



2026 Industry Conference

April 28-29, 2026

Knoxville, TN

INDUSTRY CONFERENCE – RECEPTION

*April 27 (Monday), 2026, at Min Kao Building 6th floor Balcony & Commons
(All times US Eastern)*

17:30 – 19:30 **Pre-conference reception:** industry members, faculty and staff

INDUSTRY CONFERENCE – DAY 1

*April 28 (Tuesday), 2026 at UT Student Union (1502 Cumberland Ave.), Room 362
(All times US Eastern)*

08:00 – 08:30 **Breakfast**

08:30 – 12:00 **Pre-conference Tutorials**

08:30 – 10:00 Frank Sharp (EPRI), *Large Scale Data Center Flexibility Opportunities and Practices*

10:00 – 10:30 **Break**

10:30 – 12:00 Fred Wang (UTK), *Grid Forming Converters: Requirements, Implementation, and Capabilities*

12:00 – 13:00 **Lunch (UT Student Union Room 270)**

13:00 – 13:30 **Welcome and Center Overview**

13:00 – 13:10 **Welcome** – Farzad Yaghoobi Notash & Noah Wilding, Fran Li (UTK), and Matthew Mench (Dean, UT Tickle College of Engineering)

13:10 – 13:30 **Center Overview** – Fran Li

13:30 – 15:00 **Invited Keynote Speeches**

13:30 – 14:00 Madhu Chinthavali (ORNL), *Advancing National Energy Infrastructure: Strategic Research and Utility-Scale Integration at ORNL's GRID-C*

14:00 – 14:30 Johan Enslin (ARPA-E), *Active MV Solid-state Substations to Power Datacenters from Grid to Chip*

14:30 – 15:00 Micah Till (Dominion Energy), *Data Center Performance at Dominion Energy*

15:00 – 15:30 **Break**

15:30 – 17:30 **Faculty Research Projects Overview:** CURENT faculty members (J. He, F. Li, L. Tolbert, Y. Liu, K. Bai, K. Sun, F. Wang, H. Huang, and D. Costinett)

17:30 – 18:30 **Break**

18:30 – 20:00 **Conference Dinner at Knoxville Convention Center (Henley Ballroom Concourse 301 ABC)**

20:00 – 20:30 **Industry Meeting** - Moderator: Fred Wang (UTK)

INDUSTRY CONFERENCE – DAY 2
April 29 (Wednesday), 2026 at UT Student Union (1502 Cumberland Ave.), Room 362
 (All times US Eastern)

8:00 – 8:30	Breakfast
8:30 – 9:30	Invited Keynote Speeches
8:30 – 9:00	Jovica Milanović (University of Manchester, UK), <i>Planning, Operation & Research Challenges of Transition to Net-zero Power Systems</i>
9:00 – 9:30	Slavko Mocevic (ABB), <i>The next (R)Evolution for Medium Voltage Drives</i>
9:30 – 10:30	Industry/Student Panel (Topic: <i>How will AI transform the power industry?</i> Moderator: Noah Wilding. Panelists: Mike Marshall – DRG, Clifton Black – Southern Company, Micah Till – Dominion Energy, Han Xiong - GE Vernova, Yonghao Gui - ORNL)
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45– 12:15	Student Presentations – 13 selected student presentations (Y. Zhang, C. Li, M. Saleh, B. Talihati, J. Camp, V. Wilson, S. Sohid, K. Huang, X. Liu, M. U. Afzaal, X. Gao, J. Yang, & F. Alamri)
12:15 – 12:45	Break and move to Min Kao Building 1st floor
12:45 – 15:00	Lunch, Lab Tour and Poster Session (Min Kao Building)
12:45 – 13:15	CURRENT Testbeds Demo (Visualization and Control Room 124) Large-scale Testbed (LTB), Hardware Testbed (HTB), and FNET
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch Break (Pick up box at MK 118/124)
13:15 – 15:00	Power Electronics Poster Session and Lab Tours HTB Lab (Room 101) High Power Electronics Lab (Room 117) Medium and Low Power Electronics Lab (Room 125) Power Systems Poster Session and Lab Tours HTB Lab (Room 101A) CURRENT Conference Room (Room 121) FNET Lab (Room 402)
15:00	Adjourn

QR code to CURENT 2026 Industry Conference portal



UT Area Map—Student Union & Min Kao Building highlighted in green.

