



## American Nuclear Society

### From your Chair...

Ted Quinn

First, I would like to recognize and thank Dominion and Dave Christian (General Chair) and Scott Dam (Technical Program Chair) for an outstanding ANS Winter Meeting in Washington in November '02. The meeting was well run, the special sessions were very informative, and it was very well attended.

For the Spring of '03, I have asked the OPD Executive Committee to focus on 3 major priorities, as follows:

→ **Support the evaluation and process of moving toward building a new nuclear plant in the US** – In March, the new Draft Senate Energy Bill was issued and Senator Domenici and the Committee have included some of the most exciting authorization legislation in support of nuclear in history! The **key elements** are attached and we would like to call on all OPD members and their co-workers to help gain approval of this legislation in '03. We need to make every effort with our own Congressional and Senate offices in our home districts to gain approval. In support of this task, we held 2 sets of special sessions on this subject at the Nov. meeting in Washington, including the ANS President's Special Session. The excellent

speeches from these sessions are available on the OPD website ([opd.ans.org/cNc.html](http://opd.ans.org/cNc.html)). Also, our incoming President Larry Foulke's presentation to OPD on New Reactor Deployment is there, as well as my presentation on Advanced Reactors and the Future of Nuclear Energy from 03/19/03. The most crucial part of all these presentations is the financial aspect. If you have a chance to review these slide packages and help Kyle Turner and me in moving this initiative forward, please email me. One activity all OPD members can do to support this initiative is to sign a copy of the attached "**Petition for Building the Next Generation,**" and return it to me. Our goal is to collect 20,000 signatures before 12/08/03, which is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" Speech given at the United Nations. Please help us by asking your friends and coworkers to sign and return a petition as well. It is available at [opd.ans.org/OPD\\_Petition.doc](http://opd.ans.org/OPD_Petition.doc).

– **Strengthen the Utility Working Conference Program and Succession Plan** - The most important meeting we hold for OPD each year is the Utility Working Conference on Amelia Island (August 3-6, '03). This year is our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UWC. We have invited back some of the organizers of the first UWC meeting and I express my sincere thanks and respect to all organizers and participants that have led and supported this meeting over the past 10 years. Special appreciation goes to



NRC participants including Sam Collins and Mark Reinhart for their support and open dialogue in these meetings. Our plan is to further strengthen these meetings and the associated organizing committee this year to support future meetings. If you are interested in helping this meeting expand and grow, please contact Tom Snow ('03 UWC TPC).

® **Strengthen utility membership in ANS and OPD** – OPD was established to serve our members and we would like to interact better with the approximately 4220 members in our Division. We also want to expand our membership to support closer interactions with the 103 operating nuclear power units in the US. While we have good representation from many nuclear utilities and owners/operators, we need to expand to include all sites. We also want to focus, in particular, on participation by younger members. OPD membership is a great way to expand your experience in career advancement and approach new contacts that can benefit you and your company. If you would like to help, please contact Sophie Gutner to help us expand OPD.

*Continued on page 3.*

*You are invited...*

*to sunny San Diego, CA*

- **UWC 2003 Planning**  
Sunday June 1, 2003  
10-11:30 AM, Royal Palm II
- **OPD Program Committee**  
Sunday June 1, 2003  
1-3:30 PM, Royal Palm IV
- **OPD Executive Committee**  
Sunday June 1, 2003  
3:30-6 PM, Royal Palm IV
- **OPD Annual Awards Luncheon**  
Monday June 2, 2003  
11:30 AM – 1 PM, Sunset Room

**Everyone is welcome!**  
Check the final program  
for any location or time change.

### Highlights...

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*Edited by Sophie Gutner*



## Program Committee

### By Donna Skay

The goal of the Program Committee is to develop topics for technical sessions that generate lively discussion and provide thought-provoking ideas to the meeting attendees. Based on informal feedback from ANS and non-ANS members, the committee is striving to provide more timely sessions that address issues of current concern. To further this effort, the program committee welcomes recommendations on session topics, and feedback on how well the sessions meet your needs for information. Please contact Donna Skay or Don Eggett

with any comments, or if you are interested in participating in the committee. OPD is sponsoring 11 sessions at the 2003 annual meeting in San Diego with the theme "The Nuclear Technology Expansion – Unlimited Possibilities." The sessions include several new and current topics such as: Plant Upgrades; Plant Aging and Degradation; Goal and Direction of Risk Management; Significance Determination Process; Control Room Habitability, Implementation of Guidance; NERI; Nuclear Asset Management; Financing the Next

