Treasurer's Report

By Pavel Tsvetkov

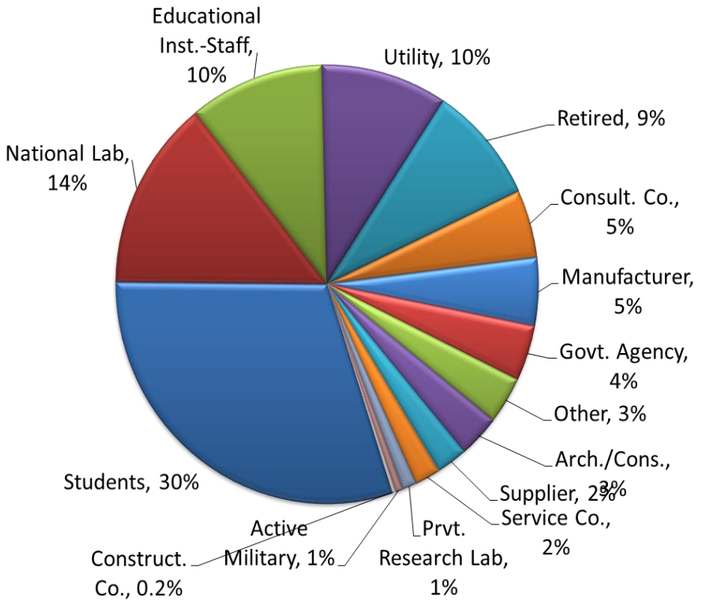
Tsvetkov@tamu.edu

The Reactor Physics Division is in an excellent financial state. The continuing support of the expanding membership and a number of financially successful topical meetings led to our significant balance of $73,239 for 2014. The 2014 member allocation division income is $3,942 (actual for 3 months of 2014 reported as $954). The fund balance as of 1/1/2014 is $72,797 ($71,251 as of 3/31/14 after provided student support).

We support student conferences annually at $2,500, invest $1,000 in our website development efforts, and continue our regular support of student travel to national meetings, $500/national meeting. **Our sustained growth in the RPD budget allows us to fund the current Henry/Greebler Scholarship and to proceed developing the 2nd RPD endowed scholarship.** This year we allocated $30,000 as our 1st year contribution to the 2nd RPD endowed undergraduate scholarship.

RPD Membership by Institution

(Out of 2,003 members as of March 31 2014)



Request for Proposals for PHYSOR 2016

Topical Meeting on Advances in Reactor Physics

RPD is soliciting organizations, institutions and local ANS sections interested in hosting the PHYSOR 2016 to contact RPD Program Committee chair: alexander.stanculescu@inl.gov by May 30.

PHYSOR 2016 will be held in United States, Canada, or Mexico. **The winning bid will be selected during the RPD Program Committee meeting following bid proposal presentations at June's ANS Annual Meeting in Reno.**

The detailed RFP can be found at:

http://rpd.ans.org/pdf/RFP_PHYSOR_2016.pdf

In this issue

Reactor Physics Division Newsletter
Spring 2014

Fausto Franceschini, Editor
FranceF@westinghouse.com

RPD website: http://rpd.ans.org/

ANS Reactor Physics Division

Spring 2014 ISSUE

A newsletter of the ANS Reactor Physics Division

A Message from the Chair

By Mark DeHart

Mark.DeHart@inl.gov

I would like to sit here and tell you about all the wonderful accomplishments of the Reactor Physics Division under my commanding leadership this year. I'd like to say that the industry has jumped forward and that opportunities for reactor physics work within the US have expanded immensely. But things just don't work that way, and very little occurs over the span of a single year. And that is not even the role of the Reactor Physics Division. This division exists not as a proactive advocacy organization for the nuclear industry, but as a service organization formed to serve the needs of its membership within the scope and under the leadership of the American Nuclear Society. Our mission statement provides that we as a division seek to promote the advancement and understanding of the fundamental physical phenomena characterizing nuclear reactors and other nuclear systems. These are appropriate and worthy goals, but the means by which these goals are achieved are not necessarily clear to RPD membership. So I wanted to take advantage of this column to describe how the division endeavors to meet our charter.