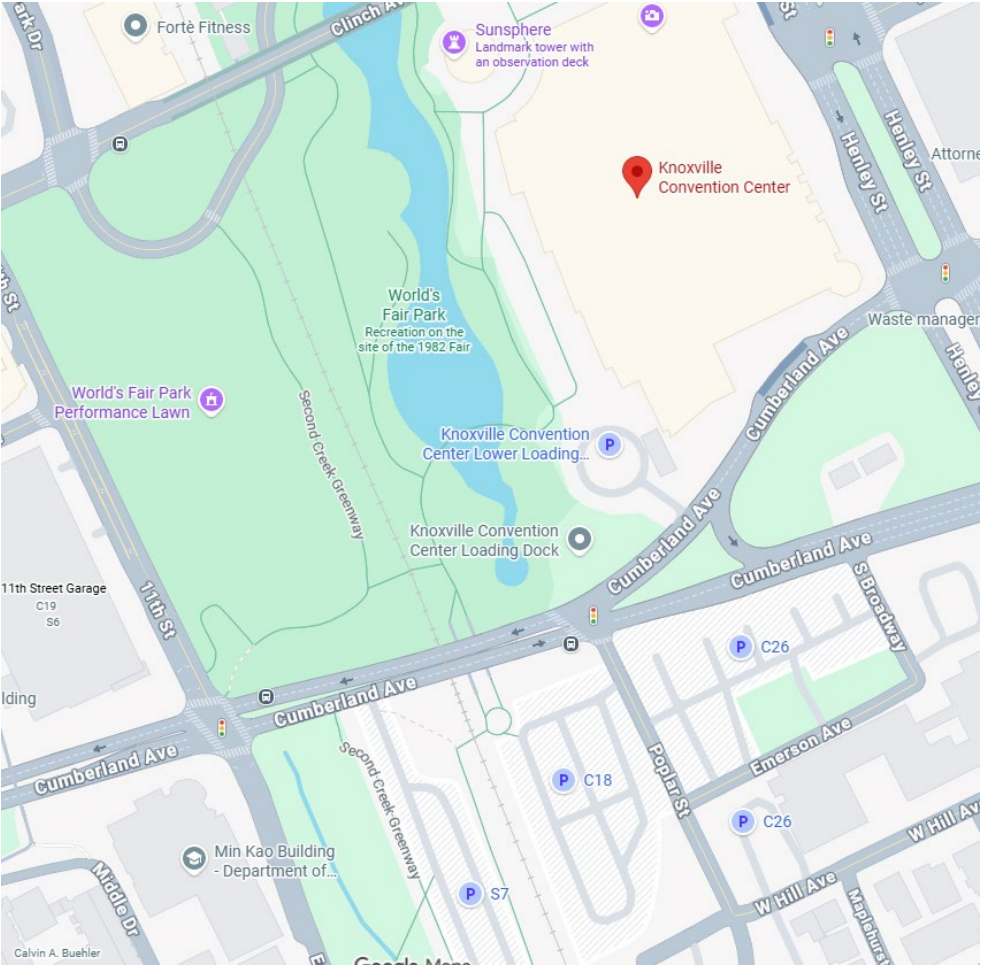


For prioritized guest internet access visitors can use these credentials when connecting to UT-Open on Wi-Fi:

Username: curent2026

Password: curent2026

The Industry Dinner will be held at the **Knoxville Convention Center** on Tuesday, April 28. The **KCC** is located next to World’s Fair Park and the Sun Sphere.



If you are driving to the conference on April 28/29, please park in the Vol Hall Parking Deck at 1545 White Avenue behind the Law School. The parking deck, student union, and Min Kao Building are marked with red stars on the map below. See registration instructions below the map so that you will not be charged for parking.



The links below are where you will input your license plate information and email. Once this is completed, you will be registered to park in Vol Hall and All Park Mobile locations (if Vol Hall is full). Once registered you will receive a QR code to scan at the gates. You will also receive an email confirmation containing the same.

Here is the link for Tuesday, April 28:
<https://www.offstreet.io/events/7NRO0HOB>

Here is the link for Wednesday, April 29:
<https://www.offstreet.io/events/Q8VS8Y8Z>

Please be aware that completing this registration is crucial, as failure to do so may lead to the risk of receiving a parking citation.