Generation; Innovations in Nuclear Infrastructure and Education; and I&C for Security, Plant Operations and Decommissioning. The theme of the 2003 winter meeting in New Orleans is "Nuclear Science and Technology: Meeting the Global Industry and R&D Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." OPD has proposed 11 sessions. Please encourage any interested authors to submit papers for these topics between May 1 and June 20, '03: International Outlook for Nuclear Power (H. Rogner); Financial Performance Enhancement at Operating NPPs (K. Ferguson); Economic, Security, and Electric Power

Demand Balance in the US and the Role of Nuclear Power (T. Quinn); Risk Informed Environment (M. Reinhart); Online Instrument Monitoring and Calibration (W. Hines); DOE NERI Program (B. Savage); DOE NP2010 Program (B. Savage); Current Trends in Quality Assurance in Commercial NPPs (H. Stiles); Early Site Permits (K. Turner); Risk Informed Regulation of Advanced Reactors (P. Kadambi); Hot Topics in Power Reactors, Roundtable (D. Eggett); Relicensing on Non-Power Reactors (S. O'Kelly).

*Continued on page 8.*

## OPD Member Survey Is on Its Way to You!

<http://opd.ans.org/>

*OPDMemberSurvey.doc*

### By Greg Gibson

At the ANS November 2002 Winter meeting, the OPD Executive Committee requested that the OPD membership be contacted for feedback on the Society, OPD functions, the value YOU receive from being a member of ANS, and the ANS meetings in particular. We have noticed a general decline in the membership the past few years, and a corresponding decline in the participation at ANS meetings. Clearly, the Executive Committee wants to understand YOUR concern(s) and, therefore, make the appropriate

adjustments in order that we might meet **YOUR** expectations and thereby provide the value that **YOU** expect.

Of importance is improving the value of our meetings and conferences. This is an aggressive and positive goal, but it is a goal that is difficult to achieve without direct input from the membership.

A questionnaire has been developed to solicit **YOUR** input. The questionnaire should take no more than 10 minutes to complete. The questionnaire has been distributed electronically to your email address or fax. If

you have not received the survey, you can find it at the URL on the left -- Print it, fill it out, and return it promptly. If you do not have access to the Internet, contact Sophie Gutner and provide your mailing address. We strongly encourage you to participate in this important program that the OPD Executive Committee considers vital for the Division's near and long term goals. With your help and assistance, we can obtain valuable insights on what OPD/ANS is doing right and what we need to do to improve. Your input will be greatly appreciated! We will communicate the results on the OPD website and in the next newsletter. **Thanks!**



## Presenting a Local Section: Idaho

### By John Kotek, IANS Chair

The Idaho Section of the American Nuclear Society is one of the more active local sections in the country, thanks to the dedication and enthusiasm of its nearly 600 members. A particularly exciting project was just completed by a team of volunteers led by Dr. Bob Seidel, ANS Fellow, past Chair of IANS, and recently retired from Argonne National Laboratory. Bob's team updated the IANS exhibit located in the Museum of Idaho, in Idaho Falls. The update was prompted by the impending

arrival at the museum of Sue, a full-size replica of the famous T-Rex fossil found in South Dakota in 1990 by amateur fossil hunter Susan Hendrickson.

The IANS exhibit is called "Nuclear Technology Enhances Our Lives." Bob's team completely updated and retrofitted the interactive computerized IANS exhibit at the museum. This exhibit provides an introduction to basic nuclear concepts and presents many of the uses of nuclear technology, including energy production, medical imaging, and space exploration.

The team also refurbished the hands-on hot cell manipulator display, which is a real favorite among children who visit the museum (including my 5-year-old son!). All told, the IANS exhibit at the Museum of Idaho serves as an excellent educational tool and represents a valuable public service performed by IANS members. If other local sections are interested in establishing their interactive displays and would like to learn more about what IANS has done, please contact Bob Seidel at [imediamic@mac.com](mailto:imediamic@mac.com).



