James Manwell, University of Massachusetts

Role and experience of universities working to address issues around local social acceptance

James F. Manwell graduated from Amherst College with a B.A. in biophysics and then from the University of Massachusetts with an M.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering and a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. He is presently a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Massachusetts and the Director of the University’s Wind Energy Center. Prof. Manwell has been working in field of wind energy for over 30 years, both within the United States and internationally. His research interests have focused on assessment of the wind resource and wind turbine external design conditions, hybrid power system design, energy storage and offshore wind energy. He is an author of a textbook on wind energy: Wind Energy Explained: Theory, Design and Application. He worked with the International Energy Agency’s wind energy R&D activity, Annex VIII, which dealt with autonomous wind systems and in conjunction with that activity was a contributing author to the book, Wind-Diesel Systems: A Guide to the Technology and its Implementation. Subsequently, he was the US representative to the International Electrotechnical Commission’s (IEC) program to develop design standards for offshore wind turbines (IEC 61400-3), served on International Science Panel on Renewable Energies, was instrumental in bringing a large wind turbine blade test facility to Massachusetts and participated in the establishment of the North American Academy of Wind Energy. He is presently a member of the IEC group (TC 88 61400-MT3) which is developing a second edition of the offshore wind turbine design standard. He is an author or co-author of more than 200 journal articles and conference papers.

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