

IAEE ENERGY FORUM

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Earlier this month I participated in the XIX meeting of the Spanish Affiliate in Granada. I met wonderful (new!) people and was thrilled by the high share of attendance of young people. This boosted my energy level and made up for a rather difficult start of the year. Following a truly competitive selection process and interviews with highly qualified candidates, the Executive committee of the Association welcomes Julie Sutter, CAE as our new Executive Director. Julie joined us in Istanbul—please make sure to meet her and remember her face, the new face of IAEE headquarters.



From the business` perspective there are several tasks we as Association need to tackle in the next months. One is certainly communication, where we aim to establish routines to keep our members informed. It will be key to find the right level/amount of content to send your way, so please engage, provide feedback, let us know what you wish for and maybe also be a bit patient with us. Another one is a better understanding of what we can do for our members and affiliates. At this point allow me to emphasize again that the change in our dues structure introduced earlier this year aims to be more inclusive while keeping up with increased cost due to inflation. It is a tiered approach based on the World Bank's national income categories. A final point to touch upon in the second half of my presidency is a close monitoring of the development of our two academic publications in terms of quality and relevance. Most of the points raised above were agenda items on our Council Meeting, which we held during the whole day before the 27th International Conference in Istanbul started. Main takeaways from Istanbul will be topic in the next edition of the Energy Forum

Now I invite you to dive into this issue of the energy forum. Three key buzzwords—AI, digitalization and (energy) transition—are currently mentioned in one breath. The topic is of interest to all stakeholders in society—not only those in the energy sector—for very different reasons. For the ongoing energy transition, digitalization is expected to unlock flexibility potentials in the electricity sector using machine learning. But there are also interrelations with expected increased demand for power in data centres. If and how the fossil fuel sector will be affected by these trends is unclear to me. Therefore, I asked our members to share their thoughts, ideas and visions which we share on the following pages. Several aspects get touched upon, but numerous questions remain unanswered and others still need to be asked.

It was good meeting many of you in person in Istanbul and good luck to all who are following Wimbledon, Tour de France or the Olympic Games!

Take care of yourself and your loved ones.

Anne Neumann
IAEE President

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Message from Executive Director

I am fortunate to have the opportunity to serve IAEE members and the Council as the organization's executive director. I joined IAEE and the Talley Management Group, the association management firm engaged by IAEE, in early June. Good fortune continued as I was able to attend the Council meeting and annual international conference in Istanbul within a few weeks of my start.

Much of our discussion during our Council meeting focused on the strategic plan and priorities to operationalize it. The Council is united in their commitment to help IAEE grow to the next level of its development as a member-driven organization. This means actively listening to members to learn about their needs, collecting and analyzing data about customer insights—gleaned from members and non-members—and then making decisions to meet those needs.

Since the global COVID-19 pandemic, many organizations, including IAEE, adapted and considered new approaches to maintain global connection with members. The new strategic plan emphasizes the role of IAEE as a convenor and connector to share knowledge and insights about the energy sector, from important discussions about research findings to forecasting trends and providing analysis and policy insights. Energy has grown from the fossil fuels that once dominated the agenda of IAEE's founding. Now energy is top-of-mind for consumers, business leaders, and policy makers as they consider the development of new and emerging energy sources and their impact. Just as the sector has grown, so too has the membership and their needs. With nearly 4,000 members and almost 30 affiliates, IAEE's influence continues to grow.

IAEE has a strong tradition to build on as it evolves. We will continue to host exceptional conferences, support students in their development, and publish leading publications. New priorities include enhancing and freshening our communications and hosting programs that better align with IAEE's three pillars of academia, business, and government and policy. Technology enables IAEE to connect practitioners in energy economics during the year even if they are unable to travel to attend a conference.

Another key priority is ensuring that IAEE reflects the diversity of its members, reflected as gender, race, ethnicity and geography, throughout its programs and governance and balanced across the three pillars of academia, business, and government and policy.

I am excited to have joined you at this exciting point in IAEE's trajectory. I am surrounded by a team of talented leaders. Council and affiliate leaders are subject matters in their areas of expertise: research, scholarship and teaching, business, and other professional practice. Colleagues at Talley share knowledge of association best practices, supplementing my own experience in linking organizational mission to execute strategic plans. While the energy sector is new to me, decades of experience with other membership organizations informs my approach to implementing the strategic plan, made stronger by the Council's wisdom in overseeing its direction. Our mutual aim is to serve the membership.

Over these next few months, I will continue to listen and learn and evolve the plan. And I look forward to meeting members in Louisiana for the USAEE Conference on November 3-6, 2024. If you have thoughts, comments, or suggestions to share, please reach out to me at jsutter@iaee.org.

All best wishes,

Julie Sutter, MS, CAE
Executive Director



Careers, Energy Education and Scholarships Online Databases

IAEE is pleased to highlight our online careers database, with special focus on graduate positions. Please visit http://www.iaee.org/en/students/student_careers.asp for a listing of employment opportunities.

Employers are invited to use this database, at no cost, to advertise their graduate, senior graduate or seasoned professional positions to the IAEE membership and visitors to the IAEE website seeking employment assistance.

The IAEE is also pleased to highlight the Energy Economics Education database available at <http://www.iaee.org/en/students/eee.aspx>. Members from academia are kindly invited to list, at no cost, graduate, postgraduate and research programs as well as their university and research centers in this online database. For students and interested individuals looking to enhance their knowledge within the field of energy and economics, this is a valuable database to reference.

Further, IAEE has also launched a Scholarship Database, open at no cost to different grants and scholarship providers in Energy Economics and related fields. This is available at <http://www.iaee.org/en/students/ListScholarships.aspx>.

We look forward to your participation in these new initiatives.