

Case Study | DR. JEFF DAHN & TESLA

Dalhousie University is training a new generation of scientists who are at the forefront of dynamic technology.

Unlocking the potential of renewable energy is essential to a sustainable, prosperous future for our planet. And Dalhousie University's Dr. Jeff Dahn has discovered a set of keys.

For more than 35 years, Dr. Dahn has been at the forefront of research and innovation in battery technology. Through a mixture of fundamental and applied research, the work of his team can be found in lithium-ion rechargeable batteries used in power tools, electric vehicles and other devices around the world today.

Dr. Dahn is the most recent winner of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council's (NSERC) Herzberg Canada Gold Medal, a prestigious award honoring his innovations in the area of batteries and energy storage. His is just one success story from a research community on a roll. Three of the past four Herzberg recipients have been Dalhousie faculty—a very rare feat in the 20-plus year history of the award.

A NEW ERA OF INNOVATION WITH TESLA

Dr. Dahn's global leadership in lithium-ion battery research also earned him the inaugural Governor-General's Innovation Award and resulted in an

exclusive partnership with Tesla to advance a worldwide transition to sustainable energy. Tesla—which aims to not only improve electric vehicles, but “accelerate the world's transition to sustainable energy”—signed on to a five-year exclusive collaboration with Dr. Dahn's lab, focused on increasing the lifetime, decreasing the cost, and improving the energy density of lithium-ion batteries. This is Tesla's first university partnership.

EMPOWERING A FUTURE GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS

Dr. Dahn's legacy also lives through his collaboration with students. He is teaching and training future generations of scientists, providing a foundation for students to learn and work at the cutting edge of an exciting field with access to top tier industrial collaboration around the world. Over the years, Dr. Dahn has trained over 50 PhDs and 20 to 25 postdocs. Virtually all of them, including Novonix founder Chris Burns, have gone on to careers in the battery materials or lithium-ion battery space. Dr. Dahn sees a better future for how we power our planet, and it's a sustainable future he and his students are helping to build.

