the excellent research activities taking place as well as the numerous accolades that their researchers have won at worldwide competitions in which they enthusiastically participate. As part of his technical talk, Prof. Chiu explained the ongoing research at his institute, such as highly efficient solar microinverter, the highly efficient wireless power transfer system, and the high-power density converter. He presented the analysis of his team’s design, the simulation results, and the experimental results to validate their claims.

The audience was diverse, consisting of people from academia (students and professors from Singapore universities) and industry (the Singapore Energy Market Authority, the Experimental Power Grid Center, and so on). Prof. Chiu was very interactive with the participants during and after the lecture. The Joint IEEE IAS/PELS student branch organizers were quite encouraged by the number of participants (more than 50 attendees) and the interaction between academia and industry during the event. The NUS SBC plans to organize such events on a regular basis.

by Ali Nabavi

IAS/PELS Toronto Joint Chapter Holds Distinguished Lecturer Events

In 2017, the Joint IEEE Industry Applications Society and Power Electronics Society (IAS/PELS) Toronto Chapter hosted many events. In total, there were four Distinguished Lecturer (DL) events. The first took place on 24 March 2017, when Dr. Ambrish Chandra of École de technologie supérieure, Montréal, Quebec, presented “Hybrid Renewable Energy Standalone Systems” to an audience of roughly 25 attendees. Prof. Wei-Jen Lee, University of Texas at Arlington, presented the next lecture, “Trends of the Smart Grid Development,” on 12 May 2017, to an audience of approximately 35 attendees (Figure 1). The Chapter hosted its annual administrative meeting on 5 March 2017.

Dr. Chushan Li of Ryerson University, Toronto, Ontario, presented the technical talk “High-Power Density Power Electronics in Aerospace Applications” on 19 May 2017, which was attended by 25 people.

On 25 August 2017, Prof. Stephen Finney of the University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom, presented “Response of Voltage Source HVDC Systems to DC-Side Faults, HVDC Faults Characterization, and DC Protection Options” to 20 audience members.

For 2018, the IAS/PELS Toronto Chapter has several events planned with DLs and guest speakers from the power electronics industry. Plans include four DL talks, three technical events, and a social event.