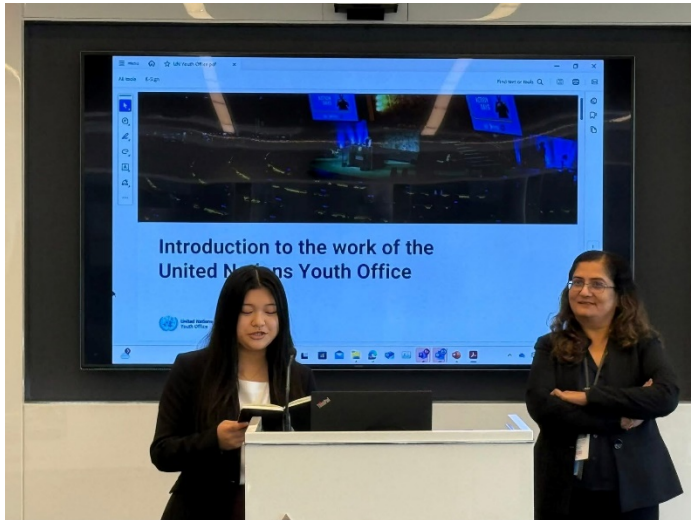




**An IVY 2026 Youth Volunteer Initiative:
Amplifying Student Access to Advancements in AI, Fusion,
Fission, SMRs, and the Energy Sector**



Submitted by: A Coalition of Texas Teen Leaders and Aspiring Innovators in AI, Nuclear, Fusion, Energy, and Policy with a Goal to Expand Youth Voices in Industry Advancement for a Social Impact.

Date: April 8, 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a low-cost, high-leverage initiative to integrate high school and college students into the public conversation on development through targeted industry conference participation, a Speakers Bureau for online youth-led events, and local events that amplify youth voices in AI and energy for improving mankind.

By bridging generations and an access gap, the program will accelerate workforce readiness, expand public support, and help achieve the SDGs.

This proposal is entirely student-driven based on proven experience with the recommendations, requires zero-to-minimal government funding, and delivers immediate returns. These returns are youth-generated social media content, knowledge multipliers who reach peer networks, and early identification of top talent for institutions involved in global improvements.

All components align directly with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and with the objectives of IVY 2026. This entirely youth-volunteer-led initiative directly supports IVY 2026 by mobilizing high school and college volunteers to bridge generational gaps, amplify youth voices about industry advancements in AI and sustainable energy, and drive grassroots contributions toward the 2030 Agenda.

This high-return youth volunteer pipeline will include everything from social media support for development as well as direct and meaningful community events planned by, led by, and strengthening youth, consistent with an emphasis on youth volunteering in their communities.

OBJECTIVES

This youth-volunteer-led initiative aims to actively integrate high school and college students into developments in AI, fusion, fission, SMRs, and sustainable energy. These youth-led volunteering will accelerate progress on key UN SDGs:



Advancing affordable, clean modern energy from youth awareness and support.



Strengthening youth voices in innovative infrastructure and technological development.



Generating youth-driven ideas for sustainable and resilient community energy systems.



Addressing climate and environmental impacts with informed youth engagement.



Building effective partnerships between youth volunteers, industry, and civil society.

By mobilizing young volunteers to participate in industry events, host virtual sessions, and organize community activities, students will serve as knowledge multipliers and generational bridges, delivering low-cost, high-impact contributions toward the 2030 Agenda.

BACKGROUND

As a group of motivated teen leaders, we are curious and seek to strengthen access for our peers for opportunities to engage on an effort to harness artificial intelligence (AI) for transformative breakthroughs for society. We started local in our community.



Then we began to expand beyond our community. We have hosted over a dozen virtual and hybrid events reaching hundreds of students, featuring leaders from Tokamak Energy, Helion Energy (sessions with 50+ attendees), Microsoft, Texas Governor Greg Abbott's chief advisors, and international figures including former President Elbegdorj and embassy officials in the area of technology.

