



# U.S. National Committee

2021 Awards



**cigre**  
United States

# USNC Awards

## The Philip Sporn Award

For career contributions advancing electric power systems in theory, design and/or operation for the benefit of society in the United States, and for aspiring to Philip Sporn's 'Locus of Discontent' approach; i.e. always challenging the status quo to advance technology for the betterment of society.

## Dale Douglass Award for Technical Achievement

For leadership and participation in CIGRE technical activities internationally at the Study Committee or Working Group levels aspiring to the level of dedication exhibited by Dale Douglass.

## Attwood Associate Award

This award is made to honor the contributions and memory of Frederic Attwood of the U.S.A. who, with J. Tribot Laspiere of France foresaw the need for an international organization in the field of power engineering and who became the first Chairman of the U.S. National Committee upon the founding of CIGRE in the year 1921.

## Collective Member Award

For outstanding leadership and continuing managerial, technical, and financial support of the activities of the U.S. National Committee and CIGRE over an extended period of time.

## 2021 Honorees

**Nicholas Miller**  
**Mark Reynolds**

**Dr. Mladen Kezunovic**

**Jennifer Havel**

**POWER Engineers, Inc.**

# CIGRE Awards

## CIGRE Medal

The CIGRE Medal is highest recognition for proven outstanding technical or engineering contribution to CIGRE and the engineering field, and proven leadership for the benefit of the organization. A maximum of 2 awards every 2 years.

## Honorary Member

This award is for proven technical/engineering contribution to CIGRE or a leadership role in CIGRE activities e.g. Study Committee Chairs or Administrative Council members with proven contribution. A maximum of 10 awards every 2 years.

## Next Generation Network Significant Contribution Award

This award is intended to recognize outstanding contributions of NGN members to CIGRE activities. A maximum of 5 awards every 2 years.

## 2021 Honorees

**Dr. Anjan Bose**

**John D. McDonald, P.E.**

**Christopher Mertz**





## Nicholas Miller

### The Philip Sporn Award

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Nick is a Principal with HickoryLedge LLC, a consultancy providing technical services. Nick is an internationally known power system engineer, with specialty in integration of wind and solar power to bulk power systems.

Nick spent 3/8 of a century with GE, finishing his final decade of practice in the role of Senior Technical Director for GE Energy Consulting. In the last 16 years at GE, he led analytical developments for integration of GE Wind Turbine-Generators into power systems, leading efforts to develop new applications, controls and systems for large-scale coordination of wind and solar generation with other system resources. He was the leader of the landmark Western Transient Stability and Frequency Response Study and a principal on the New York State Wind study, the US DOE Western Wind and Solar Integration Study, the New England Wind Integration Study, as well as multiple Wind and Solar related projects in Hawaii.

Nick lectured and provided consultation on wind and solar power integration to governments and institutions in more than three dozen countries. He worked with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) on development of metrics and practice for Essential Reliability Services. He pioneered new techniques for the analysis and control of transient and voltage stability of very large power systems. He led the development of advanced network solution and component modeling techniques for reactive compensation and FACTS device application. He led research projects in the use of artificial intelligence in the protection of power systems; and published new developments on the use of GTO-based static compensation for improvement of power system performance.

Nick is an IEEE Fellow, a Licensed Professional Engineer in NY, and a CIGRE member. He authored 20 US patents for wind and solar power, system control, and other technologies. He has published over 160 papers and articles, including many peer reviewed technical papers.



## Mark Reynolds

### The Philip Sporn Award

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Mr. Reynolds is a graduate of Oregon State University BSEE [1971] and served in the US Army as a Telecommunications engineer and adviser to several foreign governments. After leaving the US Army Mr. Reynolds served as an engineer and technical manager with the Bonneville Power Administrator [USDOE] and lead the development of replacement strategies focused on projects on the Pacific NW-SW HVDC Intertie, as well as numerous FACTs projects including FSC, TCSC, SVC and other main grid reactive control projects.

