

# Operations and Power Division

Fall 2004



*You are invited...*

To the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. to be part of

**"Leadership Toward a Progressive, Integrated Nuclear Community - Going Forward Together"**

First-time Attendees Orientation  
Sunday, November 14, 2004

1:00 – 1:30 PM, Governor's Boardroom

UWC 2005 Planning

Sunday, November 14, 2004

10:00 – 11:30 AM, Council Room

Nuclear Workforce Working Group

Sunday, November 14, 2004

12:00 – 2:00 PM, Parlor #362

OPD Program Committee

Sunday, November 14, 2004

1:00 – 3:00 PM, Calvert Room

OPD Executive Committee

Sunday, November 14, 2004

3:00 – 6:00 PM, Calvert Room

New Construction Working Group

Monday, November 15, 2004

6:00 – 8:00 PM, Cabinet Room

See Our Website at ...

[OPD.ANS.ORG](http://OPD.ANS.ORG)

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Edited by Harold Stiles

## From Your Chair

Loyd Wright



We have had a very good year! ANS celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in June with an outstanding meeting in Pittsburgh, and the Operations and Power Division (OPD) was a strong contributor to the success of that meeting. In August OPD hosted another very successful Utility Working Conference at Amelia Island. Feedback from the attendees indicated that it was the best ever. We now look forward to the November meeting in Washington, DC. With **William Magwood** of DOE as General Chair and our own **Mark Reinhart** of the NRC as the Technical Program Chair, we expect Washington to be another great meeting.

Where do we, as members of OPD go from here? We must look ahead to the future and position ourselves for the challenges facing our industry. As we begin to build new nuclear plants in the United States, we need to ready ANS to be the technical society of choice and OPD to be the division of choice. How do we do that? We use ANS and OPD for what it does best, providing professional development.

I encourage every professional in the nuclear industry to become active in OPD and to encourage your coworkers to do the same. There is a job for anyone who is willing to accept the challenge.

To continue having outstanding meetings, we need volunteers to develop and present papers, to organize sessions and meetings, and to serve on the OPD Program Committee and Utility Working Committee. OPD will provide the training; you can provide new ideas and energy.

Want to get involved but can't make it to a meeting? How about volunteering to be the OPD representative at your site? Work with us to find ways to make ANS relevant for other professionals at your site. Do you like working with a computer and the internet? We need volunteers to help us maintain and improve our website. Do you have technical expertise that you are willing to share? How about helping review papers? Our paper reviews are now performed electronically, and you can do this without ever leaving your office or your home.

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved listed on our website (<http://opd.ans.org/>). If you have a new one, please call or email me. We would love to hear how we can better serve you. These are exciting times at ANS and OPD; we hope to experience them with you.

Loyd Wright, 949-368-9516, [wrightla@songs.sce.com](mailto:wrightla@songs.sce.com)

## Program Committee

By Don Eggett

A technical program filled with timely and informative presentations is an absolute requirement for a successful meeting. This is the essential role of the OPD Program Committee, which is actively planning for several upcoming national and international meetings.



### 2004 Winter Meeting, November 14-18, Washington, D.C.

Topics (and organizer(s)) for OPD sessions include:

- Cost Benefits of Risk-Information (**Mark Reinhart**)
- Knowledge Conservation and Transfer (**David Pointer**)
- Challenges Facing the Young Generation in Nuclear (**David Pointer**)
- Hot Topics and Emergent Issues: Update on Security Issues for Nuclear Facilities (**Don Eggett** and **Douglas Walters**)
- Advanced Nuclear Energy Systems Research and Development Including Nuclear Power 2010 (**Buzz Savage**)

### 2005 Annual Meeting, June 5-9, San Diego, CA

The topics (and organizer(s)) for OPD sessions include:

- Nuclear Energy – Quantifying and Communicating the Benefits (**Ann Bisconti** and **Ted Quinn**)
- Planning For a Country's First Reactors—International (**Steven Stamm**)
- Advanced Nuclear Energy Systems Research and Development (**Buzz Savage**)
- I&C Lessons-Learned (**Joe Naser**)
- An Update on Performance-Based Standards (**Don Eggett**)
- Status of Non-power Reactors in the U.S. (**Andy Klein** and **Ted Quinn**)
- Hot Topics in Reactor Licensing: New Engineering Inspection Process (**Greg Gibson**)

### 2006 ICAAP Meeting, Reno, NV

The 2004 International Conference on Advanced Nuclear Power Plants was embedded in the ANS Annual Summer Meeting in Pittsburgh. Responsibility for the meeting rotates with the next U.S. conference to be embedded in the 2006 Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada. **Ted Quinn** is the OPD point of contact for the 2006 ICAPP.

