

Presenters BIOS

Marcel Castro

Marcel J. Castro-Sitriche is a professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Puerto Rico in the Mayagüez Campus (Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez). His research efforts include academic, educational and service activities. Some of the research areas of interest include appropriate technology, engineering education, power electronics, computational intelligence, electric motor drives, and renewable energy systems. He is chair of the Society on Social Implications of Technology / Engineering Education of the IEEE Western Puerto Rico chapter, and member of the International Network on Appropriate Technology. His experience in interdisciplinary teaching and appropriate technology date from 2004 while still a graduate student at Howard University. One of the current research projects he is involved in combine most research interests and is based in the concept of appropriate technology. The project title is "Graduate Research and Education for Appropriate Technology: Inspiring Direct Engagement and Agency (GREAT IDEA)", project website: <http://greatidea.uprm.edu/>.

Christopher Papadopoulos

Christopher Papadopoulos is an Associate Professor in the Department of General Engineering at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez. He previously was a member of the faculty in the Department of Civil Engineering and Mechanics at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Papadopoulos holds a PhD in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics from Cornell University and BS degrees in Civil Engineering and Mathematics from Carnegie Mellon University. He is also a member of the Executive Board of the Mechanics Division of the American Society for Engineering Education.

Papadopoulos has research and teaching interests in engineering mechanics, structural mechanics, appropriate technology, engineering ethics, and engineering education. He is the PI of two projects sponsored by the National Science Foundation, "Graduate Research and Education for Appropriate Technology: Inspiring Direct Engagement and Agency (GREAT IDEA)" and "Leveraging Simulation Tools to Deliver Ill-Structured Problems: Enhancing Student Problem-Solving Ability in Statics and Mechanics of Materials", and Co-PI of the project "The Convergence of Science and Culture: Expanding the Humanities Curriculum at UPRM", which is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. He is a passionate educator and advocate for peaceful and humanitarian uses of technology that have positive impacts on communities. In his free time Papadopoulos enjoys cycling, swimming, running, and cooking, and he is attempting to learn the languages of the Caribbean.

Hector Huyke

Héctor José Huyke es catedrático adscrito al Recinto de Mayagüez de la Universidad de Puerto Rico. Posee un doctorado en filosofía de la Universidad de Columbia en Nueva York; Maestría en filosofía de la Universidad de Michigan, Ann Arbor; y licenciatura en historia y filosofía de la Universidad de Carnegie Mellon, Pittsburgh. En la década de los noventa, ejerció por cinco años el cargo de Director del Departamento de Humanidades del Recinto de Mayagüez. Luego de cumplir su término como Director, el Dr. Huyke ha sido electo cinco veces senador académico. Desde el Senado, fue electo cuatro veces para representar al claustro del Recinto en la Junta Universitaria. Desde la Junta, fue electo dos veces para

representar al claustro de toda la Universidad de Puerto Rico en la Junta de Síndicos, la antigua junta de gobierno.

En lo que respecta a reforma universitaria, entre el 1999 y el 2001 coordinó la iniciativa de la Junta Universitaria conocida como la Comisión para la Iniciativa de Afirmación Universitaria. A mediados de la pasada década, formó parte del Comité Relator que tuvo a su cargo desarrollar una memoria comprensiva con el insumo de la comunidad universitaria para un nuevo Reglamento General.

A través de los años, el Dr. Huyke ha impartido cursos en introducción a la filosofía y a la ética, ética moderna y contemporánea, filosofía contemporánea, filosofía de la tecnología, existencialismo y varios seminarios sobre Nietzsche. Ha colaborado en múltiples proyectos que integran la ética a los currículos universitarios y proyectos en torno a producir cambios afines a los propósitos de una educación general liberadora y ciudadana en la universidad.

Entre sus publicaciones, el libro Anti-profesor (Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico 2001) propone un profundo cambio en las prácticas que predominan en el salón de clases universitario. Su segundo libro, Tras otro progreso: Filosofía de la tecnología desde la periferia, fue publicado por Editora Educación Emergente en marzo del 2013.