Mr. Reynolds is currently a Senior Electrical Engineer and Project Manager with POWER ENGINEERS in the Portland Oregon USA Office. Mr. Reynolds has a long experience in the development, design, implementation, and planning of AC and DC power systems. He has specialized expertise in reactive compensation, FACTS and HVDC systems and their application to improve the performance of systems through 500 kV AC and HVDC Networks. Mr. Reynolds previously served as a consultant with Siemens T&D to develop and market state-of-the-art AC compensation and HVDC systems.

Mr. Reynolds was one of the contributing Working Group members that drafted and published significant documents covering the specification development for SVC Systems and the Field Testing of SVC Systems. These recognized industry-wide guidelines respectively are IEEE 1303 and IEEE 1031. Mr. Reynolds has served on many CIGRE working groups to promote better understating of the AC and DC side harmonic performance of both current commutated and Voltage Source Conversion [VSC] system developments. He has been a contributing member of CIGRE working groups to promote more robust converter mechanical design's that have incorporated the latest fire safety within their designs. More recently Mr. Reynolds has served on working groups dedicated to the protection from Cyber Security threats on the control and protection of both HVDC and FACTs control systems.

This year marks Mr. Reynolds 50th year of involvement with the engineering profession, and long membership with both CIGRE and IEEE professional societies and is a Senior Life Member of the IEEE.



## **Dr. Mladen Kezunovic**

### **Dale Douglass Award for Technical Achievement**

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Dr. Mladen Kezunovic is the Regents Professor and Eugene E. Webb endowed Professor at Texas A&M University where he has been employed since 1986. He serves in several leading roles at the university: Site Director, Power Systems Engineering Research Center (PSerc), and Director, Power Systems Control and Protection Lab. He is also the Principal Consultant, as well as President and CEO of XpertPower™ Associates, which has been providing consulting services for the utility industry for over 25 years.

Dr. Kezunovic's CIGRE Membership spans over 40 years out of which 30 years as the CIGRE USNC member. During his involvement with CIGRE USNC he acted as a Convener of five WG and Task Forces, and participated in another seven WGs as the US representative. He published 52 CIGRE papers: five in *Electra*, 11 at the CIGRE General Sessions in Paris and 36 at CIGRE Colloquia and National meetings. His papers were recognized three times as the best USNC papers at the CIGRE General Sessions.

His CIGRE USNC recognitions include the Philip Sporn Award in 2019, a Distinguished Member in 2018, and the Atwood Associate Award in 2008. He was recognized by CIGRE-Paris as the Fellow and Honorary Member in 2016 and received a Technical Committee Award for "Remarkable technical contribution to the study Committee B5, protection and automation" in 2012.



## Jennifer Havel

### Attwood Associate Award

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Jennifer Havel has worked for the Bonneville Power Administrations since she was a college student. The majority of her 30 year career with BPA has been spent in Transmission Line Design, where she resides today. She is a Senior Line Design Engineer focused on developing material specifications and design standards for conductor, insulators, connectors, fittings, and conductor hardware, as well as providing technical support to Supply Chain and field crews.

Jennifer joined CIGRE and attended her first meetings in 2012. She served as USNC Representative for Subcommittee B2 Overhead Lines from 2014 to 2018. She has participated in several working groups and is presently a Secretary for WG B2.68 Sustainability of OHL Conductors and Fittings – Conductor Condition Assessment and Life Extension.

Jennifer earned her BSME from Oregon State University and is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Oregon. Presently, she is the Chair of the IEEE OHL Structural Materials and Hardware Work Group and BPA representative on ANSI C29 committee (insulators) and the EPRI supplemental project on High Temperature Conductor-Connector Systems. She has also served as past Secretary and past Chair of ASTM B01 Committee (conductors) and past Associate Editor for IEEE PES Transaction Papers on Power Delivery.



## POWER Engineers, Inc.

### Collective Member Award

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POWER Engineers is an engineering and environmental consulting firm specializing in integrated solutions for clients in the power delivery, power generation, food & beverage, government, renewables and storage, campus energy, and oil and gas industries. Founded in 1976, it is an employee-owned company with 45 offices and more than 2,800 employees across North America.

For more information, please visit [www.powereng.com](http://www.powereng.com).