Activities of the division are lead and coordinated by the elected officers and members of the RPD Executive Committee. The Executive Committee meets twice a year at national meetings and maintains the division budget, spending and leads the various tasks that are described below.

Perhaps the most visible activity of RPD is in the organization and realization of technical sessions at the two national ANS meetings, and support for the biennial Physor meetings. These meetings and sessions provide the technical content that reflect ongoing work in our segment of the industry. There is a substantial level of effort invested by the RPD program committee and many other volunteers to make these sessions happen, and is the area where the division can use most help from our membership.

Clearly, education is also key for the cultivation of the next generation of reactor physicists and engineers. To this end, the RPD supports student participation in technical meetings, both by providing support to students attending national and topical meetings and by supporting student meetings with both financing and professional participation. The division annually awards a graduate scholarship (the Henry-Greebler Scholarship) to a deserving student pursing a graduate degree in research related to Reactor Physics. The division is currently working to establish a second, undergraduate endowed scholarship. Finally, the division is working with ANS national leadership in efforts to engage college students in division activities at all levels.

The staff of the national ANS organization plays a significant role in public education, advocacy and policy. However, while ANS drives the overall programs, they rely on the professional divisions for technical contributions. The divisions often provide subject matter experts as resources for external organizations or media relations, drawn from within the division. This year, RPD provided expertise in both fast breeder reactors and the thorium fuel cycle in response to media requests for information. (continues on page 2)

(A Message from the Chair – continues from Page 1)

Professional divisions, including RPD, are responsible for the development and affirmation of ANS National Standards. Working groups formed of volunteers from division membership are formed to create the text of such standards, and to make decisions about a standard's maintenance and respond to requests for clarification or interpretation. RPD volunteers lead the ANS-19 Standards Committee "Physics of Reactor Design" and is responsible for 13 standards, 8 of which are currently being maintained by working groups. These standards, coordinated with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and to some extent the International Standards Organization (ISO), provide technical guidance in a broad range of reactor physics applications.

The division is also responsible for coordinating efforts in support of a number of awards that are intended to recognize the professional contributions of its membership. These include the Eugene P. Wigner Reactor Physicist Award and nomination of ANS Fellows.

I fear that I am running rather long, and that I have only touched the surface in division activities. I hope I have provided a little insight into governance activities for our division. I also want to encourage participation from our membership. Division meetings, generally held from 4-6 pm on the Sunday preceding the meeting, are open to all (space permitting). Program Committee meetings, which constitute the technical heart of ANS meetings, are also held on Sunday, from 2-4 pm. Both provide activities in which you can become involved as a volunteer. The only requirement for active participation is membership in the ANS and in the RPD.

RPD Website

By Ron Ellis (Vice-Chair, RPD)

ellisrj@ornl.gov

The Reactor Physics Division Website, accessible at the URL: http://rpd.ans.org is continuing to be updated. News items, past and current minutes of the RPD Program Committee (PC) and RPD Executive Committee (EC) meetings, and past newsletters have been added to the lists on the webpage, with the help of Hanna Shapira (Techno-Info Comprehensive Solutions [TICS]). As changes occur to the rosters for the PC and EC, these lists are updated as soon as possible on the RPD website.

A link is placed on the webpage that leads to the Facebook group for the ANS Reactor Physics Division. This group is located at https://www.facebook.com/groups/ReactorPhysics

There are currently 418 members of the group. RPD members and prospective new members are encouraged to join this group and participate with postings and in the discussions on topics of interest to reactor physicists and nuclear engineers, and related professional and scientists.

To join, go to the group Facebook page and follow the instructions. All you will need, as a minimum, is to establish a very rudimentary Facebook account.

On the RPD Website, the results of the 2013/2014 RPD Survey are made available, including the Summary document and the raw data from the survey.