## 2006 Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference (PNBC) Meeting, Sydney Australia

The next PBNB Meeting will be held in Sydney. **Gail Marcus**, former ANS President and **Alan Levin**, NRC, will be major planners for the meeting.

## 2004 Utility Working Conference

By Harold Stiles

What a ride! UWC 2004 continued an 11-year tradition of UWC being the best ANS conference for sharing utility innovations. In fact, UWC 2004 set records for attendance and vendor exhibits and enjoyed the strongest participation by utility CNOs and other industry leaders. However, such successes were not always evident during the months leading up to conference. These results are a testimony to the faith, hard work, and determination of each UWC committee member and to the much valued support of the ANS staff.

UWC 2004 was about reaching higher levels of performance by breaking out of the barriers that we sometimes set around ourselves. Based on industry input at the end of UWC 2003, the committee engaged elements of our industry outside our own comfortable circle. In particular, the conference was reorganized to promote better alignment with the industry business models. Then active Communities of Practice (CoPs) were identified for each business model and were invited to take a leadership role in UWC 2004. The committee explained that UWC was a working conference and asked the CoPs to make UWC an integral part of their efforts. Sometimes this arrangement was unsettling as it required close coordination between the CoPs' schedules and the UWC schedule. But, the result was extremely timely and relevant presentations.

Shared sessions were another innovative benefit of UWC 2004 that was realized almost by accident. The conference location, Amelia Island, promotes a captive audience, and the size of facility encourages close interaction. The industry interest in UWC 2004 was so great that the demand for technical sessions was greater than available meeting rooms. So, for about a third of the sessions, the different CoPs had to share a room. But, in the mode of turning lemons into lemonade, the CoPs used the shared sessions to interface with other CoPs and work on common issues. Since there is no other opportunity for a CoP to meet with several other CoPs in such a short timeframe, this turned out to be one of the strongest selling points for the conference. Looking forward, the challenge is for UWC to strengthen the relationships with the CoPs and to continue what was begun.

Other great things at UWC 2004 (e.g., General Chair's Special Session on Security, expanded vendor/technology exhibits, sponsored events) cannot be addressed here. But, a CD with all the UWC 2004 presentations is available from ANS HQ. Otherwise, attend UWC 2005 and see for yourself.

## A Movement Toward Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Standards: A Shift in Philosophy

By Don Eggett

The operators of nuclear facilities are shifting toward the use of risk-informed and performance-based concepts in the evaluation of safe operation. The ANS Standards Committee has begun initiating work to revise many of its standards to incorporate risk-informed and performance-based concepts.

At the ANS Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, OPD sponsored a session on performance-based and risk-informed concepts and provided information explaining how this initiative is being implemented in ANS-sponsored standards, including those that address design, operations, and maintenance.

**Don Spellman**, of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, who is the Chair of the ANS Nuclear Facilities Standards Consensus Executive Committee set the stage for the presentations and subsequent discussions. **Jim Mallay**, of Framatome, Chair of the ANS Standards Board, provided an historical overview on the development of standards and where these performance and risk based concepts are being incorporated into the revisions of old standards and into the development of new standards. **Prasad Kadambi** of the NRC, an industry leader on performance-based and risk informed concepts, pointed out that the availability of such information today has helped to direct movements toward performance-based standards. Both **Neil Brown**, of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and **Paul Fishbeck**, of Carnegie Mellon University, provided details of working with these concepts on actual case studies. The case study provided by **Neil Brown** was converting the ANSI/ANS 2.26 standard "Categorization of Nuclear Facility Structures, Systems, and Components for Seismic Design" to a performance-based, risk informed standard for all nuclear facilities. This, however, excluded the nuclear power plants since they have their own specific design standards on this latter subject.

Feedback received from audience participants was very positive. OPD is sponsoring another technical session at the 2005 ANS Annual Meeting in San Diego on the progress of performance-based and risk informed standard activities during the remaining 2004 and first half of 2005.

