



UCF

Special CECS Virtual Seminar Series

The Role of Hydrogen in a Decarbonized Energy Future

Zoom talk | Monday, April 18, 2022 | 9-10 a.m.

Few topics are as important to a sustainable future as the topic of decarbonization. This is important to all academic institutions, including UCF, since it is closely linked to the future prosperity of the new generations — not only from the important perspective of a sustainable energy future — but also from the perspective of education and training for new jobs that are important in such a future. UCF is also in proximity to several multi-national companies, such as Mitsubishi Power, which is in the vanguard of developing and deploying decarbonization technologies. UCF and Mitsubishi Power are vested in a future that will continue to benefit from the reliable and affordable electricity with low-to-no carbon emissions, and to prepare the next generations of scientists and engineers who can create and improve such a future.

This special seminar between the presidents of Mitsubishi Power and UCF provides awareness and thought leadership around the topic of hydrogen decarbonization, with an overall goal of reducing carbon emissions that will ensure a sustainable future, while still enabling human prosperity through reliable electricity generation. Because of UCF's proximity to industry partners who will drive key hydrogen technologies, UCF should partner with them and with government agencies that are charged to support these new technological innovations in an effort to lead and accelerate this change to a sustainable energy future.

Speakers:



Alexander Cartwright
President,
University of Central
Florida

Alexander Cartwright was selected as UCF's sixth president by the UCF Board of Trustees on March 20, 2020 following a nationwide search. He was confirmed by the Florida Board of Governors the following week.

Under Dr. Cartwright's leadership, UCF is working toward becoming the world's leading public metropolitan university, a top 50 public research university, determined to foster success for students of all backgrounds and to produce research and creative works that positively impact lives across our community and across the world. To achieve this vision, the university has been focused on achieving greater operational, academic and inclusive excellence, including building a senior leadership team that will help take the university to new heights.

As a first-generation college student whose journey to higher education was not traditional, Dr. Cartwright understands and prioritizes the need to build successful outcomes for students from all backgrounds, and is dedicated to diversity, inclusion and equity on campus.

An internationally recognized researcher and scholar in the area of optical sensors, he is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, SPIE and the National Academy of Inventors. Dr. Cartwright is a prior winner of both the National Science Foundation CAREER Award and the Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Award. In addition, he earned the 2002 SUNY Chancellor's award for excellence in teaching.

ZOOM LINK: <https://bit.ly/3LPMs5G>



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William A. Newsom, Jr.
President and CEO,
Mitsubishi Power
Americas

William “Bill” A. Newsom, Jr. was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Mitsubishi Power Americas on December 1, 2021. As CEO of Mitsubishi Power Americas, he leads two global businesses headquartered in the United States and three regional businesses in North, Central and South America.

Mitsubishi Power Americas, headquartered in Lake Mary, Florida, employs more than 2,300 power generation, energy storage, and digital solutions experts and professionals. Their employees are focused on empowering customers to affordably and reliably combat climate change while also advancing human prosperity throughout North, Central, and South America. Mitsubishi Power’s power generation solutions include gas, steam, and aero-derivative turbines; power trains and power islands; geothermal systems; PV solar project development; environmental controls; and services. Energy storage solutions include hydrogen energy storage, battery energy storage systems, and services. Mitsubishi Power also offers intelligent solutions that use artificial intelligence to enable autonomous operation of power plants.

Newsom has been with Mitsubishi Power for nearly 18 years and has extensive leadership and wide-ranging experience across the core gas turbine combined cycle business and new growth segments like renewable fuels. During his tenure, Newsom has been instrumental in reaching number one market share for advanced class gas turbines in the Americas and for launching new growth initiatives, including hydrogen infrastructure that now define the path to our decarbonization strategy.

Moderator:



Jayanta Kapat
Director,
UCF Center for
Advanced
Turbomachinery and
Energy Research

Jayanta Kapat is a Pegasus Professor and Trustee Chair in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at UCF. Dr. Kapat is also the founding Director for Center for Advanced Turbomachinery and Energy Research (CATER). He obtained his Sc.D. in mechanical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He joined UCF in 1997 as an assistant professor, and was promoted to the ranks of associate professor and professor in 2001 and 2005, respectively. Since mid-2000s, Dr. Kapat has fully focused his research activities on turbo-machineries and associated technologies for power generation, aviation and space propulsion, and created partnerships with a number of OEMs in these industries. The most significant impact of Kapat’s work stems from his vision for CATER. He brought 10 core faculty members with multidisciplinary capabilities together to solve some of the most complex research problems for power generation, aviation and space propulsion. Through CATER, Kapat has facilitated graduate-level research and degrees and has established excellent success rates for internship and job placement of students at all levels. Because of the international reputation of CATER, high-caliber students from Brazil, France, Germany and India now come to UCF.

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