Another important timely item on the RPD Website is the information from our Program Chair (Alex Stanculescu) about the call for proposals for the upcoming PHYSOR 2016 conference, which will be held in North America. Interested organizations or institutions are encouraged to contact Alex by May 30 to express your intention to submit a proposal, which will be considered during the Program Committee meeting at the Reno ANS Annual Meeting in June.

To volunteer or learn more about RPD email to Ron Ellis ellisrj@ornl.gov or join us at one of the national meetings.

http://rpd.ans.org/

Scholarship Committee News

By Benoit Forget (bforget@mit.edu)

Every year, the Reactor Physics division awards a graduate scholarship to a deserving reactor physics student to commemorate the contributions of Allan Henry and Paul Greebler. This year's recipient of the Henry/Greebler Memorial Scholarship is Ryan Kelly of Texas A&M University. Please join me in congratulating Ryan for this award and his hard work in the field of reactor physics.

As the new chair of the scholarship subcommittee, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor, Jess Gehin, for his many years of service in this role.

2013 Winter Meeting

Washington, DC

By Alex Stanculescu (Program Chair, RPD)
alexander.stanculescu@inl.gov

The 2013 Winter Meeting was held in Washington, DC November 10 – 14, 2013. A total of 68 papers, out of the 81 submitted to the RPD, have been accepted and presented in seven technical sessions. Moreover, the RPD co-organized one special panel, as well as one special session. The overall technical quality was high, and all sessions and the panel enjoyed good attendance.

The three standing RPD sessions for the 2013 Winter meeting featured 41 papers divided among "**Reactor Physics General I, II and III**" (21 papers), "Reactor Physics Analysis Methods I and II" (13 papers), and "**Reactor Physics Design, Validation and Operating Experience**" (7 papers). In addition there have been four special sessions and one special panel with 27 papers overall. The special sessions were: "**Advanced Modeling and Simulation in Reactor Physics**", organizer *Alexander Stanculescu* (8 papers)", "**Fuel Cycle Options: A Physics perspective**", organizer *Andrew Worrall* (9 papers), "**Lattice Physics Benchmarking**", organizer *Matthew Jessee* (3 papers), and the RPD-ANSDT joint session "**Physics of Compact Reactors for Terrestrial and Space Applications**", organizers *Blair Bromley and John Bess* (7 papers). The special panel, co-organized by the RPD and the MCD, was "**Nuclear Fission: Seventy-Five Year Anniversary**", organizers *Mark DeHart, Alexander Stanculescu and Piero Ravetto*. The participating panelists were: **Phillip Finck, Mujid Kazimi, Yoshiaki Oka and Jean-Pierre West**. Following the panelists' inspiring remarks, **Augusto Gandini** (University of Rome "Sapienza"), the **2013 Eugene P. Wigner Reactor Physics Award winner**, captivated the audience with his memorable Wigner Lecture titled "Highlights of Historically-based Generalized Perturbation Theory", which can be found at https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1YQeyOCPKxQaVZud0dVZ1RxOFU/edit?usp=sharing

Richard Mc. Farlane, Jean-Pierre West, Alex Stanculescu, Phillip Finck, Augusto Gandini, Massimo Salvatores and Yoshiaki Oka at the Nuclear Fission: Seventy-Five Year Anniversary Special Panel

2014 Annual Meeting

By Alex Stanculescu (Program Chair, RPD)
alexander.stanculescu@inl.gov

We hope you can join us in Reno June 15-19, 2014. Everyone is welcome at our executive and program meetings — please che the time and location in the final conference program (final pages).

At the ANS 2014 Annual Meeting, the RPD is facing strong competition from the reactor physics topical meeting PHYSOR 2014 (Kyoto, September 28 – October3, 2014), as far as participation and paper submission numbers are concerned. This led to only 39 papers being submitted to the ANS 2014 Annual Meeting.

