



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Dr. Tobias Bischof-Niemz is the Centre Manager: Energy at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in Pretoria, where he leads the establishment of an integrated energy research center and a growing team of scientists and engineers. Before joining the CSIR, he was with South Africa's electric utility Eskom in the Energy Planning Unit, where he was part of the team that developed the long-term power-capacity expansion plan (Integrated Resource Plan – IRP) for South Africa. Dr. Bischof-Niemz is a member of the Ministerial Advisory Council on Energy (MACE) that advises Minister Joemat-Pettersson on long-term, strategic energy topics.



Dr. Raziq Yaqub is an Associate Professor in Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Alabama A&M University. He earned a Ph.D. in Wireless Communication from Keio University, Japan, and MBA in Marketing from Fairleigh Dickenson University, USA. He is an inventor of numerous technologies of Wireless Communication, and Smart Grid. He received “Inventor of the Year Award” from the Governor of the State of New Jersey, USA, through Inventors Hall of Fame. Dr. Yaqub served industry, government and academia. He remained an Executive Director of Toshiba America Research, Department head of NIKSUN University, Princeton, NJ, to lead Cybersecurity, and Big Data Analytics. He also remained Sr. Consultant to the State of New Jersey, a spokesperson on 3GPP on behalf of Department of Homeland Security”. He remained Associate Professor, in University of Tennessee, Rowan University, Stevens Institute of Technology and CECOS University. His research interests addressed issues related 4G Mobile Communication, Smart Grid, EVs, and Home Energy Management, etc. He filed several patents, published numerous conference papers, and submitted 100+ contributions in standards organizations. He remained working group chairman in Mobile Wireless Internet Forum, Chairman IEEE membership Development, Keynote speaker, Panelist, and guest speaker in numerous International Conferences. Currently he is a Chairman of IEEE Award Committee.



Dr. Reginald Parker is the Founder and President of 510nano. He is an experienced business professional, entrepreneur, seasoned inventor, commercialization lead, and a solar energy technologist for over 20 years. Dr. Parker served as Chief Technology Officer at Nanotailor, a manufacturer of functionalized carbon nanotubes; a consultant at the Boston Consulting Group, an international management consulting firm; President of Business, Information and Technology Consulting, a boutique web consultancy; and a Senior Polymer Process Research Engineer at the Rohm and Haas Company, a specialty chemical company (acquired by Dow Chemical Company). Additionally, Dr. Parker has taught, research and managed programs in various academic institutions including Professor and Principal Investigator at the University of North Dakota, as well as Assistant Director of Tech Transfer, Chairman, and Professor at Florida A&M University. Dr. Parker holds a BS and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from MIT and Georgia Tech respectively, as well as an MBA from Florida State University.



Ray Larsen received Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Electrical Engineering at UBC and a Degree of Engineer in EE from Stanford University while working as an instrumentation project engineer at the new Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC). He became Electronics Department Head overseeing instrumentation, controls, pulsed power and large experimental detectors. In 2009, he joined the Humanitarian Technology Challenge (HTC) and founded the Community Solutions Working Group, later IEEE Smart Village, dedicated to reaching millions of the global 1.3 billion without electricity. Ray has been

inspired by Jeffry Sachs, Paul Polak, Amartya Sen and the IEEE visionaries who launched the HTC program that global poverty is a soluble problem, a matter of the will of developed countries and not of economic means. He believes that IEEE Smart Village can help make important breakthroughs by focusing IEEE’s enormous volunteer talent and resources on holistic sustainable community-owned initiatives.



Eyram A. Adadevoh Esq. is an international oil & gas lawyer with experience in petroleum transactions and corporate legal compliance, as well as a certified compliance and ethics professional. She has authored publications on the topic of renewables investment, compliance, and anti-corruption frameworks. She is registered to practice law in Ghana and the State of New York. She is currently senior associate attorney at Centurion Law Group.



Monica Maduekwe is program coordinator of the ECOWAS Program on Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access, and has coordinated renewable energy and energy efficiency programs at the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE). She has extensive experience in developing regional policies, regulatory and institutional reform instruments for renewable energy, energy efficiency and gender mainstreaming. At ECREEE, she has worked on several regional energy programs and projects, serving as regional coordinator for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Strategic

Program for West Africa (SPWA), of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the ECOWAS Program on Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access (ECOW-GEN). She has a MSc. degree in Energy Studies with specialization in Energy and the Environment, from the University of Dundee, Scotland, UK, and is a member of the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE). Ms. Maduekwe is an Ambassador/Mentor in the Women in Renewable Energy (WIRE) Network of the Clinton Climate Initiative.