

PRESS RELEASE

IEEE Western Section is a Gold Sponsor for the 55th Annual North American Power Symposium (NAPS) to be held October 15-17, 2023, in Asheville NC

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA – AUGUST 28, 2023 – The Western North Carolina Section of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) is a Gold Sponsor for the 55th Annual North American Power Symposium (NAPS) this fall. Western Carolina University (WCU) is hosting the event October 15-17, 2023, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Asheville-Biltmore.

The theme of the 55th North American Power Symposium is **“Broadening Participation in Sustainable Power Engineering, Technology, and Education,”** with technical sessions in the following areas: Power System Operation and Planning Power System Economics Analysis of Distribution Systems and Distributed Energy Resources Renewable/Clean Energy Systems and Energy Storage Power Electronics and Applications Electric Machines and Drives Emerging Topics in Modern Power Systems Power Engineering Education.

About 300 are expected to attend the NAPS conference this year, during which approximately 200 papers will be presented. In addition to the traditional technical sessions, NAPS 2023 will focus on (i) increasing undergraduate student participation by creating a separate track for undergraduate research, (ii) increasing industry and faculty participation to provide feedback to the students, and (iii) hosting a networking event and mini-career fair. This year’s sponsors for the event include Duke Energy, Eaton, IEEE Power & Energy Society, IEEE Western North Carolina Section, Aegis Power Systems, Inc., and TRC. In addition to these industry sponsors, the IEEE PES Power Engineering Education Committee (PEEC) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) are providing support for this conference.

Arlissa Vaughn, the Chair of the IEEE Western North Carolina Section and CEO of Aegis Power Systems, states, “It is exciting that this high-caliber event is being hosted for the first time in western North Carolina. Our region offers a host of renewable energy solutions with a network of hydro dams, nuclear power plants, solar systems, and some wind turbines. Western North Carolina has much to offer participants and we welcome the insights to be learned from the technical exchanges on the important advances in energy for our society.”

NAPS is a student-centric technical conference in the power and energy systems field. Since its inception in 1969, NAPS has been bringing together students, faculty, and industrial partners from premier institutions and organizations involved in power engineering and research. The conference is held annually at a university in the United States or Canada.

Visit the official NAPS event site (<https://naps2023.wcu.edu/>) for more information and to register for the event.

The IEEE is the world's largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity. The Western North Carolina Section of the IEEE consists of about 260+ professionals and engineers in 20 counties. Learn More at <https://r3.ieee.org/wnc/>

Western Carolina offers more than 115 undergraduate majors and concentrations and more than 40 graduate programs with a focus on high-demand degrees, including a variety of programs in

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engineering, science, healthcare, education, humanities, business, and the arts. The university's central campus is in Cullowhee, North Carolina. WCU's Biltmore Park Instruction Site offers degree programs in engineering as well as graduate programs in accounting, business administration, entrepreneurship, and education. Learn More at <https://www.wcu.edu/>

