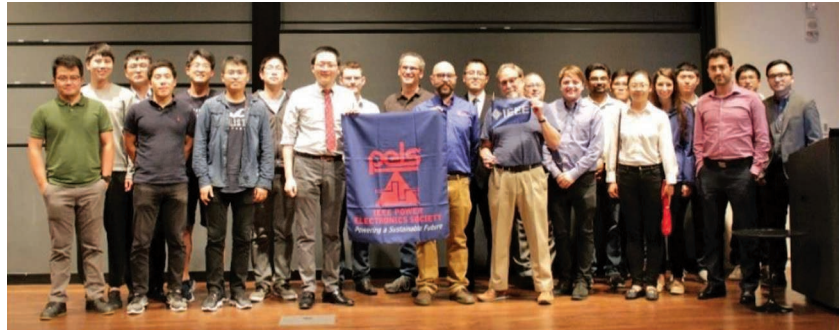


by Yuxi Men, Lizhi Ding, Grant Pitel, Minjie Chen, and Xiaonan Lu

# PPPEAC Consortium Holds Inaugural Meeting, Organizes Seminar on Flywheel Energy Storage

**O**n 6 September 2019, the recently founded Princeton-Philadelphia Power Electronics Advancement Consortium (PPPEAC) held its inaugural meeting at the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment at Princeton University, New Jersey. The organization's mission is to bridge interests and forge relationships between local industry and academia. The event was sponsored by the newly approved joint IEEE Power Electronics Society/Industrial Applications Society (PES/IAS)



**FIG 1** Attendees pose during the inaugural PPPEAC meeting.

Chapter. Magna-Power Electronics Inc. (MPE), Flemington, NJ; Princeton University; and Temple University, Philadelphia, collaborated to assemble power electronics practi-

tioners, researchers, and educators in New Jersey and Pennsylvania (Figure 1).

The meeting lasted for approximately three hours, and speakers

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/MPEL.2019.2959893  
Date of current version: 19 February 2020

## AC & DC Programmable Power Supplies Preen®

Supported Remote Interfaces:  
USB / RS-232 / Ethernet / GPIB / RS-485

For more details, please visit:  
[www.PreenPower.com](http://www.PreenPower.com)



	AFV+ series	PAS series	AFV series	ADG-P series	AFV-P series	ADG-L series
Type:	AC	AC	AC	DC	AC + DC	DC
Power Levels:	10-2000kVA	45-2000kVA	10-2000kVA	30-500kW	0.6-5kVA	4kW-12kW
Package:	Floor Standing	Floor Standing	Floor Standing	Floor Standing	2U-5U Rack Mount	3U Rack Mount
Voltage Range:	0-300Vac	0-300Vac	0-300Vac	0-2000Vdc	0-310Vac/0-420Vdc	0-1000Vdc
Current Range:	0-13A to 0-2777A	0-62A to 0-2777A	0-13A to 0-2777A	0-18A to 0-2500A	0-2.5A to 0-20A	0-12A to 0-75A
Frequency Range:	45-65Hz (Opt. 45-500Hz)	45-65Hz (Opt. 40-70Hz)	45-65Hz (Opt. 45-500Hz)	-	40-500Hz (Opt. 15-1000Hz)	-

were invited to introduce themselves and share their interests in power electronics. During the welcome reception, Dr. Grant Pitel, MPE chief technology officer (CTO) and PPPEAC chair, shared his vision for the organization. He remarked on the Pennsylvania–New Jersey region’s diverse group of power electronics providers and expressed his hope to engage the community through various activities. The opening remarks were followed by extended introductions from 13 speakers who described the roles of their respective companies/institutions in the field. These talks helped stimulate the exchange of ideas and generated discussions, with the potential for later collaborations. The presenters were

- Grant Pitel, CTO, MPE, PPPEAC chair
- Minjie Chen, assistant professor, Princeton University, PPPEAC treasurer
- Ira Pitel, founder, MPE
- Xiaonan Lu, assistant professor, Temple University, PPPEAC secretary
- Pete Losee, manager of device technology, United SiC, Monmouth Junction, New Jersey
- Wenxin Liu, associate professor, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania



**FIG 2** Prof. Seth Sanders discusses flywheel energy storage.

- Vishram Deshpande, director of power-supply development, NWL Inc., Bordentown, New Jersey
- Fei Lu, assistant professor, Drexel University, Philadelphia
- Hanan Fishman, president, Alencon Systems, Hatboro, Pennsylvania
- Arash Khoshkbar-Sadigh, assistant professor, Pennsylvania State University, State College
- Xiaofan Wu, research scientist, Siemens
- Ben Cohen, vice president of engineering, Momentum Dynamics, Malvern, Pennsylvania

- Thomas Lawson, founder and president, CogniPower, Malvern
- Jianwu Cao, senior power electronics engineer, EnerSys, Reading, Pennsylvania.

PPPEAC will commit itself to initializing and vitalizing collaborations between local industry and academia in the field of power electronics. Regular and recurring Chapter meetings will be organized, rotating between New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Also, in coordination with the IEEE, PPPEAC will host various activities including field trips, IEEE Distinguished Lectures, local educational seminars, and similar events.

On 3 October 2019, PPPEAC invited Prof. Seth Sanders from the University of California, Berkeley, to give a seminar, “Flywheel Energy Storage: A Utility-Scale Energy Solution for the 21st Century,” which was also part of the Andlinger Center Highlighted Seminar Series (Figure 2). The presentation reviewed the energy-storage landscape and focused on flywheel energy storage to meet utilities’ operational challenges.

The next PPPEAC meeting is scheduled to be held in February or March 2020. To join the PPPEAC and learn about future activities, please register at <http://bit.ly/2My8Ove>.

by Karthik Palaniappan

## IEEE PELS Lecture on Wide-Bandgap Power Electronics

**O**n 6 November 2019, Prof. Krishna Shenai, a Distinguished Lecturer (DL) of the IEEE Power Electronics Society (PELS), delivered an insightful speech, “Wide-Bandgap (WBG) Power Electronics: Is This the Future of Energy Economy?” at Milwaukee Tools, Wis-

consin. The event was sponsored by the joint IEEE Industry Applications Society/Industrial Electronics Society/Power & Energy Society/PELS Milwaukee Chapter, IEEE Milwaukee Section, and Milwaukee Tools. It was attended by approximately 100 engineers, faculty, and students from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Milwaukee School of Engineering, and Marquette University, Milwaukee (Fig-

ure 1). A facilities tour preceded the lecture, and a gala dinner and raffle concluded the event, all of which was sponsored by Milwaukee Tools.

Milwaukee Tools Vice President Kevin Staszak opened the meeting with an introduction to the company and its products. Afterward, IEEE Milwaukee Section Chair-Elect Karthik Palaniappan introduced Prof. Shenai, who delivered the lecture. He discussed

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/MPPEL.2019.2959888  
Date of current version: 19 February 2020