## From your Chair (continued)

We have an important meeting coming up in San Diego (June 1-5, '03). The theme is "**The Nuclear Technology Expansion – Unlimited Possibilities.**" This is our ANS Annual Meeting and we have 550 papers as well as 3 Embedded Topical Meetings on Accelerator Applications; Decommissioning, Decontamination and Environmental Remediation; and Risk Management. We also have 2 astronauts coming, as well as special sessions on Hydrogen from Nuclear, Security of Spent Fuel, and the Scientific Support to Yucca Mountain. Please see [www.ans.org](http://www.ans.org) ("Meetings" section) and plan to attend.

I would like to thank all the OPD Executive Committee and ANS Staff for supporting me this year. Special thanks go to Sophie Gutner from Dominion. Sophie is the incoming Chair and has my vote as the most enthusiastic and energetic younger OPD Executive Committee member and Chair to ever serve OPD.

If you have any questions or would like additional information on anything that we are addressing in OPD, please contact me.

With warm regards,  
Ted Quinn ([tedquinn@cox.net](mailto:tedquinn@cox.net))  
23292 Pompeii Drive  
Dana Point, CA 92629



## OPD Membership Drive

Of course, you know that ANS is continuing its Membership Drive with the laptop as the prize for the ANS member who recruits the most new members each year. You can use the convenient "Invite a Colleague to Join" email on the ANS Members-Only website.

Now, **OPD is launching its own Membership Drive**, with the goal that each OPD member will recruit a new member.

Our current membership is approximately 4220 members. Imagine the power (no punt intended) OPD would have with 8440 members!

### Ready? Get set! Recruit!

OPD will give out a prize worth \$500, divided among the three best OPD Recruiters.

You have until December 31, 2003 to recruit and enter to win the prize. Be sure that the member you recruit mentions your name as "Sponsor" when he or she registers to become a new ANS & OPD member. Or you can email [members@ans.org](mailto:members@ans.org) with your name, the division as OPD, and the name of the new member you are sponsoring. This will allow us to monitor which OPD members are recruiting and to enter your name in the drawing for the prizes. The winners will be recognized in the Spring 2004 newsletter.

## Honors & Awards

We have a lot to celebrate today. First, the winner of the 2003 Walter H. Zinn Award is Mr. **Walter E. Simon**.

The Mona Grimsley Best Session Awards for June '02 and Nov '02 were given to **Mark Reinhart** ("Risk Informed Regulation") and **Ted Quinn** ("NP2010, Status on Deployment"), respectively.

Best Paper Awards were received by **Charles McKibben, Alan Ketring, Cathy Cutler, Ralph Butler, Steven Morris** for their paper "MURR, The

Next Utilization of Research Reactors for Medical Applications" (June '02) and to **Vera Erguina, Joseph Braun, Nicholas Lugansky** for their paper "Nuclear Power Plant Maintenance Economics Model" (Nov '02).

Excellent Presentation Awards were received by **James Oliver and Robert Long** (June '02), **Stephen Floyd and Russell Dietz** (Nov '02).

Join us at the OPD Annual Awards Luncheon in June in San Diego (see page 1 for details) to congratulate our winners in person!

Upcoming award nominations include the Utility Working Conference Awards: the Utility Leadership Award, the Utility Achievement Award, and the Implementation Award. Visit [opd.ans.org/chonors.html](http://opd.ans.org/chonors.html) for more information.



*Take a moment to recognize your peers for their hard work and talent, which will benefit all of us.*



## Financial Highlights

**By Mark Reinhart**

An accounts report, "Ho hum,"  $X + Y = Z$ . What's the point? Where does this all go? Let's see...

Our final 2002 OPD Account from the ANS was \$61,527. Our anticipated income and expenditures during 2003, in the neighborhood of \$20,000 each, will put us a little ahead at the end of 2003 with an ending balance projected to be \$61,827. Our trend of approximate ending balances from 2000 follows: \$27,500; \$39,300; \$61,500, and finally the estimate of \$61,800. We are accumulating funds at a rate exceeding the increase in the Consumer Price Index. Our average annual expenditure (investment) is significantly more than any other Division.

It is interesting to compare the OPD

budget with a couple of other divisions. The only Division with a larger reserve of funds is Fuel Cycle and Waste Management, which started the year with almost \$103,000. The Division closest behind OPD in reserves is Decommissioning and Decontamination, which started with about \$25,600. Each of those divisions spends in the neighborhood of \$2000 to \$7500 annually.

