In Memoriam: Mohamed “Mo” El-Hawary

Ferial El-Hawary (Professor)

To cite this article: Ferial El-Hawary (Professor) (2020): In Memoriam: Mohamed “Mo” El-Hawary, Electric Power Components and Systems, DOI: 10.1080/15325008.2019.1707378

To link to this article: https://doi.org/10.1080/15325008.2019.1707378

Published online: 08 Jan 2020.
In Memoriam: Mohamed “Mo” El-Hawary

Mohamed “Mo” El-Hawary, Consulting Editor of the Electric Power Components and Systems Journal, to which he contributed for decades, died on July 26, 2019 at the age of 76. Dr. El-Hawary was a professor of electrical and computer engineering at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. When he died in his adopted hometown of Halifax, he was surrounded by his family and was able to articulate the great success that he enjoyed during his life. He was very proud of his family and of his professional accomplishments. Dr. El-Hawary is survived by his wife, Ferial, also a very accomplished academic engineer, and by three children, eight grandchildren, and three sisters.

Dr. El-Hawary is remembered by Dr. Dan M. Ionel, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal Electric Power Components: “We were most fortunate to have in our leadership team Professor El-Hawary as a Consulting Editor. I am very grateful to him for his mentorship and support over the years, his many contributions to our journal, including the leadership of our first special issue in the new journal format adopted in 2013, and for his papers, including one of our journal’s most read of all times: “The Smart Grid-State-of-the-art and Future Trends”. I am also grateful to Professor El-Hawary for his books, which I have studied over the years. We all greatly miss his teachings, encouragements, and jovial presence.”

Born in Sohag, Egypt, Dr. El-Hawary received a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Alexandria University in 1965. Under the tutelage of Professor Gus Christensen, in 1972, he earned a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Alberta, in Edmonton, Canada. That same year, he was hired as an associate professor of electrical engineering at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. In 1974, he moved back to Canada to join the faculty of engineering at Memorial University of Newfoundland, in St. John’s, Canada where he quickly became chair of the electrical engineering program in 1976. His final move was in 1981 when he joined the Technical University of Nova Scotia as a professor of electrical engineering. In 1997, the school joined Dalhousie University as DalTech. He had several important roles at Dalhousie University including Associate Dean of engineering from 1995 to 2007 and Chair of the University’s Senate from 2001 to 2007. He has also served as director of the school’s international and external relations for the faculty of engineering in 2008 and 2009.

Dr. El-Hawary’s background and education allowed him the ability to understand academic engineering at an international level. He cherished having had the opportunity to be part of educating, mentoring and touching the lives and careers of countless students in the field of Electrical Engineering over his long and distinguished career.

Throughout his career, Dr. El-Hawary authored over ten textbooks and almost two hundred full journal papers. He was Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE) Press Power Engineering Series Editor, Founding Editor in Chief of the IEEE Systems Man and Cybernetics
Magazine, Power Letters of PES. Over the years, he held many leadership roles within IEEE, including member of the Board of Directors and Secretary of IEEE, and as President of IEEE Canada. In 1999, IEEE awarded him the EAB Meritorious Achievement, Power Engineering Educator of the Year, and IEEE Canada General A.G.L McNaughton Gold Medal. He was associate editor for the three major electrical machines and power systems journals, and Editor, Electrical Power Engineering, McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology. He was a Fellow of IEEE, Canadian Academy of Engineering, Engineers Canada and the Engineering Institute of Canada. He was a distinguished lecturer of the IEEE power and energy society.

Referencing Sir Isaac Newton’s truism that “if we can see farther than others it is because we stand upon the shoulders of giants,” Timothy A. Little, Associate Dean of Engineering at Dalhousie University stated “I came to the understanding very early on that I could never keep up to this man, because I was in the presence of a giant. He was honored and respected by his peers and I know of very few others who have been as prolific, as productive and as passionate as was Mo El-Hawary. His sharp wit, his wry smile, his dry humor and his infectious laughter will always be in my memory. I will not be likely to see farther than him. I did everything that I could do to catch up to him, let alone stand on his shoulders.”

Mo was a great lover of animals, classical music, politics, traveling, and taking “selfies.” He was also a devoted father, grandfather, brother and friend. He especially enjoyed being with family and friends and making them all laugh and smile in Canada and in travels around the world. He enjoyed spending as much time as possible with, Ferial, the love of his life with whom he has shared adventures in exotic locations all around the world.

Professor Ferial El-Hawary, Ph.D., IEEE Life Fellow

Dear colleague and beloved wife

The current issue of the Electric Power Components and Systems includes the last two papers coauthored by Dr. El-Hawary for the journal.