

Chair's Report

- Switchgear Committee's Annual Report was submitted ahead of the end-of-January deadline, and has been posted to the Tech Council website
 - Please review
 - There is lots of good work documented
 - Committee should be very proud of our technical leadership and accomplishments
- PES General Meeting will be a virtual event again this year
 - Switchgear Committee has not historically participated
 - However, there is an opportunity to promote switchgear activities through panel sessions and poster sessions
 - Committee is encouraged to propose some panel sessions for 2022
 - Working Groups are encouraged to create posters advertising working group activities and how to get involved (do not have to attend to have posters presented)
- Tech Council is encouraging technical committees to host webinars about hot topics or committee activities
 - Typically these have been 30 – 45 minutes and hosted by working groups
 - Recorded and posted in the PES resource center
 - Attendance has been good, and a good way to promote our activities
- T&D Show will occur in Spring 2022 in New Orleans
 - Meeting details are being finalized
 - Window for paper and panel session proposals is July – October 2021
- Entity Projects
 - Continues to be the hottest topic in PES
 - PES has made a proposal to Standards Board for requesting a change in naming convention for entity-method standards to differentiate them from individual-method standards
 - This might impact the numbering of the standard
 - Or require an introduction describing the process by which the standard was created
 - This still has to be approved by Standards Board, and no guarantee to pass
- COVID-19
 - With active COVID-19 cases continuing to drop and vaccines currently available to all American adults, the intent of the Main Committee Officers is to resume face-to-face meetings with our October meeting scheduled for Reno, NV
 - Expect a survey in the coming weeks
 - Officers would like to get an estimate of the likely attendance so that we can make appropriate arrangements with the meeting hotel, and adjust contractual agreements as necessary
- Meeting Planning
 - COVID-19 has hit the hotel industry pretty hard
 - We are behind in securing long range hotel contracts
 - Hotel event staff were the first to be furloughed during the pandemic, limiting our ability to negotiate and secure hotel contracts

- Hotels are coming back to life, and negotiations have restarted in earnest
- This week the Committee entered an agreement to return to Burlington, VT for Fall 2022