

Highlights of the NSF-sponsored Workshop:

“Reinventing Electric Power Curriculum with Sustainability Focus” during June 15-17, 2017

We have a terrific agenda where all the speakers are confirmed. Some of the workshop highlights are as follows:

- Networking with representatives from NSF, ONR, NAE, industry, and with faculty colleagues.
- Learning about the seriousness of climate change, a grave threat facing humanity, from Dr. Gavin Schmidt who is the Director of the NASA [Goddard Institute](#) for Space Studies.
- Disseminating the electric power/energy curriculum developed at UMN: from high schools (click [here](#)) to doctoral research; much of its content is freely downloadable from our CUSP™ website.
- As an ECE Dept Head, you are invited to participate in a lunch-time discussion session “What are the pressing issues facing education in “Electric Power” and can a holistic and realistic (beyond-the-hype) view of it meet some of the challenges?” It will be chaired by the Dean of Iowa State University, Dr. Sarah Rajala.
- Report of Grand Challenge Research at UMN by our Provost Prof. Karen Hanson.
- Is your university thinking of offering online courses? If so, we have a session on the possibilities and wonderful success stories with distance education that you will find very interesting.
- How much renewables can our grid take? We will get this insight from Mark Lauby who is the Senior Vice President and Chief Reliability Officer of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ([NERC](#))
- A delightful dinner presentation on “The Nature of the Cosmos” – why we need to take care of what we have – *there is no Planet B!*
- An optional tour of our research and educational laboratories.
- Demonstration of an *extremely low-cost embedded controller*, programmed through a model-based simulation platform that we are developing through our ONR Funding. We have developed a Simulink look-alike platform that will do away the need for such a license, with the entire controller to be in a **200-300 dollars** price range. Such a controller will have applications in areas far beyond electrical engineering education and research.