Does not a challenge remain? Some other Divisions and ours do have fiscal resources. We are investing a lot. But, *how do we better invest our resources to realize a gain on our investment?* We want members, but the numbers are decreasing. Not only do we want members but we also want those who contribute to ANS activities and thereby to the safe use of the nuclear

option.

Ideas? From watching people and from discussions among members, it more and more appears as if *INDIVIDUALS* make the difference. Are there ways, or additional ways, for each of us to interest other individuals who in turn will interest still others to contribute? Can our funds facilitate such efforts? Possibly we do need a paradigm change or a format change. Possibly we need to think more broadly than just OPD. What is my point? We are rightfully concerned about trends in OPD membership and demographics of meeting attendance. We have some resources to potentially affect positive change. But *WE* have to determine the most profitable action to take, and then *WE* have to take it.



## Committee on New Construction (cNc) Updates

**By Kyle Turner**

The three pilot ESP applicants (Dominion, Entergy, and Exelon) are continuing with preparation of their application; it is expected that they will be filed in late summer/early fall. Coordinated through NEI, industry and NRC have been discussing issues related to the basis for review of applications and the form and content of an ESP. These discussions have been critical to addressing business realities of the

deregulated marketplace and merchant plants into the NRC/industry dialog. Industry and DOE are also discussing how to carry the process forward to the Combined License phase. Senator Domenici has introduced legislation that would provide significant funding for new reactor development and demonstration of the regulatory process. So stay tuned as we take more and larger steps toward the next

generation of nuclear power. At the June meeting in San Diego, we are rolling our cNc meeting into Ted Quinn's excellent Wednesday afternoon General Chair's session on financing the next generation. Please attend and support this key session. Also, cNc will be working to support OPD Chair Ted Quinn's initiative to muster important grass roots support for the Domenici bill.



*Ready to build our future?*

## Students' Corner

OPD is supporting many Student activities in 2003. The ANS Student Conference took place at Berkeley University, April 2-5. OPD sponsored student travel and awards for \$4500. Several OPD members from the region are participating as speakers, judges, and recruiters. We will sponsor student travel to the June and November ANS conferences (\$1000 each). We have fully

funded one of our three scholarship funds by adding \$8000; the other two still need additional contributions to reach the fully funded level. The 2002-2003 scholarship winners are Loren Patrick Roberts (Kansas State University), Alexis Dawn Lazarine (Texas A&M University), and Kevin Patrick Lynn (University of Michigan). We are working with the

ANS Student Sections Committee to ensure the students upgrade their membership to full ANS members after graduation. We are open to suggestions as to how we can improve OPD's relationships with students to add value to their ANS experience.



*If you wish to make a donation to one of OPD's scholarship funds, please contact the ANS Outreach Department*

*([outreach@ans.org](mailto:outreach@ans.org)).*

*Thank You.*



## Young Utility Worker Program

In its efforts to encourage young workers entering the nuclear industry to remain in the industry, to bring more value to OPD members, and to increase membership in the Power Generation sector, OPD is launching the YUW Program.

One leg of the program is the **OPD Plant Resident Network**. At each NPP site, two OPD members will volunteer to join the Network and act as points of contact for and *implementers* of the YUW Program. OPD Plant Residents will be charged with “recruiting” young utility workers into the Program.

A second leg will consist of **NPP site and utility management** support for the YUW program. The OPD Plant Residents will be a link between their management and OPD. Members of OPD Executive Committee will continue to work to obtain utility management support for local, regional, and national ANS activities, including those related to the YUW Program.

The third leg will be the **young workers** themselves.

Several communication means will be available for the OPD Plant Residents and the members of the YUW Program to share information and ideas.

Workshops will be organized to meet and discuss YUW initiatives.

The YUW Program will develop in cooperation with ANS Plant Branches, ANS Local Sections, ANS Student Sections, NA-YGN groups, WIN groups, and other local nuclear-related organizations.

Contact Sophie Gutner if:

← You want to volunteer as an OPD Plant Resident and register with the YUW Program.

↑ You are part of the utility and NPP management team and wish to receive more information on this new

## LAUNCHING THE FUTURE



program and how you can actively support it.

→ You are a young utility worker. You must get involved in this new Program: it is designed FOR YOU.

