

# Operations and Power Division

FALL 2006



*You are invited to the...*

November 12-16, 2006 • Albuquerque, NM  
• Albuquerque Convention Center

to be part of:

***“Ensuring the Future in Times of  
Change: Nonproliferation and  
Security”***

UWC 2007 Planning

Sunday, November 12, 2006

12:00 – 12:30 PM, Picuris (Convention Center)

OPD Program Committee

Sunday, November 12, 2006

12:30 – 2:30 PM, Picuris (Convention Center)

New Construction Working Group

Sunday, November 12, 2006

2:30 – 4:00 PM, Picuris (Convention Center)

OPD Executive Committee

Sunday, November 12, 2006

4:00 – 6:00 PM, Picuris (Convention Center)

***These meetings are open to all OPD  
members, and everyone is encouraged to  
attend.***

See Our Website at . . .

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

Annual Meeting

"It's All About the People: The Future of Nuclear"

June 24-28, 2007

Boston, MA

2007 Utility Working Conference

August 5-8, 2007

Amelia Island, FL

## From Your Chair

Harold Stiles



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We are privileged to be living and working during one of the most exciting times in the history of nuclear power.

The U.S. nuclear renaissance is poised on the horizon like the much anticipated dawn of a new day. And, some of us can barely wait. To anyone who wants to be personally active in welcoming the dawn of the nuclear renaissance (but who may not have the purchase price of a new reactor in ready cash), we ask you to do three things:

- 1) **Volunteer one hour per month.** Individually, it's a meager amount; but, collectively, we can achieve much. Don't worry about travel limitations due to budget or workload constraints. OPD has many important needs where you can help without traveling to national meetings. If you're interested, please contact me (Harold.Stiles@pgnmail.com).
- 2) **Recruit one new member.** Not five; not ten; not as many as you can; just one. Talk to your co-workers about the coming nuclear renaissance, tell them about OPD's efforts that you will read about in this newsletter, and get one co-worker to join us. For your convenience, here is a link to a membership application:  
<http://www.ans.org/join/docs/2006-member.pdf>  
or  
<https://secure.ans.org/join/>
- 3) **Tell us how OPD can better meet your needs.** OPD exists to serve the technical and professional needs of our members. We organize national & international meetings and workshops for the exchange of technical information of interest to our members. We fund scholarships, participate in mentor programs, and support student activities and professional development. We promote and recognize the achievements and accomplishments of our members through an active honors and awards program. And, we are constantly looking for new opportunities to be more relevant to our members and our industry. Please let us know what else we can do!

So, if you can't wait for the dawn to get here, please take these three actions to move all of us toward the light.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Harold Stiles

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## Program Committee

By Tom Remick



Chair – **Tom Remick**  
(thomas.remick@sce.com)

Vice Chair – **Preston Pratt** (PPPratt@pplweb.com)

The OPD Program Committee is responsible for coordinating the technical sessions that OPD sponsors at the various ANS meetings.

The first step in this process is planning and organizing the meetings. Over a year in advance of a meeting, the OPD Program Committee starts to think about what kind of sessions would be of interest to our members. The Program Committee member (or anyone else) prepares a 100 word summary of the proposed session. Sessions can either consist of presentations of papers, or be a panel of 5 or so speakers. These proposed sessions are then submitted to the Technical Program Chair (TPC) of the meeting, who organizes all of the proposed sessions from all the divisions into the Call For Papers, which is issued around a year in advance of the meeting.

By six months before the meeting, the papers are written, and the speaker panel sessions are planned (with speaker commitments). About four months before the meeting, representatives from all of the divisions meet at ANS headquarters. At this gathering, the final meeting schedule is planned by assigning the various sessions to specific meeting rooms on a specific day.

One opportunity for OPD members to participate in ANS is by coming up with an idea for a session and organizing it. As a session organizer, you are responsible for making sure the session happens by convincing others to submit papers or serve as panel members.

Another opportunity to participate is by serving as a speaker for a panel session. Speakers generally are either individuals who are deeply knowledgeable about the session topic, or are strongly impacted by the topic. An example of a topic for a panel is the proposed small reactor for Galena Alaska. A panel session on this topic in the past has involved representatives from the people designing the reactor, representatives from the NRC who would license it, and representatives from the city that would benefit from it. In a typical presentation, each speaker gets around 30 minutes to give their presentation (usually using a presentation program like Power Point) and answer questions from the audience.

