

An IEEE AP-S DL Journey in Canada

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As part of the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society (AP-S) Distinguished Lecturer (DL) Program, I visited Canada in July 2026 and participated in two workshops held at prominent engineering institutions. During both workshops, I delivered my IEEE AP-S DL presentation entitled *Computational Electromagnetics: From Basics to Mastery*.

- July 9, 2026 (Thursday): University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario
- July 13, 2026 (Monday): Polytechnique Montréal, Montréal, Quebec

Although relatively brief, this Canadian tour provided an excellent opportunity for scientific exchange, collaboration, and interaction with outstanding researchers, students, and fellow Distinguished Lecturers.

University of Waterloo

The first workshop was held at the University of Waterloo on July 9, 2026. Waterloo is a relatively compact and peaceful city, yet it has developed a strong identity in technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship. The University of Waterloo is particularly well known for its strengths in engineering, mathematics, and computer science. The combination of a calm urban environment and an active research culture made the university a particularly suitable setting for scientific interaction.

One aspect that particularly impressed me was the university's outstanding research infrastructure. The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering hosts excellent RF, antenna, microwave, and measurement facilities that support both fundamental and applied research. I was also impressed by the university's modern Engineering 7 building, whose contemporary design and collaborative research spaces reflect Waterloo's strong commitment to innovation and engineering education.

It was a great pleasure to share this workshop with fellow IEEE AP-S DLs, including Prof. Atif Shamim from King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia; Prof. George Shaker from the University of Waterloo, Canada; and Prof. Levent Sevgi from Istanbul Technical University, Türkiye. The participation of several Distinguished Lecturers brought together complementary research perspectives and enriched the scientific scope of the event.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Prof. George Shaker and Prof. Levent Sevgi for their kind invitation and excellent organization. The workshop provided a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas with the speakers, faculty members, researchers, and students, and to discuss current developments in electromagnetics and related engineering fields. (see **Picture 1**)

Polytechnique Montréal

The second workshop was held at Polytechnique Montréal on July 13, 2026. Montréal is a large, multicultural, bilingual, and historically rich city, where European architectural influences coexist with the character of a modern North American metropolis.

Polytechnique Montréal is one of Canada's oldest engineering schools and an autonomous institution affiliated with the Université de Montréal. It has built an outstanding reputation for engineering education and research while benefiting from its close connection with one of Canada's leading research universities. Its location on Mount Royal and its strong engineering and research identity provide a distinctive academic environment.

One detail that immediately caught my attention was Polytechnique Montréal's thoughtful visual identity. The four colors appearing in the university's logo are reflected throughout the Lassonde buildings, creating a consistent architectural and wayfinding system. Beyond their symbolic connection to nature—from magma to sky—the colors also help visitors intuitively navigate different engineering spaces. For example, green identifies the Electrical Engineering areas, while orange is used for Computer Engineering. I found it to be an elegant example of how architectural design can reinforce both institutional identity and user experience.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Güneş Karabulut Kurt for her excellent organization and warm hospitality. It was a pleasure meeting her, and I was particularly impressed by her energy, enthusiasm, and dedication to research.

Following the workshop, I had the opportunity to take an extensive tour of the university's research facilities, including state-of-the-art RF, microwave, antenna, photonics, and robotics laboratories, as well as measurement facilities extending into the terahertz frequency range. During the visit, Prof. Tarek Djerfi from the Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS), who had attended my lecture, joined us and provided detailed explanations of several laboratories and ongoing research activities. By coincidence, Prof. Yeong Min Jang from Kookmin University, Korea, who was visiting Polytechnique Montréal at the time, also joined the laboratory visit. Spending the day with colleagues from different institutions and discussing current challenges and future directions in electromagnetics and wireless technologies made the visit particularly enjoyable. (see **Picture 2**)

Concluding Reflections

The workshops at the University of Waterloo and Polytechnique Montréal created valuable opportunities for scientific exchange, professional interaction, and new academic connections. Waterloo impressed me with its vibrant innovation ecosystem, state-of-the-art engineering facilities, and strong emphasis on applied research, while Polytechnique Montréal combined a rich engineering tradition with world-class laboratories, thoughtful architectural design, and a highly collaborative research environment.

I am grateful to all the faculty members, researchers, students, organizers, and fellow Distinguished Lecturers who contributed to these workshops. It was a privilege to serve the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society through the Distinguished Lecturer Program by sharing knowledge, engaging with students and colleagues, and contributing to the Society's mission of advancing electromagnetics education and international collaboration.



Picture 1: Photos from DL workshop in University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.



Picture 2: Photos from DL workshop in Polytechnique Montréal, Montréal, Quebec.