

Press Release

KAISER FOUNDATION INVESTS \$1-MILLION IN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY RESEARCH

Vancouver, BC. August 11, 2016 – Established in 1997 by Fred Kaiser, founder of global power supply manufacturer Alpha Technologies, the Kaiser Foundation for Higher Education has been a long-time supporter of higher education and electrical engineering over the past two decades. The Foundation has recently awarded the Fred Kaiser Professorship in Power Conversion and Sustainability to Professor Martin Ordonez. Professor Ordonez will use the \$1-million investment to expand research and education programs in power conversion and renewable energy generation.

Recently named the Canada Research Chair in Power Converters for Renewable Energy Systems, Ordonez's research aims to maximize the use of renewable energy sources by developing elements necessary to build affordable energy systems, with a focus on creating an improved sustainable electrical system for developing countries. *"When it comes to the developing world, the challenge is different. Instead of interfacing with an existing power grid, the challenges arise from determining how a better system can be envisioned,"* Ordonez says. *"With a blank slate, the electrical system can be developed with sustainable energy sources in mind, but research and testing are needed to make them economically feasible for developing countries."*

With the investment from the Kaiser Foundation, Professor Ordonez is planning to add several top-tier researchers to the team and doubling the program's current size. In addition, part of the program's initiative is to create an outreach program to recruit undergraduate students from around the world to join the team.

About the Kaiser Foundation for Higher Education

The Kaiser Foundation for Higher Education is a philanthropic organization created by Mr. Fred Kaiser to support higher education in the areas of Power Electronics and Sustainable Energy technologies. To date the Foundation has contributed millions of dollars to fund facilities, programs and scholarships to institutions and elite and needy students.

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