

IAEE ENERGY FORUM



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Editor: David L. Williams

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year's 41st IAEE international meeting was a success on all counts. The first fundamental goal of all our conferences -- to provide a high-level forum for exchange of information and opinions on critical issues -- was more than accomplished over four days in Groningen and surrounding areas. Appropriately, Groningen's massive gas deposits and associated energy support industry that has supported the region for decades is now, like the rest of the world, transitioning from a fossil fuel dominated world to a less carbon intensive local economy with innovation at the forefront. Groningen province leads the country in start-up businesses.

The conference theme of Security of Supply, Sustainability and Affordability: Assessing the Trade-offs of Energy Policy couldn't have been more topical. Energy markets were preparing for an uncertain Opec meeting, while aggressive US policies on trade in general -- and sanctions in particular -- compounded uncertainties. Critical climate policy issues are actively under debate in various countries and international organizations.

Needless to say, from the opening plenary on "Energy in Emerging and Developing Countries" to an excellent closing panel on "Climate Policy" audiences were strongly engaged. In between, three plenaries and four "dual plenaries" were interspersed with seven sets of concurrent sessions with 13 tracks across fuels and electricity, with both supply and demand issues as well as policy aspects. Climate, technology and transport were given special attention. Each set of session also offered a round table discussion as an option.

The secondary goal of creating an effective environment for professional and personal networking among members of an extended energy economics community with geographically and generationally diverse backgrounds was equally successful. The inherently youthful character of the Groningen area matched well with the large number of student and young professionals in attendance as well as their active participation and contributions as presenters and audience members during the plenary and especially concurrent sessions. Several outside events added to the sense of community and deepened individual and collective ties to the IAEE family.

Students and other members also benefited from three masters classes on writing for scientific journals presenting at scientific conferences and energy-related problem solving in a corporate setting and many students and young professionals also took advantage of poster sessions as presenters and observers on each day of the formal conference.

The high quality of the conference organization reflects yeoman efforts by the various committees led by Machiel Mulder and Bert Willems of the BAEE. IAEE thanks the conferences three platinum sponsors -- GasTerra, GasUnie and Gemeente Groningen, gold sponsor and host Provincie Groningen, along with the Rijksuniversiteit of Groningen where the conference was held as well as nine silver sponsors for making such a successful conference possible.



David Knapp

EDITOR'S NOTES

Once again I have had the pleasure of organizing, for the Energy Forum Special Issue, a selection of papers presented at the 41st IAEE International Conference in Groningen, the Netherlands, 10 - 13 June 2018. And again I have to make the same reservation as before: It is impossible to make a representative selection of some 20 papers from among the 500+ papers that were presented at the conference, including posters.

For this issue of the Energy Forum we ended up with 19 articles from the presented conference papers. In the selection process I have had an eye to the IAEE Specialization Codes with regard to topics, the majority of articles selected from the Codes with the largest number of submissions. I also have put some emphasis on the geographical dispersion of topics and authors. The IAEE is becoming a truly international association and its International Conference should reflect the international composition of the portfolio of papers represented there.

Invited authors were asked to write an extended abstract version of their papers on the standard Energy Forum format, limited to approximately 1500 words, taking account of the space for tables and/or figures that might be included. I would like to thank all the authors for their willingness and extra effort to prepare an article for this Energy Forum Special Issue and for pleasant cooperation in the process. Last, but not least, I would like to thank the Energy Forum Editor and IAEE Executive

Director, David Williams, for inviting me to edit this section of the EF Special Issue and for efficient handling of all matters associated with the editing of the EF and with the IAEE at large.

I hope that Energy Forum readers will find the collection of articles in this issue interesting and worthwhile to study. If this editing exercise may stimulate members of the IAEE and others to come to the international conferences of the Association (and to its regional conferences as well) to get access to the wealth, scope, breadth and depth, of knowledge and insights of the changing international energy scene represented in the large volume of papers presented there, plus in the many plenary sessions, that would indeed be an additional stimulus and incentive in itself. Next year the IAEE International Conference will be held in Montreal, May 29 - June 1, 2019.

After five years in the role as editor of the invited papers section of the EF Special Issue, I have found that it is time to pass the baton on to a new editor, to be appointed by David Williams. I very much have enjoyed to have had this task for the EF and the IAEE and wish both every success in the future.



Einar Hope.

IAEE MISSION STATEMENT

The International Association for Energy Economics is an independent, non-profit, global membership organisation for business, government, academic and other professionals concerned with energy and related issues in the international community. We advance the knowledge, understanding and application of economics across all aspects of energy and foster communication amongst energy concerned professionals.

WE FACILITATE:

- Worldwide information flow and exchange of ideas on energy issues
- High quality research
- Development and education of students and energy professionals

WE ACCOMPLISH THIS THROUGH:

- Providing leading edge publications and electronic media
- Organizing international and regional conferences
- Building networks of energy concerned professionals

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