Joint IAS/PELS/PES University of Oviedo Student Branch Chapter Meets with Chilean Professor

The University of Oviedo, Spain, joint IEEE Industry Applications Society/Power Electronics Society/Power and Energy Society (IAS/PELS/PES) Student Branch Chapter (SBC) organized a meeting with Prof. Roberto Cárdenas from the University of Chile, Santiago, on 1 February 2018. The event was held in the city of Gijón, Asturias province, northern Spain, and was organized under the supervision of the Chapter’s advisor, Prof. Marcos Alonso, with the help of the following Chapter board members: Guirguis Zaki Guirguis (SBC chair), Jose María Cuartas (SBC vice-chair), María Martínez (SBC treasurer), Maria Rodriguez (SBC event organizer), and Cristina González (SBC community manager). Prof. Cárdenas, who came to Spain for a short visit with Prof. Fernando Briz, graciously accepted the invitation to give a talk for Chapter members and other participants.

Prof. Cárdenas focuses on electronic and electrical engineering in the Departamento de Ingeniería Eléctrica at the University of Chile, Santiago, where he is full professor. His current research project is “Control Systems and Hardware Topologies for Modular Multilevel Converter Applications,” and his talk was divided into two parts. In the first part, he spoke about the educational system in Chile, e.g., how its studies are classified, its Ph.D. programs, its financing, and its university rankings. This topic is relevant to all of the Chapter members because it is important to know the differences between our educational system and others. It was very dynamic and stimulated plenty of discussion.

After the first speech, we had a short coffee break. During the break, the director of the Polytechnic School of Engineering of Gijón, Spain, Juan Carlos Campo, came to greet Prof. Cárdenas and present him with a gift on behalf of the university.

The second part of the speech was more technical, as Prof. Cárdenas introduced his recent papers on the topic of four-wire microgrids and commented on the experimental setups installed at his university. Finally, the meeting closed with a traditional Spanish lunch in the campus cafeteria, which gave the students a chance to socialize with and meet Prof. Cárdenas (Figure 1).

We would like to thank the university’s School of Engineering for allowing us to use part of their space for the conference, which accommodated our needs perfectly. We would also like to thank everyone who attended this conference and hope that they found the activities as interesting as we did. Finally, we would like to thank Prof. Roberto Cárdenas for his dedication, for preparing wonderful presentations, and for making this conference a memorable experience for everyone involved. We hope he enjoyed his visit to the University of Oviedo, Spain.