*The definition of “young” is relative and not necessarily age-related. If someone has 20 years of experience but only two years in the nuclear industry, that person qualifies to participate in the YUW Program!*

## 2003 Utility Working Conference

**By Tom Snow**

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the Utility Working Conference. The conference is expected to attract nearly 300 people to the Amelia Island Plantation (near Jacksonville, Florida) during August 3-6, 2003. The format of the conference remains the same as in recent years and will include an opening plenary session along with four information-exchange sessions in each of the following six tracks: Regulatory Relations; Maintenance; Operations; Business; Engineering; Supply Chain.

The **Regulatory Relations** track includes sessions on the topics of Progress Toward a Risk-informed Environment; the Reactor Oversight Program; Challenges of Applying Probabilistic Risk Assessments in the Regulatory Area; and Future Nuclear Power Plants. The **Operations** track

includes Operations Lessons to be Learned from a Near Miss; Operational Impact of Organization Streamlining; Human Performance and Root Cause in Operations; and Operational Learning in a Success Environment. The **Engineering** track includes Life-Cycle Management Planning & Budget Decision-Making; Configuration Management; Engineering’s Lead Role in Equipment Reliability; and Engineering Aspects of Reactor Vessel Inspections & Evaluations. The **Maintenance** track includes sessions on the topics of Work Management Challenges of On-line and Outage Maintenance Activities; Maintenance Technology; Maintenance Lessons Learned; and Overcoming Adversity in Plant Maintenance Activities. The **Business** track plans to have discussions related to Nuclear Asset Management; the Business Value of Information Technology; Practical Innovations for Driving Down Costs; and

Market-Responsive Business Activities. The **Supply Chain** track will cover Supply Chain Automation; Impact of Short Cycle Work Management on Supply Chain Activities; Inventory Opportunities & Challenges; and Reducing Costs Through Contracting Strategies.

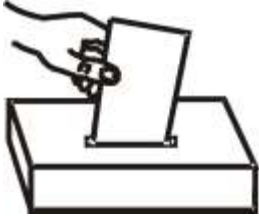
Comments from previous utility working conferences indicate that attendees continue to benefit from the exchange of information that occurs among representatives from the various nuclear plants. Please plan to join us for this active, enlightening event.

In addition to the utility attendees, power industry vendors also will participate in the conference to discuss technology and services that are available to support the nuclear plants.

For further information about the program and registration, visit the Utility Working Conference section at [opd.ans.org/uwc.html](http://opd.ans.org/uwc.html).

**Theme:**  
*Ten Years of Progress, Assessing the Past & Projecting the Future.*





### Thank You for Your Votes!

"Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted." – Albert Einstein

## 2003-2004 Election Results

The Election Results are just in! We thank the Nominating Committee (Rich St Onge, Bob Hess, Harold Stiles, Kyle Turner) for their work in identifying a great group of candidates.

**Congratulations** to the following elected members, whose term will begin June 5<sup>th</sup>:

**Sophie Gutner** – Chair  
**Loyd Wright** – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair

**Mark Reinhart** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair

**Harold Stiles** – Secretary  
**Greg Gibson** – Treasurer

Executive Committee members:

**Buzz Savage, William Corcoran, Kenneth Hughey, Robert Twilley, Michael Wadley, Steve Stamm**

We look forward to another dynamic team for the coming year 2003-2004!

If you want to volunteer for 2004-2005, you should contact Ted Quinn (tedquinn@cox.net), who will be chairing the 2003-2004 OPD Nominating Committee.

## Long Range Planning

By Eric Blocher

OPD has issued a Strategic Plan that provides short term and long term goals and objectives for the division. There are three parts to the OPD Strategic Plan: a one-year Tactical Plan, a succession plan for non-officer positions, and a five-year Long-Range Plan.

- The Tactical Plan

identifies significant OPD activities for 2003 and the top three priorities of the division Chair (see page 1).

, The Succession Plan will address the Utility Working Conference's Technical Program Chair and Assistant, the OPD Program Committee Chair and Vice Chair, the OPD Webmaster, and liaisons to the ANS

Public Policy, Public Information, and Membership Committees.

ƒ The five-year Long-Range Plan identifies goals and objectives in the following areas: division technical meetings, division governance, division contributions to Society, and division services to membership.

