

## Getting to Know [Dr. Don Zinger](#)

Dr. Zinger joined NIU in August 1993. Prior to that, he was employed at the University of Akron as Assistant Professor from 1988 to 1993. Previous to that, he was at the University of Wisconsin working as a TA and RA from 1981 to 1988. He was also employed as an Electronic Design Engineer from 1978 to 1981 at Midway Manufacturing.



### ***Educational Background:***

Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, 1988  
M.S., University of Wisconsin, 1983  
B.S., Illinois Institute of Technology, 1977

### ***Why did you decide to go into Electrical Engineering?***

I became interested in electrical systems in high school electrical shop. I was also very interested in math and science courses in high school.

***Current Research Interests:*** Electrical power and energy systems, power electronics industrial control.

***Hobbies:*** Hiking and biking.

***Favorite movie:*** *The Wizard of Oz* - fun movie, kind of strange, and has a lot of subtle (or not so subtle) philosophical references.

***Favorite color:*** Yellow.

***Favorite music:*** Classical.

***Favorite animal:*** May have a minor favorite for cats.

***Where were you born:*** Waukegan, Illinois.

***Married/children:*** Married for 16 years. One son, Mark.

***First Paper:*** D.S. Zinger and D.W. Novotny, "Automated Small Signal Analysis of AC Drive Systems," IMAC Symposium on Modeling and Simulation of Electric Machines and Converters, Leige, Belgium, May 1984.

***Anything else you'd like to share?*** I really enjoy the students at NIU.

Now that you know a little bit about Dr. Zinger, if you haven't already done so, feel free to drop by his office, EB 336, and say hello. He can also be reached at (815) 753-0540 or at [zinger@ceet.niu.edu](mailto:zinger@ceet.niu.edu).