Workshop on Advances in Telecommunications Research (WATR)

June 16–18, 2025 | Walter Light Hall, Room 210 | Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario
19 Union Street, Kingston, ON, Canada K7L 3N9

Generously supported by the IEEE Sections in Kingston and Waterloo-Kitchener

Program

Day 1 – AI and 6G: Towards Native Intelligence

Time	Speaker	Details
Pre		*Opening Remarks*
9:00 AM	Nizar Zorba (Qatar University)	Beyond the Horizon: Terahertz Communications Innovations for 6G Networks
9:45 AM	Hatem Abou-Zeid (University of Calgary)	Foundation Models for 6G: The Next Frontier of Native-AI
10:30 AM		*Coffee Break*
11:00 AM	Salimur Choudhury (Queen's University)	Large Language Models for Resource Allocation in Networks
11:45 AM	Ahmad Nagib (Queen's University)	Pathways to Trustworthy Reinforcement Learning: Generalization Strategies for Next-Generation Wireless Networks
12:30 PM		*Lunch Break*
1:30 PM	Panel (Moderator: Ahmad Nagib)	Future of Network Intelligence
2:45 PM	Abdallah Shami (Western University)	My Journey Through IEEE: A Personal Reflection
3:30 PM		*Day 1 Highlights & Takeaways*

Day 2 – The Transformative Network

Time	Speaker	Details
Pre		*Opening Remarks*
9:00 AM	Qamar Bader (Queen's University)	Next-Gen PNT: Harnessing NTN, LEO Satellites, and HAPS for the Future of Global Positioning, Navigation and Timing
9:45 AM	Ning Lu (Queen's University)	Backlogged Bandits: Cost-Effective Learning for Utility Maximization in Queueing Networks
10:30 AM		*Coffee Break*
11:00 AM	Hesham Elsawy (Queen's University)	Communications, Computing, and Security in 5G/6G Networks
11:45 AM	Jelena Misic (Toronto Metropolitan University)	Scalable Quantum-Based Solutions for Blockchain Systems
12:30 PM		*Lunch Break*
1:30 PM	Sherif Azmy (Queen's University)	Incentive-Based Extreme Edge Computing
2:15 PM		*Day 2 Highlights & Takeaways*

Day 3 – Advances in IoT

Time	Speaker	Details
Pre		*Opening Remarks*
9:00 AM	Sharief Oteafy (DePaul University)	Architecting the Tactile Internet
9:45 AM	M. Fatima Domingues (Khalifa University for Science and Technology)	Biomedical Sensing as an Enabler for Next-Generation e-Health Systems
10:30 AM		*Coffee Break*
11:00 AM	Khalid Elgazzar (Ontario Tech University)	Robust Pedestrian Intent Prediction in Challenging Environments for Autonomous Vehicles
11:45 AM	Panel (Moderator: Ayman Radwan)	Human-Centered IoT
1:00 PM		*Lunch Break*
2:00 PM	Walaa Hamouda (Concordia University)	Advancements and Challenges in Massive MIMO
2:45		Day 3 & Workshop Wrap-Up