

Nuclear Engineering Department Heads Organization

Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2001

Milwaukee, WI

Attending: Slaughter, Turinsky, Stubbins, Hertel, Klein, Freeman, Bennion, Freidberg, Steiner, Brenizer, Dodds, Brown, Tsoulfanidis, Miller, McDermott, Emmert, Binney, Waltar, Christenson, Peterson, Prinja, Simonson, Foulke, Valentine, Agasie, Lau, VanTyle, Gutteridge, Lee, Corradini, Baratta, Hebron-Isreal, Wasitis, Peddicord, Simmons, Quinn, Sherrard, O'Kelly, Downar

1. Jeff Friedberg, MIT, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
2. Alan Waltar, Texas A&M, distributed the NEDHO Financial Report and Dues Statements for 2001-2002.
3. Karl Umstedter, ANS Student Sections Committee, encouraged department heads to urge their students to submit student papers for the Reno embedded student conference which will be held in conjunction with the Reno meeting in November.
4. Jack Brenizer, Penn State, distributed information on the Plutonium and Actinides conference to be held in the July-August 2003 time frame. See the Los Alamos web page (www.lanl.gov) for information.
5. Don Todd, Texas A&M, thanked the department heads for their support of the 2001 student conference. Penn State (Frank Bushman, Chair) will host the next student conference April 10 - 13, 2002. Don and Texas A&M are to be congratulated for their efforts in putting together a very fine conference.
6. Nick Tsoulfanidis, Missouri-Rolla, discussed the reactor physics textbook RFP that had been issued by ANS about a year ago. He mentioned that the group that was working on the new text was significantly behind schedule. He requested reviews by the departments of Stacy's new book on reactor physics and asked for input on the adequacy of this new book. If this new book is adequate, then they may cancel the contract on the ANS book. Please provide input to Nick.
7. Bob Long, NERAC University Research Reactor Task Force, discussed the report of his subcommittee and the next steps in the process. Discussion on the workshop on university research reactors in Chicago on July 16-17. Bob also asked department heads to write letters to their Senators and Representatives to support the various nuclear engineering and research reactor support bills in Congress. Also discussed the European model for research reactors and neutron research. NEDHO recommended that any new funding would be used to augment base DOE NE&URR programs first before starting a new program. There were questions related to how the numbers of research and education reactors were chosen by the task force and NERAC. Mike Corradini, Wisconsin, expressed concern about how NEDHO goes forward with recommendations.
8. Ted Quinn, ANS Work Force Task Force, discussed the activities and directions that the task force was going.
9. Sonja Simmons, Nuclear Energy Institute, discussed the NEI workshop on work force that was held in the spring of 2001 in Orlando, FL Workshop. There were 100 attendees at this workshop. NEI has a focus on off-campus, on-campus and diversity programs. NEI has established a staffing & recruiting task force. They want to collaborate on scholarship/internships/fellowships. They will send out a survey of employers on June 29 and

are hoping for returns around October 1. It would be good to leverage NEI communication & outreach programs. They have developed more than 1500 CD's with lesson plans at the national science teacher's conference in 2001. They provide WISE students with office space and help NAYGN with support and hosted a communications workshop for 114 people in conjunction with the Nuclear Energy Assembly. Finally, NEI is working on completion of a good practices document. See their web page at www.nei.org for more information.

10. John Gutteridge, USDOE, mentioned that at present it looks like their FY02 budget will be the same as in FY01. There will be no supplemental DOE appropriations request for FY 02. There was an additional solicitation for 5 more fellowships in the spring. They expect to add one more set of schools to the Majority/Minority program to a total of 3. In the Matching Grants program there were significantly more requests than DOE could support. They are supporting 24 Summer Internships this year and expect that next year there will be a November call for applications. Mentioned the URR Workshop in July 2001 in Chicago. There were some concerns from the group that discussion may be limited if the Dean's or Vice-Provosts for Research will be there.
11. John Gutteridge (for John Herczeg) discussed the Advanced Accelerator Applications (AAA) Fellowship program for this year. There will be 10 M.S. Fellowship for FY01-02 (\$42,500 each). The AAA program provides support for UNLV & Harry Reid Center. John met recently with Bill Maywood, on NE's target funding request. It appears that the target will be similar to FY 02 but that there would be great benefit from an above target request. Currently the university line is the only group above target. We will need to go to the Secretary to get a major change/increase in the target level.
12. Greg Van Tuyle, Los Alamos, discussed the AAA Program. The group noted that research would be preferred over fellowships in order to get faculty involvement and interest in the AAA program. Program is moving its focus more toward looking at next generation fuel cycle applications. AAA is currently a \$78M program with a 10-year program plan for about \$1 billion. UNLV has a significant role to build a program in association with AAA. There is potential for involvement with other Universities and UNLV. Denis Beller and Tony Hechanova would be the contacts at UNLV.
13. Scott Simonson, Naval Reactors, talked about the new Naval Nuclear Propulsion Fellowship program that will be established at Bettis and KAPL first. They will recruit students in four areas of nuclear reactor technology: Reactor Physics, Radiation Shielding, Nuclear Materials Science and Engineering, and Reactor System Fluid Dynamics. Program will be patterned after DOE Fellowship program and will require two practica at Bettis or KAPL. Will request that a staff member from labs serve on thesis committees. Program will roll out in June 2001. Materials in the program will be available in August. Deadline for applications will be December 31 with awards in Spring 2002. Emphasis will be on Ph.D. students. US Citizenship and clearance capable. Two year maximum for M.S. students and four year maximum for Ph.D. students. No pre-qualification of schools for the program. Naval Reactors will develop generic lists of thesis topic areas. There is no direct support for Universities at this point. Students will apply with a school of intent and annual renewals. Mike Corradini suggested that they should consider additional stipend for the University's use and that he was concerned with control of the thesis material at the labs rather than at the university. There will need to be up-front agreements between lab and University on the thesis topic and on what materials will be allowed in the thesis.
14. Jim McDermott, Nuclear Regulator Commission, discussed the NRC's Personnel Office concerns with work force planning. There are currently six times as many NRC employees over 50 than there are under 30. They are looking at establishing four new programs: an undergraduate program that would be focused on seniors and would have a 2 year commitment

for each year of NRC support; a new Nuclear Safety Intern Program (they have 20 interns this summer); a NRC Graduate Fellowship Program (re-establish this with FY 02 supplement); a NRC Senior Fellowship Program (re-establish this also). He asked NEDHO how the NRC and NEDHO could work more effectively together? Ideas that came from the discussion included: increase NRC presence on campus; send NRC staff/alumni to campus; link with NRC coop, recruiting, advanced education for NRC staff, and research programs; set up staff exchanges; identify centers of expertise that NRC could use.

15. Larry Foulke, ANS Accreditation Policies and Practices Committee, discussed ABET issues. All reviews from now on will be outcome based only. The APPC is currently re-reviewing the nuclear program criteria. Larry's term is up and Mike Robinson will take over APPC.
16. John Ryskamp, INEEL, discussed the activities of the Generation IV Roadmap program.
17. John Lee, Michigan, commented on the Capital Hill visits that a number of NEDHO members participated in on June 8.