The OPD Strategic Plan will be aligned with the ANS Strategic Plan. All of this information will be available at [opd.ans.org/cPlanning.html](http://opd.ans.org/cPlanning.html)

**LONG DISTANCE  
RUNNERS**

## Adding Value to Your ANS Membership

By Harold Stiles

Are you getting full value from your ANS membership? When you send in your membership dues, do you think to yourself, "Wow! How can they possibly provide all these excellent benefits for such a small amount of money?" Or, is it instead that you begin to have difficulty listing the benefits of ANS membership after you tick off Nuclear News and national meetings? Just for the record, here is a link to the official list of ANS membership benefits: [www.ans.org/services/](http://www.ans.org/services/) The OPD Executive Committee is interested in your answer to this question and is working to ensure that ANS is meeting your needs and expectations for a professional organization. In

particular, they are considering ideas for several new products and services, which are intended to add value to ANS and OPD members who may have difficulty attending national and topical meetings. Recent surveys have shown that a majority of our members cannot routinely attend national or topical meetings because of work conflicts or travel budget restrictions. Examples of some of the ideas being considered are:

- **Webcast of key annual meeting presentations;**
- **Resource or expertise personnel contact service;**
- **Nuclear training and online distance learning.**

But would these new products and services really better fulfill your needs? Or do you have an idea for something that is even better? You are the only person who can answer those questions, and here is your chance. If you are interested in the OPD Executive Committee pursuing one or more of these ideas or if you have an idea for something that would better meet your needs, please email the OPD Chair, Ted Quinn, at [tedquinn@cox.net](mailto:tedquinn@cox.net) or any other member of the committee listed on page 8. Because, the only way to add value to your ANS membership is for you to become more involved.

"I can teach anybody how to get what they want out of life. The problem is that I can't find anybody who can tell me what they want." Mark Twain



## DOE's Generation IV Nuclear Energy Systems

**By Buzz Savage**

As reflected in the *National Energy Policy*, nuclear energy has a strong role in the future of the nation's energy security needs. The GEN IV initiative will assist in developing advanced technologies for future nuclear energy systems. In '02, the DOE, with 9 other countries, developed a Roadmap for GEN IV technology development. In Sept. '02, the GEN IV International Forum reached agreement to develop 6 specific nuclear energy concepts: Very-high-temperature gas-cooled reactor; Supercritical-water-cooled reactor; Gas-cooled fast reactor; Lead-cooled fast reactor; Sodium liquid-metal-cooled fast reactor; and Molten salt reactor. This ordering reflects an assessment of the need for the various missions of the GEN IV systems in the US. These include hydrogen production, economic electricity production and long-term actinide management. All are considered deployable by 2030, with some possibly available by 2015.

The high-level objective GEN IV is to advance the systems in accordance with DOE priorities for their deployment in the US, as measured by their ability to meet the 8 GEN IV goals (defined in the 4 broad areas of sustainability, economics, safety and reliability, and proliferation resistance and physical protection). GEN IV R&D will be conducted in 3 phases. The *viability* phase examines the feasibility of key technologies (e.g., adequate corrosion resistance in materials in contact with lead alloys or supercritical water, fission product retention at high temperature for particle fuel in the very-high-temperature gas-cooled reactor, and acceptably high recovery fractions for transuranic actinides for systems employing actinide recycle). The *performance* phase undertakes the development of performance data and optimization of each system. As in the viability phase, periodic evaluations of the system progress relative to its goals will determine if the system

development is to continue. The viability and performance phases will likely overlap because some of the performance R&D activities may have long lead times that require their initiation as early as possible. Assuming the successful completion of viability and performance R&D, a *demonstration* phase of at least 6 years is anticipated for any system, requiring funding of several US\$ billion. This phase involves the licensing, construction, and operation of a prototype or demonstration system in partnership with industry and perhaps other countries. The detailed design and licensing of the system will be performed during this phase. Details of the GEN IV Roadmap and Implementation Plans can be found on the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology website ([www.nuclear.gov](http://www.nuclear.gov)).

