



PowerBytes

IEEE East Tennessee PES/PELS Joint Chapter's Annual Newsletter

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On the Chapter's participation in the IEEE PES Day 2021

Photo by PHANI MARTHI



Awarded High-Performance Chapter World-wide by IEEE PES for our Activities in 2020



SUMAN DEBNATH

CHAIR,
IEEE ET PELS/PES JT.
CHAPTER

Message from the Chair

When Ben Ealey, Alex Melhorn, and I established this Chapter four years ago with support from Burak Ozpineci, our goal was to provide a platform for engineers and researchers in the region to socialize and learn from each other's activities. Today, I can confidently say we have achieved much more – thanks to the immense support of our Chapter volunteers. We not only have a platform to socialize and exchange ideas but also cultivate relationships and grow knowledge. I have, personally, gotten to know several colleagues in power and engineering as well as in power electronics in the region. I can vouch the same for others. One quote I would like to share from a member – “I got to visit a substation for the first time thanks to this Chapter” – an exhibition of engagement facilitated by the Chapter in the region. It has also been a privilege to host several seminars and workshops by distinguished lecturers from around the world (North America, Europe, Asia, New Zealand, Australia). In the past year, we have continued our activities like the popular technotainment series and have added new activities like hosting impressive workshops on non-wires alternative and clean energy.

Message from the Incoming Chair

As incoming Chair of the chapter, my mission is to increase visibility by engaging with local communities and industrial partners, support local education and students, and continue seminars from distinguished lecturers and industry professionals. Supporting young generations from this region and helping hone their engineering skills will pave way for a brighter future.



RAFAL WOJDA

INCOMING CHAIR,
IEEE ET PELS/PES JT.
CHAPTER

PowerBytes: 2021 in Review



Chapter Achievements

ADITYA SUNDARARAJAN

We have celebrated the chapter's performance and our volunteers' achievements in this past year.

- ❖ The IEEE ET Section PES/PELS Jt. Chapter has been awarded as one of the high-performance chapters, with the highest rewarded chapter in the North and South America
- ❖ Rafal Wojda from ORNL won the Outstanding Chapter Volunteer Award for taking the lead on setting up the registrations for virtual events
- ❖ Michael Starke from ORNL won the Outstanding Engineer Award in the < 15 years category for his contributions to scalable agent-based control architectures for controllable devices (including distributed energy resources)



2021: the Year's Calendar Events

ADITYA SUNDARARAJAN

Given the continued observance of virtualized events, the Chapter hosted a notable series of distinguished guest lectures featuring renowned scholars from around the world in 2021. It also hosted workshops, including panel sessions. The speakers have domain expertise in various research areas. A total of nine events were held in this calendar year, which together garnered more than 150 participants. The chapter participated in the IEEE PES Day that was observed in the month of April. Two events organized by the chapter in support of the IEEE PES Day for IEEE Region 3 included panel sessions. Areas of research covered in these events include power electronics, clean energy, clean water, cybersecurity, renewable integration, electric vehicles, and high-performance computing. We hope to continue the trend in 2022 by organizing events that support local communities with career-advancing opportunities and enable a brighter future for the region's younger generation.

PES Day 2021: Chapter Ambassadors Host Workshop Panels

ADITYA SUNDARARAJAN

The chapter participated in the IEEE PES Day conducted globally in April 2021. As part of IEEE Region 3, the chapter members Aditya Sundararajan and Rafal Wojda acted as Ambassadors to host respectively an event each on April 20 and 21, 2021.

Aditya Sundararajan hosted a roundtable panel on, "Clean Energy Nexus: the Decade Ahead" where invited speakers, Dr. Shekhar Bhansali from the National Science Foundation, Dr. Yarom Polsky from ORNL, and Dr. Alan Mantooth from the University of Arkansas engaged on the topics related to clean energy, clean water, their associated cybersecurity concerns, and paved a roadmap for the next decade. Rafal hosted a series of panel sessions with talks from Dr. Kumar Venayagamoorthy from Clemson University, Dr. Burak Ozpineci from ORNL, Dr. Thomas Kurfess from ORNL, and Kevin Chen from ComEd on smart grids, resilience, and other topics connected to "Clean Energy Revolution."





Become our Member Today!

Recognized as one of the high-performance chapters in 2020, our chapter's 90+ members are industry leaders and practitioners, students, and academics with interest in power, energy, power electronics, and interdisciplinary areas of numerical analysis, high-performance computing, artificial intelligence, and cybersecurity. We offer webinars and distinguished lectures on the above topics and have organized tours (e.g., Summit [the world's smartest supercomputer], Spallation Neutron Source [world's most sensitive high resolution high-speed neutron source]). We synchronize with standards development activities and PELS/PES committees through our dedicated members! Additional benefits are listed below. If you are interested in becoming a member, please email Suman Debnath.

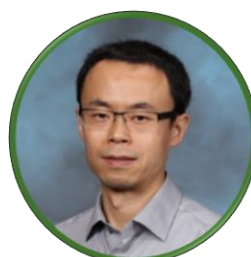
Meet the Executive Committee Officers



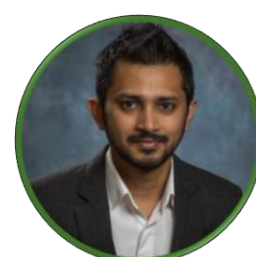
Suman Debnath
Chapter Chair



Rafal Wojda
Chapter Secretary



Zhi Li
Chapter Vice Chair



Shajjad Chowdhury
Chapter Treasurer



Aditya Sundararajan
Newsletter Coordinator



Sudarshan Harave
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Mostak Mohammad
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For inquiries related to IEEE PELS/PES Committees, email [Suman Debnath](#)

