



Your NISD Leadership Team

We all thank you for being a part of the NIS Division and look forward to working with all of you. Please don't hesitate to reach out to anyone on the leadership team with suggestions or if you'd like to get involved.

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A Message from the Chair

By John C. Lee

As I prepare this NISD Newsletter, with expert help from our Newsletter Editor Eric Harvey, I look forward to welcoming all new and continuing NISD members to the ANS Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada. I believe all new members have received a welcome email from the ANS headquarters and this Newsletter, I hope, will provide additional information on the activities of the Division.

I am pleased to note that it has been another productive year for the Division and I would like to highlight key activities of the Division:

1. Ron Knief, incoming Chair of the Division, provides a look at his findings while trying to respond to the ANS Staff question of "Your ANS Division does what?" It turns out that his holistic approach to a response lands the Nuclear Installation and Safety Division in the Center of the ANS Universe.

2. As reported in detail by the Secretary/Treasurer Bob Martin, the Division has done exceptionally well in building up the Division account, thanks to both the September PSA 2013 Topical Meeting and the Embedded Topical Meeting, Risk Management for Complex Socio-Technical Systems (RM4CSS), at the November DC meeting. Details for the PSA 2013 Meeting were reported by Gerald Loignon Jr. in our November NISD Newsletter and Ron Knief presents details for the successful 2013 RM4CSS below. On behalf of the Division, I offer my thanks to Gerald and Ron and many other dedicated members who made both topicals a grand success.

3. The Treasurer's report below also summarizes the significant effort the Division has made in providing support for both the Student Conference at Penn State University and the attendance at the national meetings. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge thank-you notes received from student chapters of North Carolina State University, Texas A&M University, University of Wisconsin, University of Florida, Idaho State University, Pennsylvania State University, and Three Rivers Community College, and the ANS Students Sections Committee. The Division recognizes the importance of providing support for the student members and young members of the Society, as indicated in the 2013 NISD [Strategic Plan](#).

4. We have been able to select distinguished recipients for two national awards that the NISD sponsors on an annual basis. Phil Ellison, Honors & Awards Chair, summarizes the current status of the awards.

5. The Division worked with the National Program Committee to provide Class 4 sponsorship for the December 2014 Nuclear Plant Current Issues Symposium organized by Ajaya Gupta of North Carolina State University. Further details are provided below and I would encourage support from the Division membership for the Symposium.

6. Major effort is underway to prepare for the PSA 2015 in Sun Valley, Idaho, in April 2015. Marty Sattison, General Chair of the conference, provides the details so that many NISD members could plan to attend the conference.

7. Matt Denman provides a summary of activities of the NISD Program Committee, highlighting special sessions planned for the Reno Meeting.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my appreciation to members of the NISD Executive and Program Committees and Webmaster/Newsletter Editor, as well as many volunteers of the Division, for all the support I have received over the past two years that have made my duties as the Vice Chair and Chair of the Division enjoyable and productive. It is also my pleasure to congratulate and welcome new officers of the Division, Chair Ronald Knief and Vice Chair Susan Pickering, and EC members Anthony Baratta, Charles Martin, Phillip Ellison, and Richard Swinburn, and thank Secretary/Treasurer Robert Martin for his continuing service.

A Message from the Vice-Chair

By Ronald A. Knief

Center of the ANS Universe?

At the end of June last year – just as I began serving as NISD Vice-Chair – John Lee and I received an e-mail message entitled "Your ANS Division does what?????" from Toni Bishop of the ANS Staff. She went on to say that "We [at ANS] have quite a few new staff members in the Communications and Membership departments and we're hoping you can help us out just a little bit." Then she noted, "But here's the catch. We ask that you describe your division as you would at a family reunion with a relative who knows very little about nuclear."

Taking pride in my public communication skills I immediately volunteered for the challenge.

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I started out by going to the ANS website to refresh my memory and get a list of ALL of the ANS Divisions. In that process alone I immediately noticed that we have something in common with most all of them – and also likely share a substantial number of members.