The submissions were assigned to the standing RPD session "**Reactor Physics General I, II, III, IV and V**" (28 papers) and to two special sessions, Viz. "**ANS Reactor Physics Division Session in Memory of Richard (Dick) McKnight** (co-sponsored with the NCSD, 6 papers) and **"Nuclear Criticality Safety and Space Technology Applications**" (co-sponsored with the AAD and the ANSTD, 5 papers).

At the ANS 2014 Annual Meeting there will be **two special sessions honoring the memory of Dick McKnight** held as part of the RPD and the NCSD sessions, and both co-sponsored by the two Divisions. The efforts of **Blair Briggs, Michael Dunn and Luiz Leal** in making these sessions happen are gratefully acknowledged.

June 2014 Session In Memory of Richard D. McKnight

Prepared by Michael Dunn, Luiz Leal, Blair Briggs, and Robert Schaefer

The news that Richard D. McKnight known to most as Dick, had passed away, shocked and saddened all who knew him. Dick's career spanned over 43 years and involved pioneering work in the areas of reactor physics, criticality safety and nuclear data. Dick was a key leader in these technical areas as exemplified by his leadership and contributions to the ICSBEP, IRPhEP, US Cross Section Evaluation Working Group (CSEWG), and OECD/NEA nuclear data and reactor physics expert groups. Dick first came to Argonne National Laboratory in the early 1970s to work on his Ph.D. dissertation. Dick worked at ANL for his entire career. From those early days to the present, Dick was an active participant in the CSEWG, especially in the area of validation. Dick was an important contributor to Argonne's work on data adjustment using integral experiment data to adjust microscopic cross section data within their uncertainties. In his work to implement modern core-follow analysis of the Experimental Breeder Reactor, EBR-II in the 1990s, Dick was a key player in populating the Physics Analysis Data Base and using radiochemistry measurement data to validate the calculations.

Even more than his deep technical knowledge and ability, it was Dick's human qualities that made him so special and influential. Dick was polite, kind, considerate, generous and respectful. These attributes, in turn, won him respect. Dick was articulate, presenting technical positions with clarity and sound logic. Dick also was hard working and a man of impeccable integrity. Everyone knew that, when he agreed to do something, it was sure to be delivered, and he often would offer to do more than his share. While his legacy remains, we will miss Dick's presence.

The Reactor Physics Division and Nuclear Criticality Safety Division have co-organized memorial sessions at the June 2014 ANS Meeting in Reno, NV, and the session papers will honor Dick's extensive technical contributions in reactor physics, nuclear criticality safety, and nuclear data. Please plan to attend these memorial sessions at the June 2014 ANS Meeting.

RPD Special Sessions at Winter Meeting

RPD will contribute several **special sessions at the 2014 Winter meeting** (Nov. 9 – 13, 2014 Anaheim, CA) : "**Advances in Fast Reactor Designs and Concepts**" (organizer *Florent Heidet*, co-sponsor FCWMD), "**Tutorial on Radiation Protection and Shielding in Aeronautics and Space Applications**" (organizer *Blair Bromley*, co-sponsors ANSTD and RPSD), "**Physics of Compact Reactors for Terrestrial and Space Applications**" (organizers *John Bess* and *Blair Bromley*, co-sponsor ANSTD), "**Moose Multi Physics Tutorial"** (organizer Mark DeHart), "**Core Design Perspective on Accident Tolerant Fuels**", and "**Physics and Engineering Analysis of Sub-Critical Driven Systems**" (organizers *Blair Bromley*, *Jack Law*, *James Stubbins*, and *Arnold Lumsdaine*, co-sponsors FCWD, AAD and FED).

MOOSE Multi-Physics Tutorial

Winter Meeting, Anaheim CA, November 9-13, 2014

Modeling and simulation has long been an integral aspect of reactor physics. However, building a useful large-scale simulation capability has traditionally been a daunting task because it required a team of developers working for years to develop, verify and validate such capabilities. MOOSE (Multiphysics Object Oriented Simulation Environment) now makes modeling and simulation more accessible to a broad array of engineers and scientists. MOOSE enables simulation tools to be developed in a fraction of the time previously required. The tool has revolutionized predictive modeling, especially in the field of nuclear engineering — providing the potential for reactor physicists to develop numerous applications that predict the behavior of fuel designs and reactors under operating and accident conditions. The MOOSE framework itself has been released as open source, and is available to the public at http://mooseframework.com/, and is currently in use at over 50 (and growing) universities, national laboratories, and industrial interests.