 **Mongolyin Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj**
Oct 24, 2025 · 🌐

Хүний хүүхдүүд сортоотой байна шүү. Сэдвээ, ярих хүнээ сонгоод, олноороо цуглаж хэрэгтэй мэдээллээ авах юм. Шинэ эрчим хүч... See more

See translation

Former President and Prime Minister of Mongolia

Host from our guest speaker
President Elbegdorj Tsakhiia

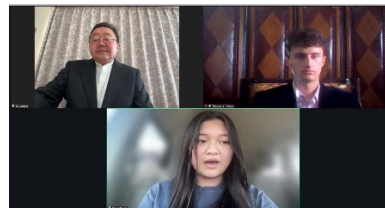
- Led Mongolia's democratic path from communism
- Advancing principles of democracy internationally through diplomacy
- Leading in transformative technology for human good

Meeting URL:
<https://tinyurl.com/57y6az2>

Wednesday, October 1st
2:30PT / 3:30MT / 4:30CT / 5:30ET

QR Code:

Join us and our guest speaker for a digital discussion. Learn about the intriguing connections between technology and diplomacy. Discover



We even led a group of students from Texas to New York City during the week of the UN General Assembly 80. The purpose was to develop relationships and have meaningful discussions with industry and government leaders.



These student-led initiatives have proven that youth: (1) desire to learn about what is changing in their world, even if it is a highly-technical discussion; (2) seek to engage with those already in the industry; and (3) can rapidly expand awareness and understanding throughout their communities of converging AI-energy technologies. We believe it is imperative for us to continue these meaningful events, adjusting as needed based on feedback, to bring these opportunities for local to national and even international discussions to our generation.



Without intentional bridges into national innovation ecosystems, capable students remain siloed, especially from rural, marginalized communities, war-torn, or under-resourced backgrounds. This throttles interdisciplinary innovation and slows global integration into the IVY and the SDG objectives.

Our goal is to close this gap by connecting motivated students directly to these ecosystems—multiplying awareness, accelerating talent readiness, and delivering durable generational returns at very low cost. Aligned with the SDGs, this proposal directly supports a year of activities to increase youth access.

PROPOSED DELIVERABLES & BENEFITS

1. Youth Access to Industry and Policy Conferences

Allocate a dedicated live quota (e.g., 10+ seats per major event) and virtual access for high school seniors and college students at leading AI-energy, fusion, SMR, advanced nuclear, and grid modernization conferences hosted by NGOs, labs, industry associations, or industry leaders.

A. Student Volunteers Will Seek:

- Pre-event briefing and designated conference point of contact.
- Structured engagement in Q&A and breakout sessions.
- Access to post-event presentations and synthesis briefs.

All selected students will undergo basic background screening consistent with general admission protocols; younger participants (<18) will use virtual options or attend with a chaperone provided by the recommending organization.

B. Benefits to the Goals of IVY:

- This directly is an opportunity created through youth volunteering to get the support of conference sponsors.
- It reaches students who cannot travel (remote locations, school schedules, minors) and builds broader public support for advanced technology and sustainable energy to fulfill the SDGs while increasing early workforce competency.
- The targeted youth beneficiaries are a younger generation who would not otherwise have professional development opportunities.
- The students will be encouraged to amplify others through generated youth-relevant social media content.
- Students can distill insights into peer-friendly summaries, becoming knowledge multipliers.

2. Online Speakers Bureau for Youth-Led Events

Companies, NGOs, and public officials agree to be in designate a rotating pool of speakers for virtual youth-led events (minimal time commitment for speakers a few times per year; no cost to anyone). Students and clubs browse by topic, company, or speaker. Host companies could set simple attendance thresholds (e.g., 25–100).

A. Student Volunteers Will Promote:

- Student club leaders expanding access to professional speakers, with a high value of direct engagement with Q&A.
- Youth obtain hands-on experience organizing and hosting events.
- Direct engagement with world leaders and young professionals.

B. Benefits to IVY and the SDGs

- This directly supports the workforce and human capital development goals by creating authentic industry-youth connections at zero government cost.
- Participating companies gain early visibility into top student talent and can fulfill workforce-development objectives effortlessly.
- Participating organizations can also use this as a professional development tool, giving their younger employees, who may not get opportunities to speak at conferences, an opportunity to speak with students who are in their own generation.
- For students looking for policy, social engagement, energy and technology speakers, this will replace “cold-email” outreach (which Bellwether has done and is challenging) with a streamlined, scalable system.
- This has the chance to rebuild generational connections.

