



IERE

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<< Messages from Officers and Advising Chair Emeritus >>

In compliance with the IERE statutes and bylaws, 2013-2014 IERE Officers were elected. They talk about their ambition regarding IERE.

**** Chair; Dr. Rolando Nieva Gomez (IIE, Mexico)***

The electric industry faces a broad mix of challenges related to critical issues such as long term energy security, reliability of systems and assets, energy efficiency, electrification of remote and rural areas and sustainability in all of its dimensions: environmental, social and economic. It is therefore no surprise that research and development of technology for the electric industry cover a broad mix of technologies.

Consequently the management of technology is becoming more complex and challenging.

IERE allows its members benefit from the exchange of information on research, the sharing of best practices in technology development, the joint participation in precompetitive research projects, and the sharing of technology know-how to solve the specific issues that utility companies face. IERE facilitates this through data exchanges, workshops, the R&D working group and the Technical Issues and Solution Activities program. Since its foundation in 1968, IERE is continuously adapting to the changing circumstances in order to provide increasing value to the membership. Currently, IERE is exploring the best approach to expand its mission to include technology management issues, such as technology portfolio and technology lifecycle

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management, which lie in the overlapping interest of technology leaders in the manufacturing industry as well as technology managers in utility companies, whether in the developed or developing countries. I encourage you to increase your involvement in IERE activities. The active participation of the membership is a key factor for the success of IERE events.

Best regards,

Rolando Nieva-Gomez
IERE Chair



**** Vice Chair; Prof. Jianbo Guo (CEPRI, China)***

Dear IERE Members and Prospective Members,

I would like to express my appreciation to the Board Members colleagues who nominated me to serve as Vice Chair of IERE for the period of January 2013 through December 2014. In this position, I will work with my fellow IERE officers and Board members, as well as the Central Office to accomplish the mission of this noble organization. I am convinced that, through our joint efforts and contribution of all our members to enhance the quality, improve the celebrity, expand the membership for the IERE's activities, we can make IERE a more attractive, distinctive and competitive organization in the global arena. I will commit myself to fulfilling my duties and working with IERE officers to add more values to our members during my term of service. I believe that IERE, as a Global Platform of Electric R&D, Technology Development and Deployment, will certainly go into a higher orbit and brighter future.

Guo Jianbo
IERE Vice Chair



**** Treasurer; Dr. Denis Faubert (Hydro-Quebec, Canada)***

Dear Colleagues

It is with great pleasure that I have accepted the position of Treasurer for the International Electric Research Exchange. The IERE is a world-class organization devoting itself to promoting research, development and technology applications to



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support the electrical industry. It focuses on solving the real-world problems facing our organisations. Relying on the strength of collaboration among its members throughout the world, it seeks short or long term solutions to our most pressing or toughest issues. Electricity is a high-tech business. Innovation is key to remaining at the leading edge of our trade, providing reliable and cost-effective service to our clients.

The IERE has very competent personnel at its helm. Its operations are streamlined and the expenses of the organisation are well under control. It is worth mentioning the generous support of CRIEPI that assumes a large share of the operations of IERE. As a treasurer, I will ensure that the resources of the members are well-utilized and that all revenues and expenses are well accounted for. As a member of the Board, I will work with my colleagues to provide the best possible support to the leaders of IERE. I encourage you all to join this organisation in a way that we can all benefit of the talent and creativity of your staff.

Denis Faubert
IERE Treasurer



**** Advising Chair Emeritus; Mr. Roger Ballay (France)***

Dear colleagues,

I would like to take advantage of this address, to tell you why it is so interesting to be an IERE member. Our industry is at the crossroads. Several factors are playing jointly to prompt to a substantial change of the energy mix. On the supply side, tensions on the primary energy market due to the perspective of oil depletion and to local mismatch demand-offer induce a fierce competition to secure the long term access to these vital resources. Of course, the deployment of shale gas technology is providing some release in the USA and there is no doubt that this emerging option will have a great influence on the way electricity is going to be generated in a near future. However, it still requires significant extra R&D to make it cleaner and more widely accepted. In the aftermaths of the Fukushima Daiichi catastrophe citizens have lost trust in their technology leaders and energy policy-makers. As a consequence, responding to their public opinion, several countries have drastically revisited their energy policy, sometimes voting a sudden phasing-out of their nuclear fleet and banning nuclear forever. At the moment, what will be the future of this generation type



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remains a matter of controversy. Anyhow, this event has put a crude light on the crucial technology challenge facing the organizations committed to the nuclear risk management and mitigation and calls for an increased international cooperation on such high stake issues.

In the meantime, climatologists are sending us red blinking warnings about global warming records. This underscores the pressing need for low-carbon electricity including cheaper renewable sources and more efficient and cleaner coal plants which remain the "draught horse" of electricity generation. Moreover, on the demand side, a new vision of the power system design and management is emerging which requires a great deal of technology development to make the distribution grid smarter enough to optimize the demand and to deal with the intermittence of renewable sources. These are some of the heavy trends and challenges well known of each of us that put our industry under pressure. These constraints apply everywhere with some modulation of their degree of acuity.

To deal with them, it is commonly admitted that R&D is the most relevant lever to handle. To meet the challenge involved, how should we proceed? I do believe that increased complexity, uncertainty, ever more pressing urgency, global dimension of the issues involved that create interrelated risks are characteristics that justify combining efforts and talents. In this context, IERE is an ideal platform to address the critical issues facing us. It provides Utilities, OEM, Research Centers with an adequate framework for making the cross-fertilization happen. Typically, smarter technology watch and exchange of best practices among early adopters should secure companies in their technology selection and deployment. We also expect to improve the cost-effectiveness of their R&D investments by fostering collaborative research through the "R&D project Working Group". The Board of IERE is continuously pursuing the objective of delivering value added services to the members and is determined to re-orient its strategy in the aim of enhancing the support to their technology management policy.

As Advising Chair Emeritus, I am honored and committed to cooperate with IERE on this exciting mission.

With my best wishes,

Roger Ballay
IERE Advising Chair Emeritus





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