A four-hour MOOSE tutorial is planned for the ANS Winter Meeting in Anaheim. This tutorial will provide an overview of the MOOSE system, describing the philosophy, underlying theory and model development concepts from a reactor physics perspective. The tutorial will conclude with a demonstration of the development of a simple neutron diffusion solver built with MOOSE. If you have an interest in learning more about MOOSE, either as a developer or potential user, please plan on attending the tutorial.

Progress of PHYSOR 2014 Sep.28 - Oct.3, 2014 Kyoto, Japan

Key Dates

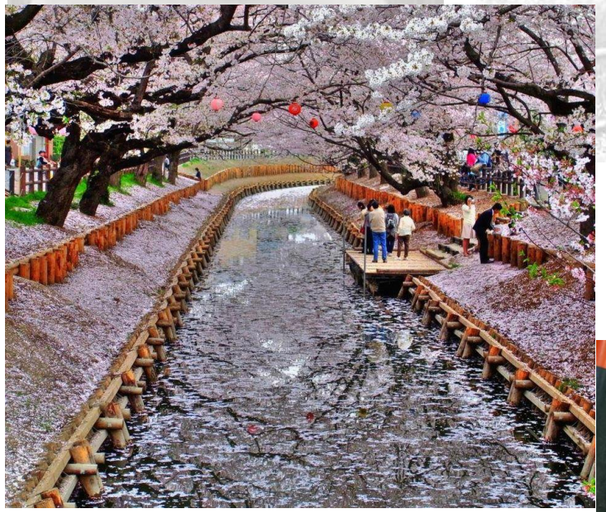
(Japan Standard Time_:

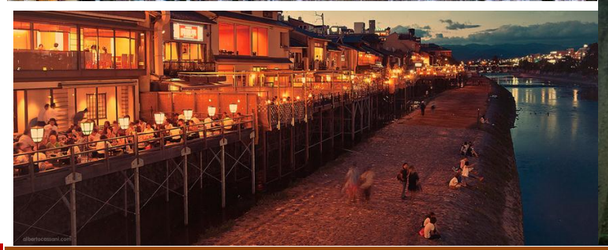
Author notification :	Apr. 26, 2014
Final paper submission:	Jun. 28, 2014
Online registration :	Apr. 7 to Sep. 11, 2014
(Early registration :	by Jul. 25, 2014)
Online accommodation:	Apr. 7to Sep. 11, 2014
Conference date :	Sep. 28 - Oct. 3, 2014

Technical tours

Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant (35 persons)
Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor "Monju," JAEA Tsuruga (20 persons)
Kumatori area (20 persons), including the Nuclear Fuel Industries (NFI) Ltd., Kumatori

For more details:
http://physor2014.org/.





Notes from the Chair

On behalf of the technical program committee of PHYSOR2014, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the outstanding contributions from the Reactor Physics Division of ANS as well as the reactor physics community worldwide.

We have received approximately 500 submissions of technical papers to 15 regular technical tracks and 8 special sessions. Review of ~500 papers is a significant task, but has been almost completed thanks to outstanding efforts of expert reviewers. Comments from reviewers have been consolidated and notifications have been sent to the authors by April 26th as scheduled. The technical program committee is now organizing the detail day-by-day technical program.

Akio Yamamoto
a-yamamoto@nucl.nagoya-u.ac.jp
Technical Program Chair
PHYSOR 2014

Reactor Physics Standards News

by Dimitrios M Cokinos
cokinos@bnl.gov

A major achievement of the past few months has been the completion of the revision of the "**Decay Heat Power in Light Water Reactors**", "**ANSI/ANS-5.1**". This standard, since its inception, has been one of most popular ANS standards, as it enjoys widespread popularity among the nuclear power plants both here and abroad. The revision was led by *Ian Gauld* of ORNL, Working Group Chair, and his team of experts. In addition to the latest updates resulting from new measured data, the standard has an extended historical background in one of the, expanded appendices.