I took the alphabetical list as a center column in a three column-table and began a sorting process. Those divisions from whom we derive support went over to the left-hand column, and those to whom we inherently provide support went over to the right. I thought of the former as addressing “tool and specialty” subjects and the latter as representing “uses of nuclear.” Those remaining in the “SAFETY” center were us, our compatriots in radiation & criticality safety, and our nuclear non-proliferation alter-egos (to the extent of dealing with those, who among other things, would seek to un-do safeguards we in NISD so carefully build in). I’m only uncertain of how to handle the inherently medical applications.) [The Young Members are outliers, but only because their common feature is simply their age, as they also make up part of the membership of all other Divisions.]

So . . . it appears to me that we are (1) users of most all of the tools and specialties and (2) also serve most of the users of nuclear. Thus, it might be said that “NISD is in the center of the ANS Universe!” I look forward to discussion of what this may tell us and how we might build upon it in the future.

NISD Briefing to ANS Staff
(ANS Divisions in the Alphabetical Order as on the Website)

TOOLS* & SPECIALTIES	SAFETY	USES OF NUCLEAR
		Accelerator Applications
		Aerospace Nuclear Science & Technology
		Biology & Medicine
Decommissioning & Environmental Sciences		
Education, Training & Workforce Development		Fuel Cycle & Waste Management
		Fusion Energy
Human Factors, Instrumentation & Controls		Isotopes & Radiation
Materials Science & Technology		
Mathematics & Computation		
	Nuclear Criticality Safety	
	NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS SAFETY	Operations & Power
	Radiation Protection & Shielding	
Reactor Physics		
Robotics & Remote Systems		
Thermal Hydraulics		
	Nuclear Nonproliferation (TG)	
Computational Medical Physics (WG)		Nuclear Production of Hydrogen (WG)
	Young Members Group (TG)	

Click on image to enlarge

Risk Management

The Embedded Topical Meeting, *Risk Management for Complex Socio-technical Systems (RM4CSS)* – my fifth such meeting – was held at the *2013 ANS Winter Meeting* in Washington, D.C. As suggested by its title, focus was uniquely on interactions of social and technical risk contributing factors and it brought together experts from both engineering and social science. Experts from both domains considered integration of probabilistic and deterministic approaches.

The opening plenary session, “*Risk-Informed Decision Making*,” designed by Program Co-Chair Prof. Zahra Mohaghegh (U. Illinois/UC) – the other Co-Chair being Prof. Ali Mosely (U. Md). Honorary Chair and NRC Commissioner George Apostolakis was the keynote speaker in the session that brought together leading experts with cutting edge approaches for risk assessment and risk management. (The essence of the session is captured nicely in the January 2014 issue of *Nuclear News* [pp. 79-82].) Overall, the meeting featured 8 panels and 23 technical sessions, addressing risk assessment & management, socio-technical systems risk modeling, cyber security, risk management for digital I & C, uncertainty modeling, simulation-based PRA, Fire PRA, external events modeling, physics of failure, systems thinking approaches to safety and security, complexity, emergency planning, risk-informed resolution of generic safety issue 191, aviation risk analysis, healthcare risk management, risk perception, expert elicitation, human and organizational factors, and safety culture. The closing plenary session, “*History and Perspectives of Risk Management*,” was keynoted by Dr. B. John Garrick (PLG [ret.]) and included former-astronaut Dr. Sid Gutierrez (SNL), and Dr. William Mullins (HQ USAF).

We have plans for another meeting, likely again at ANS/Washington in 2017. Prospective organizers are welcome! You can contact me at raknief@sandia.gov. (The “old” website – <http://meetings.ans.org/riskmanagement> is still active if you would like to take a look at both the recent and previous meeting content.)

Finally

I would like to thank John Lee for a job well-done as NISD Chair, and especially for his friendship and help in preparing me to be his successor over this next 12 months.