## Hot Topics and Emergent Issues – Continuing Challenges to Utilities

**By Don Eggett**

The OPD Executive Committee has added a new area to its wide dimension of technical sessions. This new session topic entitled “**Hot Topics and Emergent Issues**” will be initially scheduled for the ANS Winter Meeting in New Orleans this November. The focus of the session will be on how utilities are continuously faced with challenges. Some of these challenges are technical in nature, some regulatory. Some issues are “hot topics” or issues now at hand, some issues are

potential near term emergent issues. The overall objective will be to provide for a caucus for interactive discussion among utilities, agencies and other parties with vested interest on the issue itself, its progress, and resolution.

For your information, the DD&R Division embarked upon a similar initiative a few years ago that continues today. The success of that activity has been overwhelming. I am happy to say that I have been an integral part of its success story. I anticipate a

similar success story for this OPD initiative. Your involvement is strongly encouraged to assist not only in identifying the areas that challenge the utilities but also as an “involved party.” With your help, assistance, and involvement, valuable insights in the approach and resolution of the issues will only result.



## Standards ANS21

ANS Standards Subcommittee ANS21 presently manages 14 standards associated with Nuclear Facility Operation and Design and is closely linked to the activities of OPD. Each standard is developed and maintained by a working group consisting of a Chair and several members. Much of the work is presently focused on maintenance of existing standards. However, *our industry is on the verge of change in several different ways*. First, a number of standards are being revised to include risk insights. These changes will realize

many benefits for the industry. Secondly, the move toward performance-based regulation will result in the development of new standards. The Standards Organization will play a large role in development of guidance for implementation of the new regulations. Finally, new construction of power reactors is on the horizon, providing an obvious need for up-to-date design and operational standards. ANS has several subcommittees in addition to ANS21, each with a need for expertise in virtually every area. The

dedicated volunteers who donate their time to the ANS Standards Organization provide a valuable function to both industry and the Society. Additionally, the corporations who sponsor their employees' participation are investing in a valuable tool. Please contact Suriya Ahmad (708-579-8269) at ANS headquarters if you are interested in participating.

**Mike Ruby - ANS21 Chair**

**585-771-3572**

**[Mike\\_Ruby@rge.com](mailto:Mike_Ruby@rge.com)**



## Operations & Power Division

### 2002-2003 Officers:

Ted Quinn (Chair)  
[Tedquinn@cox.net](mailto:Tedquinn@cox.net)

Sophie Gutner  
(1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair)  
[S\\_gutner@yahoo.com](mailto:S_gutner@yahoo.com)

Loyd Wright  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair)  
[Wrightla@songs.sce.com](mailto:Wrightla@songs.sce.com)

Mark Reinhart  
(Secretary & Treasurer)  
[Fmr@nrc.gov](mailto:Fmr@nrc.gov)

Rich St. Onge (Past Chair)  
[Stongerj@songs.sce.com](mailto:Stongerj@songs.sce.com)

### Comments, Questions, Suggestions about this Newsletter?

Contact: Sophie Gutner  
PO Box 4646  
Glen Allen, VA 23058

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[opd.ans.org](http://opd.ans.org)

## Program Committee (continued)

The Program Committee will soon begin developing session topics for the 2004 annual meeting in Pittsburg. Contact Donna Skay if you want to actively participate.

### Topical Meetings

The Program Committee has assigned a liaison to each OPD-co-sponsored topical meeting, as follows:

2003 Risk Management Embedded Topical in San Diego, [Harold Stiles](#)  
2003 ICAPP in Spain, [Greg Gibson](#)  
2003 ANS/AESJ in Japan, [Ted Quinn](#)  
2004 ICAPP in Pittsburg, [Sophie Gutner](#)  
2004 PBNC in Hawaii, [Loyd Wright](#)

If you want more information on these topical meetings or you want to get involved, please contact the assigned liaison.



## Power Generation Outreach Subcommittee

The Subcommittee, chaired by Rich St Onge (OPD Past Chair) is sending its final recommendations to the ANS Special Committee on Power Generation Sector Outreach.

← Co-location of ANS and industry meetings;

↑ Young Utility Worker Program (see p. 5);

→ OPD Plant Resident Network (see p. 5);

↓ OPD Membership and recruitment (see p. 1);

○ Value-adding non-meeting initiatives (see p. 6).  
Of course, OPD will

continue to work with the ANS Board, other organizations such as NEI and INPO, and other ANS divisions to promote ANS membership for Power Ge



## ANS Board Update

### By Kyle Turner, OPD's Board Liaison

The ANS national Board of Directors, in addition to "routine" duties, has been spending a great deal of time addressing the Society's financial situation. As many of you know, ANS has operated at a net operating deficit for several years, and our recent investment experience (like everyone else's) has not provided offsetting income. The

Board is in the process of instituting new financial policies and procedures to ensure that ANS budgeted activities are effectively supporting the Society's stated strategic goals and objectives.