And if you are more interested in developing a paper, the requirement for a national meeting is only a 450-900 word summary of the topic. Each paper author gets around 30 minutes to present their paper, with most authors similarly using a program like Power Point to display the pertinent points from their paper.

As you can see from the preceding two paragraphs, the only real difference between a panel speaker and paper author is that the author took the time to summarize their Power Point presentation into a brief paper. By taking the time to do this, the author gets to have their words and ideas immortalized in the ANS Transaction book/CD-ROM that is prepared for the meeting and given to each attendee. A speaker's words and presentation are captured only in the memories of those people in the room at the time.

If you would like to get involved but do not want to present a paper, you may prefer to be a paper reviewer. Each paper that is presented has to be reviewed by at least two people. The review is done though the internet, so anyone can do it from their home or work computer. All you do is read the paper, make any comments or suggestions you have, and make your recommendation as to whether the paper is of high enough quality to include in the meeting. Reviewing papers is a great way to start getting involved with national ANS, as it literally can take as little as an hour of your time.

Quality technical programs of interest to our members are of utmost importance. With planning starting nearly a year in advance of each national meeting, timing is paramount in the selection of a topic. These topics must reflect current interests in the nuclear industry and provide a balance between research, planning, and day-to-day operations. The perfect topic must balance fresh ideas with meaningful experience.

### Past Activities at the 2006 Annual Meeting in Reno

OPD was the primary division sponsor for the International Congress on Advances in Nuclear Power Plants (ICAPP) meeting held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting in Reno. OPD also sponsored technical sessions on:

- The Licensing Process and Status of Small Power Reactors
- Addressing Aging and Obsolescence Issues with Printed Circuit Boards
- Low Power and Shutdown Operations: Observations, Trends, and Future Action

## 2006 Winter Meeting, November 12-16, Albuquerque, NM

This meeting is rapidly approaching. We as a Division do hope that each and every reader of the newsletter considers attending the meeting. OPD will be sponsoring technical sessions on:

- Continuing Update on the Status of Small Power Reactors (Monday afternoon)
- Combined Operating License Application Status in the United States (Tuesday afternoon)
- Generic Safety Issue 191: PWR Containment Sump Performance and Analysis (Wednesday morning)
- Advanced Nuclear Energy Systems Including Nuclear Power 2020: Research and Development (Wednesday afternoon)
- University Reactor and Nuclear Research – I (Wednesday afternoon)
- University Reactor and Nuclear Research – II (Thursday afternoon)

## 2007 Annual Meeting, June 24-28, Boston, MA

The sessions for this meeting have been identified, and are in the process of being organized. The sessions being sponsored by OPD are:

### Track    Session

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 2a. | Creating Certainty in New Nuclear Plant Construction (panel)                               |
| 2b  | License Renewal Status and Progress (paper)  |
| 2c  | New Plants, Lessons Learned from Intervenors (paper)                                       |
| 2d  | Nuclear Power Plant Construction in China (panel)  |
| 2g  | Standardization for New ALWRs (panel)  |
| 2i  | Supply Chain and Infrastructure for the Next Generation of U.S. Nuclear Plants (paper)     |
| 3h  | Improvements and Innovations in Spent Fuel Storage (paper)                                 |
| 4m  | Generic Safety Issue 191 - Update and Developments on Containment Sump Performance (paper) |
| 4n  | Radiation Exposure Events: Root Causes, Lessons Learned and Program Improvements (paper)   |
| 5a  | Climate Change: What Part Does Nuclear Energy Play? (panel)                                |
| 6b  | Nuclear Process Heat Applications (paper)  |

The Call for Papers has been issued, so if you would like to submit a paper to one of the above paper sessions, you can do so through the ANS website. Note that ANS has a required format for papers (located at [www.ans.org/pubs/transactions](http://www.ans.org/pubs/transactions)). If you would like to be considered as a panelist in one of the panel sessions, please let me know and I will have the session

organizer get in touch with you. We as a Division need each and every reader of the newsletter to consider submitting a paper or speaking in one of the sessions, or at the very least to try to make plans to attend the sessions that are closely aligned to their daily responsibilities.

## 2007 Winter Meeting, November 12-16, Washington, DC

At the OPD Program Committee on Sunday November 12, 2006 in Albuquerque, we will begin to plan the 2007 Winter Meeting, which will be held in Washington DC. Our goal is to identify topics for discussion which continue to align with the Division's goals of current industry issues and high quality content.

If you are not going to be at the Albuquerque Program Committee meeting on Sunday, you can email me any session suggestions you have so that I can present them to the committee. Please indicate if you are willing to serve as the organizer for the session.