Ron Knief
Sandia National Laboratories

2013 Division Financial Report

By Robert P. Martin

For FY 2013 the opportunities for income for the divisions came from three sources, member allocation, national meeting participation, and the PSA 2013 Topical Meeting. Nominally, the NISD, like all professional divisions, receives \$2 per member. With nearly 1700 NISD members, that equates to approximately \$3400. ANS National allocations reflecting summary paper/presentations at national meetings brought in \$4250. Divisional income principally depends on topical meetings and the bi-annual PSA conference is our flagship event. Notably, after expenses, the NISD received over \$15000 in proceeds from the PSA 2013 Topical Meeting held last September in Columbia, SC. Collectively, total division income was over \$23000! Thank you to all members that participated in NISD-sponsored meetings and/or sessions. It’s your participation that sustains our missions.

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NISD expenses for last year emphasized student support and honors and awards. NISD provided \$2500 to Penn State University, general travel support for students attending national meetings and PSA 2013, and some individual support for attendance at the Presidential Reception at the national meetings. In total, student support exceeded \$7000 (some paid forward in late 2012). The NISD presented several awards, including the George C. Laurence and Tommie Thompson Awards. Expenses related to all awards totaled over \$2300. As of the end of 2013 the NISD holds a total balance of over \$40000.

Outside our normal divisional operations account, the NISD manages two endowed scholarships. These are DeSalvo and Levine awards. Disbursement of these awards totaled \$5000. For a few years now, these accounts have been disbursed at a rate beyond the investment proceeds. As such, a budgetary line item of \$2000 was approved by the NISD Executive Committee last fall to preserve their balance.

Bob Martin
NISD Secretary/Treasurer 2012-2014

Honors and Awards

By Phillip Ellison and Charles Martin

The NISD Honors and Awards Committee met, reviewed and identified candidates for the 2014 Saul Levine Scholarship. There were several excellent candidates that were referred to ANS for consideration.

The NSID Honors and Awards Committee is reviewing nominations for the 2014 Tommy Thompson and George C. Laurence awards. The awards will be made at the 2014 winter meeting. Currently there are more than 20 candidates for the George C. Laurence and Tommy Thompson Awards. All the candidates have been instrumental in improving the safety of nuclear facilities through analysis, methods development and operations. NISD members are encouraged to submit candidates for consideration for these two awards. Nominations should be sent to Phillip Ellison (Cell 910-508-8772 or phillip.ellison@ge.com).

2015 Student Conference

The Texas A&M Nuclear Engineering department proposal was chosen to host the 2015 ANS Student Conference. The decision was announced at the most recent student conference at Pennsylvania State University. Anywhere from 550-650 students and professionals attend these conferences each year. Very similar to the ANS conference, events at the student conference include paper competitions, workshops, panels, podium and poster sessions, a career fair, tours, socials, and speakers.

More information at:
<http://engineering.tau.edu/news/2014/04/08/2015-ans-student-conference-to-be-held-in-college-station>

Scheduled NISD Meetings

The NISD will have four sessions at the June 2014 Meeting in Reno, NV, as follows:

- Fuel Cladding Behavior Under Accident Conditions, Tues. a.m.
- Round Table on Organizing Special Sessions for ANS Meetings—Workshop (co-sponsored with the Young Members Group), Tues. p.m.
- Current Topics in Probabilistic Risk Analysis, Wed. a.m.
- Nuclear Installations Safety: General, Thurs. a.m.

The Preliminary Program for both the Annual Meeting can be accessed through the ANS Website at:
<http://www.ans.org/meetings/>.

Executive Committee Election Results

The EC Officers for 2014 – 2015 are:
Chair – Ronald A. Knief (Sandia National Laboratories)
Vice Chair - Susan Pickering (Sandia National Laboratories)
Secretary/Treasurer – Robert P. Martin (B&W)

The new or reappointed EC members are:
Anthony Baratta (US NRC)
Phillip Ellison (GEH)
Charles Martin (National Security Technologies, LLC)
Richard Swinburn (Rolls-Royce)

On behalf of the Nuclear Installations Safety Division, I am pleased to congratulate and welcome the newly elected. The profiles of the new NISD officers are listed in this [attachment](#). I look forward to formally recognizing them at the June ANS Meeting in Reno, Nevada.

