

Biography: David Connolly, PhD, BEng

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Biography (60 Words)

David Connolly is an Associate Professor in Energy Planning at Aalborg University in Copenhagen, Denmark. His research focuses on the design and assessment of 100% renewable energy systems, with a key focus on the integration of intermittent renewables (such as wind and solar power), district heating, electric vehicles, and the production of electrofuels/synthetic fuels for transport. More information is available on his website: www.dconnolly.net.

Biography (120 Words)

David Connolly is an Associate Professor in Energy Planning at Aalborg University in Copenhagen, Denmark. His research focuses on the design and assessment of 100% renewable energy systems, with a key focus on the integration of intermittent renewables (such as wind and solar power), district heating, electric vehicles, and the production of electrofuels/synthetic fuels for transport. He is the coordinator and lead author of the Heat Roadmap Europe series (www.heatroadmap.eu), which focuses on the design and analysis of low-carbon heating and cooling strategies for the European Union and various individual Member States. David has won numerous awards during his career including University of Limerick's Gold Medal and Advanced Scholars Award and the Globe Forum "Early Career Research Award". More information is available on his website: www.dconnolly.net.

Biography (240 Words)

David Connolly is an Associate Professor in Energy Planning at Aalborg University in Copenhagen, Denmark. His research focuses on the design and assessment of 100% renewable energy systems, with a key focus on the integration of intermittent renewables (such as wind and solar power), district heating, electric vehicles, and the production of electrofuels/synthetic fuels for transport. He is the coordinator and lead author of the Heat Roadmap Europe series (www.heatroadmap.eu), in which low carbon heating and cooling strategies are designed and analysed at a national level. In the latest version, STRATEGO (www.stratego-project.eu), heating strategies and thermal atlases were developed for five EU Member States (Czech Republic, Croatia, Italy, Romania, and the United Kingdom). David is currently leading a follow-up Horizon 2020 project, which will extend this analysis to the 14 largest EU countries.

David originally graduated from Mechanical Engineering at the University of Limerick in 2007, receiving the University's Gold Medal for the highest results of that graduating year. He then went on to complete a PhD in energy planning, also at the University of Limerick, after being awarded an Advanced Scholars Award from the University and a PhD scholarship from the Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology (IRCSET). He won the Globe Forum "Early Career Research Award" at the 2010 Globe Forum conference on sustainability and in 2011 he joined Aalborg University in Denmark as an Assistant Professor in Energy Planning. More information is available on his website: www.dconnolly.net.

Awards & Achievements

- Led a team of 14 official partners and an advisory board of 6 others in a successful Horizon 2020 application worth over €2 million.
- Lead author and coordinator of the Heat Roadmap Europe series, which has played a key role in developing new energy policies within the European Commission.
- Won the Globe Forum 'Early Career Research Award', which included PhD and postdoctoral researchers for my innovative research on sustainable energy.
- Gold medal award for graduating with the highest academic results from the University of Limerick in 2007 (out of approximately 2,200 students).
- One of the primary developers behind the Advanced Energy Systems Analysis tool, EnergyPLAN (www.EnergyPLAN.eu). Involved in the backend and frontend coding of the software as well as defining its strategic development and building its website. Since taking over the development of the website, the number of unique visitors has tripled, from 700/month in 2013 to over 2000/month in 2015.
- Created the first complete model of Ireland's energy system, which included electricity, heat, and transport, using the software called EnergyPLAN (www.EnergyPLAN.eu).
- Designed and commercialised a new software tool to find locations for constructing pumped hydroelectric energy storage in collaboration with Atlas Computers Ltd.
- Awarded a PhD scholarship from The Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology (IRCSET) as well as The Advanced Scholars award from the University of Limerick.