3. Youth-Led Community Events

There will be committed high school and undergraduate students planning and hosting events in

communities. One such event was already held, but it was virtual. Additional local events will be planned, coinciding with energy week, earth day, and other meaningful days.

A. Student Volunteers Will:

- Work with local officials and companies to plan events.
- Create marketing materials and peer promotion.
- Identify partners that are of interest to different communities.
- Make connections with those that would otherwise not have access.

B. Benefits to the Mission:

- This would demonstrate the youth’s commitment to local communities.
- It gives an opportunity to local companies and NGOs to partner with youth for fun and educational events.
- Creates new friendships and allows inter-generational amplification of interests.

CURRENT SUCCESS & NEXT STEPS

To move from idea to impact quickly and responsibly:

- Jan/Feb 2026: Hosting Idea Sessions:
 - Our eight youth leaders have already held “idea meetings” with AI, fusion, and fission, NGOs, and government leaders. Furthermore, the youth leaders have held sessions with broad groups of peers at schools and in community groups to assess the desire for different levels of engagement.
- April 2026: Endorsements:
 - Our leaders have received two official endorsements for our ideas from industry leaders.
 - Furthermore, we are greatly expanded our partnerships: we are having weekly calls with top AI, fusion, and fission companies, as well as associations and leaders at universities.
- May 2026: Planning a Community Event
 - Our leaders broadened the discussion and are now expanding participation for an in-person event, second week of May 2026, energy week.
- Q3–Q4 2026: Assess, Build, Roll-Out
 - Measure results (student reach, feedback, social media impressions, partner surveys)
 - Prepare scale-up plan and roll out resources (expand and take virtual resources live),
 - Provide a Summer Virtual “Driving Question” Project for rural high school students: How can AI and Fusion provide actionable success of the SDGs?
 - Continue with community events.

VOLUNTEER SELECTION AND INVOLVEMENT

We believe that in an IVY project about access, the leadership should reflect diversity to have a greater chance at success of attracting different types of youth volunteers.

Our leadership team serves as an incubator of diversity. Our eight student leaders represent six different school types, five racial backgrounds, all community types (urban, suburban, rural, and farming), and diverse socio-economic and life experiences. Yet we have come together for common volunteering goals. Our leadership team is open for others to join—the only criteria are an innovative and motivated mindset.

Furthermore, any volunteer can participate. There is not a screening process, only the willingness to participate in dialogue and to contribute to community.

METRICS FOR SUCCESS

While the efforts and objectives align with IVY2026, the leaders of this initiative expect, through the help of student volunteers, help to achieve the following:

Volunteer Hours: 16,960 in 2026

- At least 120 volunteer hours for EACH of the eight student leaders (960 volunteer hours in 2026)
- At least 2,000 volunteers beyond the eight student leaders, each contributing at least 8 hours (16,000 volunteer hours in 2026)

Events: 16 in 2026

- These will be both virtual and in-person.
- They will also be international and local.

Impressions: 500+ in 2026

- The current eight volunteer leaders commit to a minimum of 50 social media posts, with concerted efforts to amplify other volunteers and to get partners to do the same.
- All volunteers will be encouraged to post about each event, engaging with supporters, and how the event supports the objectives of IVY2026 service.



CONCLUSIONS

Thank you for your consideration. We have seen extraordinary excitement from high school and even junior high students when given direct access to our plans. As some of our leaders go to college this fall, we want to keep bridging campus and real-world innovation.

From our experience, we have seen teachers, counselors, school leaders, and especially our parents be very supportive of these out-of-school opportunities. Rural, homeschool, and under-resourced students are especially eager, and many industry leaders respond with genuine enthusiasm.

We seek an expansion of our current endorsements, commitments for conference access quotas, and speakers for the Bureau to launch pilot activities immediately.

As a lasting legacy of IVY 2026, this initiative will create a self-sustaining network of youth volunteers equipped to drive innovation in AI and clean energy for decades to come.