



Reactor Physics

Professional Division

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Get Involved

Reactor Physics Division Executive
and Program Committee Meeting

Sunday, June 15th

2:00 – 4:00 pm Eastern

[Teams Link](#)

Kane Room

Chicago Marriott Downtown

We hope to see you there!

A Message from the Chair

The nuclear community continues to be front and center in a lot of exciting developments recently, especially as we see an increasing number of investment commitments and demand signal for nuclear power, both domestically and internationally. This includes restarting retired plants such as Palisades but also considerable focus on new small modular reactor

builds from a number of companies targeting terrestrial, maritime, and even a number of space applications. Additionally, evaluating beyond the 5% enrichment limit in the commercial fleet also offers a lot of promise to increased cycle length, efficiency and profitability. It is clear that the reactor physics community and industry at large are working extremely hard to ensure successful rollout of these technologies at a very critical time for nuclear power, especially as demand and needs are expected to grow substantially in the coming decade.

As I wrap up my time as chair, I want to say I appreciate the increased efforts to engage with RPD, especially with respect to attendance at the Orlando meeting EC/PC meetings, and I look forward to seeing you all again in Chicago. Also, the PHYSOR 2026 organizing committee has been working hard to deliver a successful meeting next year and has recently issued the call for papers, which we have included with this newsletter, so please take a look as it should be a tremendous meeting and hopefully will see you there as well.

Again, thank you for making the RPD community what it is, and let's keep pushing to deploy and improve nuclear technologies to make the world we want to see!

Thank you,
Shane Stimpson, RPD Chair



Program Committee

For the upcoming 2025 ANS Annual Conference, RPD will feature seven technical sessions for a total of 35 presentations, covering from general reactor physics methods to advanced reactor analysis. RPD will also organize two special sessions – the panel session on the by the MARVEL Project by Idaho National Laboratory (INL) and the Early Career Reactor Physicist (ECRP) Awardee presentation session. This year, the ECRP award winner is Dr. Abdalla Abou-Jaoude from INL. Thanks for the hard work from the Program Committee members and the panel organizers to make this happen.

Invited keynote speech is new to this annual meeting. One keynote speech is organized by RPD and delivered by Dr. Pavel V. Tsvetkov from Texas A&M University with following topic and time “Reactor Physics Frontiers in the Age of Artificial Intelligence Breakthroughs”, chaired by Dr. Emily R. Shemon on Wednesday, June 18, 1:00–2:15 PM CDT.

Meanwhile, the call for papers for the 2025 ANS Winter Conference (which will be hold on November 9–12, 2025 at Washington, DC) has already been posted out and summaries are due Tuesday, June 24th. No extension will be allowed.

During the 2025 ANS Annual Conference, the RPD Program Committee (PC) and Executive committee (EC) will hold a joint meeting on Sunday, June 15, 2:00–4:00PM CDT with the meeting time and meeting mode to be determined. The meeting is open to everyone who is interested in RPD activities. At this time, we will discuss the responsibilities of PC and EC members, as well as the technical session interests for the future ANS meetings. We are seeking to expand the membership of the program committee.

If you are interested in contributing to the activities of the division, want to sponsor special sessions, or want to bring new ideas, please reach out.

Zeyun Wu
RPD Program Committee Chair

Executive Committee

(Terms Expiring June 2025)

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Upcoming RPD Program Committee and Executive Committee Meetings

The next RPD Program Committee and Executive Committee Meetings will be held back-to-back on Sunday, June 15th at 2:00pm ET in the Kane Room at Chicago Marriott Downtown. A [Teams Link](#) was sent out with calendar invites with a passcode. We hope to see you there!

Committee Updates

Thank you to the exiting Executive Committee Members, Nicolas, Brendan, Stephanie, and Max! And welcome Eva Davidson as the new RPD Secretary!

Honors and Awards

Members of the Reactor Physics Division are invited to nominate qualified candidates for its two RPD awards, the "Eugene P. Wigner, Reactor Physicist Award" and the "Early Career Reactor Physicist Award (ECRP)". The next deadline for the Wigner Award nominations is April 1, 2026 while the next deadline for submitting nominations for the ECRP Award is August 1, 2025.

Information about the details for each of these awards can be found at the ANS website.

Dimitrios Cokinos
RPD Honors & Awards Committee Chair

Scholarships

The Reactor Physics Division is pleased to announce the recipients of this year's RPD-sponsored scholarships.

- *Rudi J.J. Stamm'ler Undergraduate Scholarship*: Dylan Frank, Texas A&M University
- *Allan F. Henry / Paul A. Greebler Memorial Graduate Scholarship*: Mahmoud Eltawila, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- *Massimo Salvatores Memoriam Graduate Scholarship (Inaugural Award)*: Pavel Simeonov, North Carolina State University

Please join us in congratulating these outstanding students for their achievements and contributions to the field of reactor physics.

Benoit Forget
RPD Scholarship Chair

Treasurer's Report

RPD started 2025 with a balance of \$74,386. From Jan 1 to March 31, the division brought in \$522 in

revenues from membership dues. During the same time, the division spent \$6,500 in student support for the ANS Student Conference. To date, the budget is in a \$3,078 deficit leaving a balance of \$71,308. Despite the deficit, the RPD finances are still in reasonably good health. The RPD financial health would not be possible without your contributions. Please take a few minutes to renew your membership by the end of this calendar year.

Ben Collins
RPD Treasurer

Reactor Physics Standards

Highlights of the activities of ANS-19, Reactor Physics Standards Subcommittee, are summarized below.

ANS-19.3, "Neutronics Methods for the Analysis of Power Reactors"

After an extensive revision of this standard, the Working Group is closely monitoring the use of this standard during the period of its 5-year validity. Fundamental areas of reactor design are covered in this standard.

ANS-19.5, "Requirements for Reference Reactor Physics Measurements for the Validation of Design and Analysis Methods"

A newly reconstituted group is now in the process of revising this important standard. Quality operating data from power reactors play an important role in this standard as it provides a degree of confidence in the methodology used.

ANS-19.6.1, "Reload Startup Physics Tests for PWRs"

This is a very popular standard and a good source of revenue for the Society. Currently the Working Group is assessing its status to determine whether a revision is needed. The principal reason for these tests is to determine if the reloaded core performs as predicted by the methods used.

Dimitrios Cokinos
RPD Standards Committee Chair

List of Upcoming Conferences

- 2025 ANS Annual Conference
June 15-18, 2025
Chicago, IL USA
- ANFM 2025
July 20-23, 2025
Clearwater Beach, FL USA
- 2025 ANS Winter Conference
November 9-12, 2025
Washington, DC USA
- PHYSOR 2026
April 19-23, 2026
Turin, Italy

Paper Submissions for PHYSOR 2026

Full papers with a limit of 8 pages are requested. Please see [the website](#) for instructions and templates for paper submission. The deadline is October 31st, 2025!

PHYSOR 2026 is the perfect occasion to nourish the spirit of international collaboration, showing the crucial role of the reactor physics community in delivering physical concepts, methods and codes to the international community and nuclear industry in this unique historical moment. A pivotal event showcasing cutting-edge advancements in reactor physics, driving innovation and solidifying nuclear energy's role in achieving global decarbonization goals.