DISTINGUISHED SEMINAR SERIES ANNOUNCEMENT

Building A Robust Workforce in Electric Power Engineering – Democratizing Technical Education Nationally

the transition the

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Ned Mohan (LF-IEEE) joined the University of Minnesota in 1975, where he is Oscar A. Schott Professor of Power Electronic Systems and Morse-Alumni Distinguished Professor. He received his bachelor's degree from the Indian Institute of Technology-Kharagpur in 1967. His PhD in Electrical Engineering and Master's in Nuclear Engineering are from UW-Madison. He has written 6 textbooks; all together, they have been translated into nine languages. He has graduated 52 PhDs to date. His area of research is in power electronics applied to power systems and he holds several patents. He has received many awards. He is a Fellow of the IEEE, a Regents Professor at the University of Minnesota, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

How can we quickly build a robust workforce in electric power engineering to combat climate change through clean energy, EVs, etc. by home-grown manufacturing, utilizing hundreds of billions of dollars in public investments, which is a once in a lifetime opportunity? We need hundreds of thousands of such engineers in the next five years while the enrollments in power-related courses are sharply declining nationwide.

We will discuss this approach that will democratize technical education: bringing it to tribal and rural communities who otherwise would not have access to it, and to historically and systemically marginalized urban communities who otherwise do not see a pathway out of poverty and are priced out of traditional technical education options. This will lead to diversity, equity, and inclusion in its truest and the broadest sense, where no one is left out!