Work continues for the revision of another fundamental standard: **ANSI/ANS-19.1, "Nuclear Data for Reactor Design**". This standard is being essentially rewritten to reflect important updates in nuclear data, including improvements in cross section libraries. *Bob Little* of Los Alamos is the Working Group Chair of this project.

Standard **ANSI/ANS-19.11, "Moderator Temperature Coefficient in PWRs**", is about to be distributed to the ANS-19 membership for a vote. This standard, originally developed and revised under the leadership of *Russ Mosteller*, of LANL, Working Group Chair. Following Russ's retirement, a group of ANS-19 members is overseeing the next step: review and approval by ANS19.

Standard ANSI/ANS-19.4, "**A Guide for Acquisition and Documentation of Reference Power Reactor Physics Measurements for Nuclear Analysis Verification"**, has been idle for a number of years since its last revision. *Ed Knuckles,* formerly a member of ANS-19 and Florida Power and Light, has volunteered to lead the effort towards the redevelopment of this standard.

In the international arena, we have an active role in preparing a number of ANSI/ANS standards for adoption by the International Standards Organization (ISO). Three standards, "**Steady State Neutronics for Power Reactor Analysis**", "**Reload Startup Physics Tests for PWRs**" and "**Decay Heat Power in LWRs**", are on their way to becoming ISO standards.

Honors and Awards

by Dimitrios M Cokinos
cokinos@bnl.gov

Eugene P. Wigner Reactor Physicist Award. **Professor Emeritus Augusto Gandini**, winner of the **2013 Wigner award** received his Wigner plaque during the opening session of the Sunday Plenary in Washington last November. As is customary with the Wigner honorees, Prof. Gandini presented a very stimulating discussion on his past work on generalized perturbation theory and other reactor physics research he has been involved in over the past decades.

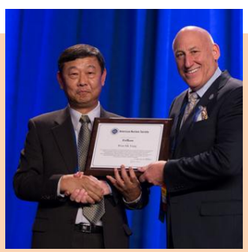
Augusto Gandini presented with the Wigner Award plaque and after his lecture at the "Nuclear Fission: Seventy-Five Year Anniversary" session, with A. Stanculescu. H. McFarlane, P. Finck and M. Salvatores

Early Career Award. This new RPD award has been finalized and its description and requirements will soon appear on the RPD web site.

It is with great sadness that we learn from our colleague, Prof. Imre Pazsit, of Chalmers University of Technology, of the passing of **Nils Goran Sjostrand**, the 2011 winner of the Eugene P. Wigner Reactor Physicist award. Sjostrand along with his collaborator, Guy von Dardel, was one of the pioneers in the 1950s and 60s of the pulsed neutron source technique which became popular among the experimental reactor physicists. The technique allows accurate measurements of basic reactor physics parameters. Sjostrand, Professor Emeritus at Chalmers, died on March 19 in Goteborg, Sweden. He would have been 89 on March 28. Until two days before his death he was at his desk at Chalmers advising students and doing active work.

Be proactive in nominating candidates for the Wigner award. The description and requirements for nominations are found on the ANS web site under the "Honors and Awards" section. Our Reactor Physics Community around the world includes a number of deserving candidates. A candidate for this award need not be an ANS member or even a U.S. Citizen.

Members of the Reactor Physics Division are also urged to submit nominations for the ANS Fellow award. The ANS Fellow award, presented twice a year to qualified nuclear scientists, is a means for recognition by the Society of those who have excelled in specific areas of nuclear technology. The Reactor Physics community has a number of members who readily qualify for this award. Details about the nomination and requirements can be found on the ANS web site.