The ANS Standards Committee has taken an active lead in the industry in moving toward the direction of implementing performance-based and risk-informed concepts into industry standards. This vision will become even more important as the industry moves in the direction of designing new plants including the gas-cooled reactors. Thus, the Standards Committee continually seeks new volunteers to support standards development. With the direction that the industry as a whole is moving toward in this area, it becomes vital to capture the experience, processes, and the experts needed to develop and maintain standards of this nature through sustainable initiatives such as this.

## 2005 Utility Working Conference

By Sophie Gutner

Planning has already started for UWC 2005 to be held August 7-10, 2005 at Amelia Island, FL. The General Chair, **Gary Taylor** of Entergy, has selected the following theme:

**"The Reactor is Critical: Excellence Today is Sustaining Growth Tomorrow"**

Many Track Leaders, Track Organizers, and Session Organizers are returning to help organize the program in the following tracks:

- Executive
- Configuration Management
- Equipment Reliability
- Materials & Services
- Nuclear Asset Management
- Operations
- Performance Improvement
- Regulatory Relations
- Work Management

But, there are still excellent opportunities available for interested volunteers. The next planning meeting will be Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am in the Council Room at the ANS Annual Meeting in Washington.

## Utility Working Conference Logo

OPD is having a contest to find a logo to represent the UWC. Those interested might consider the following objectives of UWC for inspiration.

- How can the combined perspectives of various utility leaders be focused onto the most immediate needs and most challenging issues currently facing the ever-changing nuclear industry?
- How can the collected insights from a broad cross section of nuclear experts be shared in frank and timely dialog without the burden of formal presentations or unnecessary organizational barriers?
- How can pertinent information about significant achievements and successes be effectively disseminated to others having similar requirements and resource limitations?
- What mode of communication most efficiently satisfies all these objectives in a venue conducive to working, sharing and learning?

Please contact Sophie Gutner for more information.

## Honors & Awards

By Mark Reinhart

Each year OPD recognizes the outstanding work and contributions of our members at our Annual Honors & Awards Luncheon during the ANS Summer meeting. Awards presented include the following: The Walter Zinn Award, the Mona Grimsley Best Session Awards, the Best Paper Awards, as well as the Excellent Presentation Awards. To make these awards possible WE need to be aware of the efforts and successes of our peers as well as of those who have gone before.



Please think of our heritage and help to nominate deserving individuals for the Walter Zinn Award. Please attend our sessions to offer evaluations for sessions, papers, and presentations. Finally, please join us at the OPD Annual Awards luncheon on Monday, June 6, 2005 in San Diego to honor the award recipients and congratulate them in person.

In addition to OPD Awards, see the ANS website and click on "Honors and Awards" to see the entire spectrum of awards available in the various divisions and nationally as well as the nomination for "Fellow." This site provides a comprehensive list of awards, applicable deadlines, and nomination forms. <http://www.ans.org/honors>.

Our honors and awards recognize our colleagues, motivate us all to improve our efforts, and thereby help others to appreciate the value of our meetings and our interactive association.

## Committee on New Construction

By Ted Quinn

The OPD Committee on New Construction (CNC), dedicated to supporting the resolution of technical, business and infrastructure challenges to building new nuclear plants in the United States, is moving back to the Operations and Power Division. This Working Group, chaired by **Kyle Turner** and **Ted Quinn**, both former Chairs of OPD, was a special committee within ANS and, this year, moved back to OPD where it started in 1988. This group has represented ANS with significant focus on, and resolution of, challenges to building new nuclear plants in the U.S.



The working group consists of representatives of the utilities, vendors, government, universities and consultants. Please consider joining the OPD Working Group by contacting **Kyle Turner** – [kyleturn@att.net](mailto:kyleturn@att.net) or **Ted Quinn** at [tedquinn@cox.net](mailto:tedquinn@cox.net). The next meeting of the group will be held November 14, 2004 at the ANS Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C.

## Division Finance

Do you even wonder about the financial side of OPD? Where does the money come from? Where does it go? Here are a few facts for your consideration:

- Annual income varies but is generally about \$20-\$30,000
- OPD primarily has two income streams:
  - \$1 allocation from ANS membership dues for each of the approximately 4500 division members
  - Meeting revenue after expenses—For a successful meeting like UWC, it could be about \$43 per attendee.
- Supporting scholarships and students is a focus for OPD:
  - This year OPD spent almost \$20,000 to fund three divisional scholarships.
  - Each year OPD spends about \$4000 for student conference expenses.
  - Newsletters and awards are about \$2000.

## OPD Officers

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## OPD Executive Committee

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We represent utilities, vendors, consultants, government agencies, universities, and much more.