

AWARDS CEREMONY 2024



37th Canadian Conference on Electrical and Computer Engineering Ban Righ Hall, Queen's University Kingston ON August 8, 2024, 7:00 -10:00 PM

IEEE CANADA ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS

- A.G.L. McNaughton Gold Medal for exemplary contributions to the engineering profession. R.A. Fessenden Medal for important contributions to the field of telecommunications engineering. Power Medal for important contributions to the field of electric power engineering. C.C. Gotlieb (Computer) Medal for important contributions to the field of computer engineering and science.

Outstanding Engineer Award for outstanding contributions to Electrical and Electronics Engineering.

J.M. Ham (Outstanding Engineering Educator) Medal for outstanding contributions to engineering education.

Robert H. Tanner Industry Leadership Award for important leadership contributions in Canadian industry where there is significant activity in areas of interest to IEEE.

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R.A. Fessenden Award Prix R.A. Fessenden with image of award medal

Octavia A. Dobre with image of recipient

For contributions to the field of telecommunications and industry leadership

Dr. Octavia A. Dobre is a Tier-1 Canada Research Chair and Professor with Memorial University, Canada. She was a Visiting Professor with Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA and Université de Bretagne Occidentale, France. Her research interests encompass wireless communication and networking technologies, as well as optical and underwater communications. She has (co-)authored over 500 refereed papers in these areas. Dr. Dobre serves as the VP Publications of the IEEE Communications Society. She was the founding Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of the IEEE Open Journal of the Communications Society and the EIC of the IEEE Communications Letters, as well as the inaugural Chair of Women in Communications Engineering standing committee. Dr. Dobre was a Fulbright Scholar, Royal Society Scholar, and Distinguished Lecturer of the IEEE Communications Society. She obtained 7 IEEE Best Paper Awards including the 2024 Heinrich Hertz Award. Dr. Dobre is an elected member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada, a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering, and a Fellow of the IEEE.

A.G.L. McNaughton Award Prix A.G.L. McNaughton with image of award medal

Samy A. Mahmoud with image of recipient

For contributions to engineering in digital speech processing and wireless networks, as well as to pioneering educational programs in sustainable energy, technology innovation management, and biomedical engineering.

Dr. Samy A. Mahmoud obtained the Master's and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Carleton University in 1971 and 1975, respectively. He joined the Faculty of Engineering in 1975 and held the positions of Chair of the Department of Systems and Computer Engineering, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Design and President and Vice Chancellor (Interim) of Carleton (2008-2006).

His research efforts over the past 35 years focussed on two areas. The first is the measurements and characterization of wireless radio channels which contributed to the development of LTE and 5G networks.

The second is the statistical characterization of speech, including the development speech coding techniques that were transferred to industry.

Results of his research were presented in 190 archived publications. Professor Mahmoud supervised 40 doctoral, 84 master's degree students and 15 PhDs in his research programs.

He received several national and international awards in recognition of his original research and technology transfer to industry. He was co-founder of several national networks of excellence in research.

Professor Mahmoud pioneered the development of several engineering education programs, including a master's degree program in "Technology Innovation Management", undergraduate program on renewable energy as well undergraduate and graduate programs in biomedical engineering.

J.M. Ham Outstanding Engineering Educator Award Prix J.M. Ham d'Éducateur Exceptionnel en Génie with image of award medal

Ekram Hossain with image of recipient

For contributions to education and training in wireless communications and networks.

Dr. Ekram Hossain (Fellow, IEEE) is a Professor and the Associate Head (Graduate Studies) of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Manitoba, Canada.

He is a Member (Class of 2016) of the College of the Royal Society of Canada. He is also a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering and the Engineering Institute of Canada. His current research interests include design, analysis, and optimization of next-generation (xG) cellular wireless networks, applied machine learning, and communication network economics. He was elevated to an IEEE Fellow, for contributions to spectrum management and resource allocation in cognitive and cellular radio networks.

He was listed as a Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researcher in Computer Science in 2017-2023.

He has won several research awards, including the 2017 IEEE Communications Society (ComSoc) Best Survey Paper Award and the 2011 IEEE Communications Society Fred Ellersick Prize Paper Award. He was a Distinguished Lecturer of the IEEE Communications Society and the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society. He served as the Editor-in-Chief for the IEEE Press (2018–2021) and the IEEE Communications Surveys and Tutorials (2012–2016).

He served as the Director of Magazines (2020-2021) and the Director of Online Content (2022-2023) for the IEEE Communications Society.

C.C. Gotlieb Computer Award Prix C.C. Gotlieb en informatique with image of award medal

Ihab Ilyas with image of recipient

For contributions to building large scale machine learning systems for data integration, data cleaning and knowledge construction

Dr. Ihab Ilyas is a professor of Computer Science and the Thomson Reuters Research Chair on data quality at the University of Waterloo.

He is currently on leave at Apple as a Distinguished Engineer.