Won Sik Yang, new ANS Fellow and member of the RPD Program Committee

RPD Program Membership Update

By Alex Stanculescu (Program Chair, RPD)
(alexander.stanculescu@inl.gov

Outgoing and New Members

I would like to thank Jeffrey A. Brokowksi and Shinya Kosaka, outgoing members of the Technical Program Committee, for all the work performed during their tenure. I wish them the best for the future and trust that they will maintain some engagement with the activities of the RPD and keep benefitting the Division.

Best wishes and welcome also to the new members of the Program Committee: **Takanori Kitada** (Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka University), **Liangzhi Cao** (Xi'an Jiaotong University), **Mathieu Hursin** (Paul Scherrer Institut), **Andrew M. Casella** (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory), **Jeremy Conlin** (Los Alamos National Laboratory), **Florent Heidet** (Argonne National Laboratory), **Nicolas Stauff** (Argonne National Laboratory), and **Wei Ji** (Department of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Nuclear Engineering Rensselaer, Polytechnic Institute).

The engagement and the expertise they have committed for their three-year tenure is key to maintaining the current high standards of the Division.

The roster of the current membership is included at the end of this newsletter.

Finally my renewed gratitude and appreciation go to the RPD reviewers, session chairs, special session organizers and panel organizers for their enthusiasm, reliability and unwavering effort. They are the foundation of the many accomplishments achieved by our Division.

RPD Program Membership

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Prof. Imre Pázsit
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How to Propose Conference Sessions

Any member can propose, organize or chair a session at an ANS meeting, just follow the steps below.

1. **Write a ~100-word description (a paragraph)** about the intended session/topic. Specify if it will be a panel or paper session.

2. **Submit the summary at the Program Committee meeting or send it to Alex Stanculescu (**alexander.stanculescu@inl.gov), or anyone on the leadership team to represent it for you.
Note: Sessions are decided on a year in advance (In June 2014 we choose sessions for the June 2015 meeting). The RPD Program Committee will need to approve the session by vote and provide a feedback to you including suggestions for improvements.

3. If approved, solicit experts to submit summaries by the deadline (usually about six months in advance) of the meeting in which the session will occur.

4. Inform the Program Chair of who will chair the session at the meeting (chair does not have to be you).

ANSTD/RPD Joint Session Physics of Compacts at 2013 Winter Meeting

Participation in RPD Program Committee Activities

I would like to commend all RPD members who have supported the PHYSOR 2014 topical meeting, in particular by participating in the peer review process.

Would you like to be added to the RPD reviewer roster, please send your request to the RPD Program Committee Chairman (alexander.stanculescu@inl.gov).

Our Division can only be successful thanks to the active involvement of its members. *I would like to encourage you to continue contributing to the Division's success by submitting technical papers, organizing special sessions, reviewing papers, chairing sessions, and by becoming actively engaged with both Program Committee and general RPD governance activities.*

RPD Program and Executive Committee at work during the 2013 Winter Meeting

ANS Reactor Physics Division

2014 Election Results

Ronald J. Ellis, Chair
Senior R&D Scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN

Pavel V. Tsvetkov, Vice Chair
Associate Professor, Department of Nuclear Engineering, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Arzu Alpan, Secretary
Principal Engineer, Radiation Engineering & Analysis Group, Westinghouse Electric Company, Cranberry Township, PA

Fausto Franceschini, Treasurer
Fellow Engineer, Westinghouse Electric Company, Cranberry Township, PA

Anna Erickson
Executive Committee
Assistant Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology, Nuclear & Radiological Engineering Program, Atlanta GA

Gianluca Longoni
Executive Committee
Fellow Engineer, Westinghouse Electric Company, Cranberry Township, PA

Russell E. Stachowski
Executive Committee
Chief Engineer-Nuclear and Reactor Physics, GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy, Wilmington, NC

Guy Marleau
Executive Committee-Non-US
Full Professor, Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Newly Elected Members of the RPD Executive Committee (Left)] and photos taken at the 2013 Winter Meeting (Right-Top: RPD Executive Committee Meeting, Bottom: relaxing at the reception)