## Dr. Anjan Bose

### CIGRE Medal

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Dr. Anjan Bose has been a CIGRE member for more than 35 years and has more than 40 years of experience as a technical leader in the power grid control industry, a researcher in electric power engineering, an educator in engineering, and an administrator in higher education. He is a Regents Professor at Washington State University [WSU], where he also served as the Dean of Engineering & Architecture [1998-2005]. In 2012-13 he served as a Senior Advisor to the US Department of Energy in the President Obama administration.

Anjan contributed to our former Study Committee [SC] 39 and continues as an active advisor to our SC C2. He also has acted as a Special Reporter for the CIGRE Sessions in the past. As part of the Strategic Advisory Group, he leads SC's Publication Advisory Group, adding his well-respected academic insight and increasing CSE's credibility as a reviewer of publications for CIGRE events, CIGRE Science and Engineering [CSE] Journal, and all other SC publications. He has co-authored a variety of research including the joint CIGRE/IEEE Technical Brochure 231 – Definition and Classification of Power System Stability, which has been cited more than 2,500 times.

Active in several international professional societies, Anjan also is a member of the US National Academy of Engineering [2003], a founding member and elected president of the Washington State Academy of Sciences, a Foreign Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering, and a Fellow of the IEEE. He has received the following IEEE awards: Outstanding Power Engineering Educator Award [1994], the Third Millennium Medal [2000] and the Herman Halperin Electric Transmission & Distribution Award [2006]. Additionally, he was awarded the CIGRE Technical Council Award in 2010, the CIGRE Distinguished Member Award in 2012, and the prestigious Philip Sporn award from the US National Committee.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Anjan Bose biography is excerpted from CIGRE ELECTRA, CIGRE's Digital magazine, N°317 August 2021 pages 56-57.



## **John D. McDonald, P.E.**

### Honorary Member

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John D. McDonald, P.E., is Smart Grid Business Development Leader for GE's Grid Solutions business. John has 47 years of experience in the electric utility transmission and distribution industry. John received his B.S.E.E. and M.S.E.E. [Power Engineering] degrees from Purdue University, and an M.B.A. [Finance] degree from the University of California-Berkeley.

John is a Life Fellow of IEEE [member for 50 years], and was awarded the IEEE Millennium Medal, the IEEE Power & Energy Society (PES) Excellence in Power Distribution Engineering Award, the IEEE PES Substations Committee Distinguished Service Award, the IEEE PES Meritorious Service Award, the 2016 CIGRE Distinguished Member Award, the 2016 CIGRE USNC Attwood Associate Award, and the 2021 CIGRE Honorary Member Award.

John is Past President of the IEEE PES, the VP for Technical Activities for the US National Committee (USNC) of CIGRE, the Past Chair of the IEEE PES Substations Committee, and the IEEE Division VII Past Director. John was on the Board of Governors of the IEEE-SA [Standards Association] and is an IEEE Foundation Director.

John received the 2009 Outstanding Electrical and Computer Engineer Award from Purdue University. John teaches a Smart Grid course at the Georgia Institute of Technology, a Smart Grid course for GE, and Smart Grid courses for various IEEE PES local chapters as an IEEE PES Distinguished Lecturer [since 1999]. John has published one hundred fifty papers and articles, has co-authored five books and has one US patent.



## Christopher Mertz

### Next Generation Network Significant Contribution Award

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Chris Mertz joined Dominion Virginia Power after graduating from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 2011 and 2013, respectively.

Chris is presently an Engineer III in Dominion Energy's Electric Distribution Grid Planning group. Prior to joining the Dominion Energy's Distribution organization, Chris was the team lead of the Electric Transmission Planning and Strategic Initiatives group working on many initiatives related to the integration of renewable generation. Before becoming a member of the Transmission Planning and Strategic Initiatives team, Chris was on the Operations Engineering Support team working on microgrid planning and the development of high voltage laboratory specifications. Chris started his career as a member of the System Protection Engineering group with roles including short circuit analysis and relay setting development for capital projects, automation of the short circuit analysis and project process, creating relay setting optimization tools, development of system protection standards, and development of NERC PRC compliance procedures.

Chris has been a member of CIGRE and an active participant on the United States Next-Generation-Network since 2013, holding many Vice-Chair roles and finally the Chair role in 2019-2020.