John Lee

Student Scholarships Sponsored by NISD

The Saul Levine and Raymond DiSalvo Memorial Scholarships are fully funded. Descriptions of these scholarships can be accessed at the NISD Website at <http://nisd.ans.org/scholarships>. Undergraduate students interested in applying for these scholarships can access the Eligibility Requirements and Application Form at <http://www.ans.org/honors/scholarships>.



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Upcoming Events

PSA 2015

By Marty Sattison, PSA 2015 General Chair

PSA 2015 will be held in beautiful Sun Valley, Idaho, April 26 – 30, 2015 at the Sun Valley Resort, America's first year-round resort. PSA 2015 is sponsored by the Nuclear Installation Safety Division and the Idaho Section of the American Nuclear Society.

The theme for PSA 2015 is "A Forum for Learning." In addition to traditional peer-reviewed full-length technical papers and sessions, PSA 2015 will spotlight numerous moderated discussion group sessions.

These discussion groups will each consist of four or five leading experts in a specific technical area, led by a moderator. Unlike typical panel sessions, each expert will speak for no more than five minutes as an introduction so that the bulk of the session can be devoted to a group discussion of the key issues and questions pertinent to the topic. The role of the moderator is to introduce topics, facilitate open discussion, and keep the session moving along. Free and open discussion among the panelists will be encouraged. Each session will also have some time devoted to questions and comments from the audience.

In line with the theme, we are planning on a number of half-day and full-day seminars and training courses on Sunday, April 26.

Abstracts will be due in late August 2014 with full papers ready for publication in December 2014. The publication schedule is fixed and there is no room for any delays or extensions. Please look for the Call for Papers coming out soon for details.

If you are interested in being a part of the Technical Program Committee, establishing a discussion group session, teaching a seminar or short course, being an exhibitor or a sponsor, please contact one of the following:

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The Sun Valley Resort offers something for everyone. Golf Digest recently recognized Sun Valley as one of the top 75 resort courses in North America, with three breath-taking courses to test your skills. The tennis center features 17 courts with a full-service pro shop. Sun Valley is a hiking and biking Mecca with over 30 miles of paved bike paths and hundreds of miles of single-track mountain bike trails nestled in some of the most gorgeous country in the world. There is also an Olympic-size swimming pool and year-round ice skating rinks.

Rooms at the Sun Valley Resort will be available to all conference attendees at the applicable government per diem rate (currently \$93 plus taxes and fees for 2014).

We look forward to seeing you at PSA 2015.



The [Canadian Nuclear Society](#), the [Canadian Nuclear Association](#), and [Natural Resources Canada](#) are proud to host the 19th Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference (PBNC-2014) in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, under the auspices of the [Pacific Nuclear Council](#). The [American Nuclear Society](#) is a member of the Pacific Nuclear Council.

The theme of PBNC-2014 is "Fulfilling the Promise of Nuclear Technology around the Pacific Basin in the 21st Century." Authors are invited to submit papers on any topic in nuclear technology for oral presentation in technical sessions. Papers will be organized in 10 technical tracks as shown in the [Call for Papers](#).

Please visit the [PBNC-2014 website](#) for more information and to register!

Thank you,

Bill Kupferschmidt
Chair, International Technical Program, and
Vice-President, Research & Development
Atomic Energy of Canada Limited

[PBNC-2014 Event Flyer](#)

NC STATE UNIVERSITY



U.S. Department of Energy |
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission | Nuclear Energy Institute
Professional Societies:
American Nuclear Society |
American Society of Civil Engineers |
Earthquake Engineering Research Institute

Charlotte • North Carolina • December 7-10, 2014

9th Nuclear Plants Current Issues Symposium: *Moving Forward*

NISD Website

The NISD Website may be accessed at: <http://nisd.ans.org>. Suggestions for further enhancements are solicited and may be emailed to the NISD Webmaster at: elharvey@erineng.com.