## International Meetings

We also are co-sponsoring two international meetings, one on plant water chemistry and the other on plant human factors:

2006 International Conference on Water Chemistry of Nuclear Reactor System - Jeju Island, Korea (Oct 23-26, 2006). For additional information please contact **Keith Fruzzetti** at [kfruzzet@epri.com](mailto:kfruzzet@epri.com).

5th International Topical Meeting on Nuclear Plant Instrumentation, Control and Human Machine, Scottsdale, AZ, Spring, 2007 (involves OPD co-sponsorship and is co-located with IEEE Human Factors Meeting). For additional information please contact **Ted Quinn** at [tedquinn@cox.net](mailto:tedquinn@cox.net), **Don Miller** at [miller.68@osu.edu](mailto:miller.68@osu.edu) or **David Holcomb**, the Program Chair, at [holcombde@ornl.gov](mailto:holcombde@ornl.gov)

## 2007 Utility Working Conference Meeting, August 5-8, Amelia Island, FL

The Utility Working Conference is the meeting for which OPD takes great pride in planning and sponsoring every year. It is focused on both current issues and strategic matters of interest to nuclear power plant organizations. As the title implies, this meeting is aimed directly at utility personnel. For more information on this utility conference, please read the separate news article with this newsletter.

The Operations and Power Division is one of the largest ANS professional divisions. As such, it contains members from across the entire nuclear field. The Program Committee tries diligently to present a range of meeting sessions and conferences to serve this broad consistency.

Please consider providing your input, either directly by becoming a Program Committee member, or by email to me.

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## 2006 Utility Working Conference

By Jeff Robertson

The thirteenth annual Utility Working Conference (UWC) was held this year from August 6th through August 9th at the Amelia Island Plantation, Amelia Island, Florida. The conference attracted a record attendance. Four hundred and forty individuals from an array of organizations within the industry gathered for three days to discuss best practices and lessons learned. Although Tropical Storm Chris presented a potential threat to the conference during the days leading up to the conference, the weather during the conference could not have been better.

This year's conference featured two general sessions; the plenary, entitled "Sustaining Excellence" and a special session entitled "Expanding the Fleet". The plenary keynote speakers included the **Honorable Gregory B. Jaczko**, Commissioner, USNRC; **James O. Ellis, Jr.**, President and CEO of INPO; **David A. Christian**, Senior Vice President and CNO of Dominion Energy, Inc and **Bill Coley**, Chief Executive of British Energy Group, LLC. The special session panelists included **Luis Reyes**, Executive Director for Operations, USNRC; **Carol Berrigan**, Director of Industry Initiatives, NEI; **Michael J. Wallace**, President of Constellation Generation Group; and **Jeffrey T. Gasser**, Executive Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer of Southern Nuclear Operating Company. Both sessions were moderated by the conference's General Chair and Duke Energy's CNO, **Brew Barron**.

Break out sessions were held in the traditional areas such as Equipment Reliability and Configuration Management (consolidated under the Engineering Track this year), Operations, Work Management, Regulatory Relations, Nuclear Supply Chain, Performance Improvement and Nuclear Asset Management. However, a number of break out sessions were also held in new areas such as Engineering Modifications, Probabilistic Risk Assessment, Excellence in Business, and Quality Assurance. Discussions in all of these sessions were lively and indicative of the pivotal period in which the industry currently finds itself.

Several of the break out sessions complemented this year's special session, "Expanding the Fleet". Examples included a configuration management session entitled, "Configuration Management and New Plants- Learning From Our Past", a regulatory relations session entitled "New Reactor Licensing, Meeting the Challenges through Standardization" and a quality assurance session entitled, "The Road to a New Reactor: What Decisions Await Before Construction Begins".

Special thanks go out to all the Track Leaders, Track Organizers, Session Organizers and Speakers who made this conference a success!

## Utility Working Conference – Root Cause Training

OPD member **Bill Corcoran**, assisted by **Dick Swanson**, conducted a full-day Root Cause Analysis Training Workshop at Amelia Island, Florida following the Utility Working Conference. The workshop was attended by eleven professionals representing the utility industry, the government, INPO, and the nuclear support community. This makes the seventh root cause analysis training workshop that **Bill Corcoran** has provided for the American Nuclear Society.

## OPD's Webpage

Comments and suggestions ? Please feel free to contact our Webmaster (**Veronica Klein**, [nuclearsaurus@aol.com](mailto:nuclearsaurus@aol.com)).

## OPD Officers

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