His main research focuses on data science and data management, with special interest in data quality and integration, managing uncertain data, machine learning for datauration, and information extraction.

Dr. Ihab is a co-founder of Tamr, a startup focusing on large-scale data integration, and was the co-founder of inductiv (acquired by Apple), a Waterloo-based startup on using AI for structured data cleaning.

He is a fellow of the ACM and IEEE.

He is also a recipient of the Ontario Early Researcher Award, a Cheriton Faculty Fellowship, an NSERC Discovery Accelerator Award, and a Google Faculty Award.

He was an elected member of the VLDB Endowment board of trustees (2016-2021) and was elected as the ACM SIGMOD vice chair (2016-2021).

He authored numerous high-impact publications in the top research venues including a textbook on data cleaning.

He holds a PhD in computer science from Purdue University, West Lafayette.

Outstanding Engineer Prix d'excellence en génie Award with image of award medal

Yang Shi with image of recipient

For contributions to the theory and applications of networked and distributed control, model predictive control, autonomous intelligent mechatronics, and industrial cyber-physical systems.

Dr. Yang SHI received his B.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in mechanical engineering and automatic control from Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi'an, China, in 1994 and 1998, respectively, and the Ph.D. degree in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada, in 2005.

He is a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada.

His current research interests include networked and distributed systems, model predictive control (MPC), cyber-physical systems (CPS), robotics and mechatronics, navigation and control of autonomous systems (AUV and UAV), and energy system applications.

Dr. Shi received the University of Saskatchewan Student Union Teaching Excellence Award in 2007, and the Faculty of Engineering Teaching Excellence Award in 2012 at the University of Victoria (UViC), and the 2023 REACH Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Supervision and Mentorship.

He is the recipient of CSME Mechatronics Medal (2023), IEEE Dr.-Ing. Eugene Mittelmann Achievement Award (2023).

He is an IFAC Council Member (2023-2026); IES Vice President (2022-2025); During 2017-2023, he served as Co-Editor-in-Chief of IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics.

He is a Distinguished Lecturer of IES.

He is a Fellow of IEEE, ASME, CSME, EIC, CAE, and a registered Professional Engineer in British Columbia, Canada.

P.D. Zogas Electric Power Award Prix P.D. Zogas de l'énergie électrique with image of award medal

Kankar Bhattacharya with image of recipient

For contributions to the field of power system operations, including ancillary services and demand response programs, economics, and planning.

Dr. Kankar Bhattacharya (PhD, IIT Delhi, India), P. Eng., Fellow IEEE, is a Professor, University Research Chair and Department Chair, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, University of Waterloo.

Professor Bhattacharya has made important contributions to the development and understanding of electricity markets, reactive power ancillary services, demand response, various topics in smart grids, energy storage systems in electricity markets and electric vehicle integration to distribution systems. He has published extensively in international journals of repute, and has a Google Scholar citation count of over 13,000 with an H-index of 58.

He has supervised to graduation 35 PhDs and 29 MASc students.

Professor Bhattacharya received the 2001 Gunnar Engstrom Foundation Award from ABB Sweden for research in power system economics.

At University of Waterloo, he received the Outstanding Performance Awards and the 2019-20 Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision.

Dr. Bhattacharya is a Distinguished Member of CIGRE and recipient of 2018 CIGRE Technical Council Award for contributions to CIGRE Study Committee C5, in which he is active and served as Canadian National Member (2014-2024).

He is a Fellow of IEEE for contributions to electricity markets and reactive power ancillary services.

J.J. Archambault Eastern Canada Merit Award Prix du mérite J.J. Archambault pour l'Est du Canada with image of award medal

Amy Pinchuk with image of recipient

For volunteering contributions as the Chair of IEEE Montreal Section and its EMC Chapter, and for promoting STEM and Women in Engineering.

Dr. Amy Pinchuk is the president and founder of InField Scientific Inc., specializing in electromagnetic compatibility and interference (EMC/EMI), electromagnetic environmental effects (E3), Radiation Hazards (RADHAZ), and computational electromagnetic analysis.

For the past thirty years, her primary focus has been electromagnetic analysis, EMI troubleshooting, and testing of military shipboard environments.

Dr. Pinchuk has taught short courses on EMC/EMI/E3 and computational electromagnetics to civilian and military audiences of all levels.

She received her Ph. D. (1988), M. Eng. (1985) and B. Eng. (1983) from McGill University under the supervision of Dr. Peter Silvester.

Dr. Pinchuk has served on the organizing committee of many International IEEE EMC Symposiums and initiated the IEEE EMC Symposium Youth Technical Program. She was also a member of the IEEE EMC Society Board of Directors, the IEEE Montreal Section Chair, the Canadian Chair for URSI Section B, and Chair of the Montreal IEEE EMC Chapter.

She is also the author of several children's books which focus on engineering for youngsters.