Also, in an effort to establish better liaison with the professional divisions, the Board has set aside extra time at most of the national meetings dedicated specifically to a dialog with Division chairs. I expect

that this practice will produce a better cooperative relationship between the Board and will foster additional support for the critical technical activities conducted by the divisions. Finally, the Board continues to be active in reviewing and approving ANS Position Statements targeted at the "hot" issues in nuclear technology. For the latest on the ANS positions, check the ANS web site.

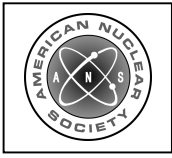
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A National Demonstration Project – 4-10-03  
**Sponsored by the American Nuclear Society – Operations and Power Division**  
**Petition For Building the Next Generation**

**Challenge:**

In partnership with industry and utilities, **I support** an aggressive effort by DOE to build an advanced nuclear reactor incorporating state-of-the-art safety and proliferation resistant systems. This effort should be structured to significantly advance the timetable by which the systems would be available for commercial deployment by taking advantage of ongoing efforts currently underway at DOE, industry and utilities. The effort should be sequenced, to the extent possible, so it can best reflect, both with respect to schedule and capability, the evolving national energy situation, and in a way which supports U.S. environmental objectives. A key element of this effort will be the establishment and maintenance of an industrial base, which can be accessed in response to changing national energy needs and a demonstration to the younger generation that the nuclear career path is viable and attractive.

As a start to this effort, I support the provisions contained in the Senate version of the Energy Bill related to the Deployment of New Nuclear Plants. Please work to ensure these provisions are not stripped from the final version of the bill.

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Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DRAFT SENATE ENERGY BILL – MARCH, 2003**

Mr. Domenici's draft legislation has now been introduced. It provides a strong policy foundation for the nuclear industry as we move forward both to build new plants and to increase the value of our operating plants. Specifically, the legislation:

1. Authorizes indefinite renewal of the Price-Anderson Act (as the industry has suggested for several years). It also requires NRC and DOE to provide reports to Congress on Price-Anderson by August 2013. It increases the annual secondary retro assessment from \$10 million to \$15 million. (Title IV, subtitle A)
2. Confers new authority on the Secretary of Energy to provide financial assistance to new nuclear projects, if the Secretary determines that such projects are necessary to achieve energy security, fuel or technology diversity, or attainment of clean air goals. The financial assistance can include any combination of loans, loan guarantees, lines of credit, and agreements to purchase the power from new nuclear projects. The assistance is limited to 50 percent of "eligible project costs," which includes possible cost increases owing to regulatory or licensing delays. The legislation gives the Secretary 12 months to promulgate regulations implementing the new authority. (Title IV, subtitle B)
3. Directs the Secretary to establish an advanced reactor hydrogen co-generation project at INEEL. Authorizes \$35M for FY2004 and \$150M for each of the next four years for RD&D. Authorizes up to \$500M for construction. Calls for cost sharing with industry. Allows up to two teams to be funded to develop competing designs. (Title IV, subtitle C)
4. Deleted
5. Ensures stability in the nuclear fuel market by specifying the amounts of uranium from the U.S. government's stockpile that can be released into the market, and the timing for such releases. (Title IV, subtitle D)
6. Provides the authorization necessary for DOE to conduct a number of R&D programs, including NERI, NEPO, Nuclear Power 2010, Gen IV, and use of high temperature reactors in thermo chemical processes to make hydrogen. Also provides authorization for programs on advanced fuel recycling technologies and in support of university nuclear science and engineering programs. (Title IX, subtitle D)
7. Unless otherwise specified, sets cost sharing requirements of 20 percent non Federal funds for R&D, 50 percent for demonstrations and commercial applications. (Title IX, subtitle H)

Markup of the bill is set for the first two weeks in April. The full text of the bill may be retrieved from the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee website at <http://www.senate.gov/%7Eenergy/>. Click on the icon at the bottom left of the page.