



ANS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2006
J.C. WAGNER, EDITOR

RADIATION PROTECTION AND SHIELDING DIVISION

<http://rpsd.ans.org>

Message from the Chair

Greetings and warm regards from your 2007 RPSD Chair! This spring you elected three new members to the RPSD Executive Committee and four new officers. The new members are Robert Hayes, Jennifer Tanner, and Laurence Townsend. Listed later in the Newsletter are six active members elected in previous years. John Wagner is the new Chair-elect. He becomes Chair in June 2007. I am Chair through the June 2007 meeting. John Hendricks is Secretary and Stephanie Frankle is Treasurer.

In Standards (as reported by Bill Hopkins), F. Arzu Alpan (Westinghouse) has reconstituted the working group for ANS-6.1.2, "Neutron and Gamma-Ray Cross Sections for Nuclear Radiation Protection Calculations for Nuclear Power Plants," and Dick Faw and his working group have completed new drafts of: ANS-6.4-200X, "Nuclear Analysis & Design of Concrete Radiation Shielding for Nuclear Power Plants," ANS-6.4.2-200X, "Specification for Radiation Shielding Materials" and ANS-6.1.1-200X, "Dose Conversion Coefficients" (with Nolan Hertel).

Regarding scholarship support, the RPSD Executive Committee voted to give \$1050 to the Oregon State University Student Conference (March 29-31, 2006, <http://groups.engr.oregonstate.edu/ans>) and to give the proceeds from the Carlsbad topical meeting (approximately \$15,000) to the Blizzard Scholarship endowment.

Email? This Newsletter (fall 2006) will go by email and US Post. We may stop using US Post in the near future. In fact the spring Newsletter went only by email. Email saves RPSD much money and it arrives four weeks earlier. So, please make sure ANS has your current email address.

Please email me or give me a call if you have any comments. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Andrew Hodgdon, Chair, ANS Radiation Protection and Shielding Division

RPSD 2006 Topical Meeting Report

Greetings fellow members! The recent 14th Biennial ANS Radiation Protection and Shielding Division topical meeting, held in Carlsbad, New Mexico, was a genuinely great success. The technical sessions were thoroughly enjoying and also resulted in a large number of best paper nominations from the scientific organization committee for the upcoming Albuquerque Winter meeting. The total attendance for the conference was 152 attendees with 35 of these coming from 15 different foreign countries! Similarly, the resultant proceeds from the meeting showed a handsome profit allowing the division to increase the funding to our Blizzard scholarship with an additional \$15,000 (approximately). We also realized a delightfully successful implementation of some new meeting features. This included the offering of free technical workshops the day after the conference ended, insuring a very high session

attendance throughout the length of the entire conference. These were various Monte Carlo tutorial-type sessions for attendees. We also reproduced a successful plenary session distribution copied from the Mathematics and Computations Division; this was to break up the opening plenary to multiple mini plenary sessions each morning. So, rather than having a long 3-hour opening plenary, each of the three mornings began with a single 1-hour plenary session. The local organizing committee also did an outstanding job. They made sure attendees were always well fed and cared for, including facilitation of multiple tours of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. All these, along with the new friendships and collaborations established there, made for a very enjoyable meeting (not to mention the great food).

Of course the main attraction is always the technical sessions. In fact, so many high-quality papers were recommended from the scientific organization committee that we had to split the Best of RPSD 2006 session for Albuquerque into two separate sessions. These sessions will be an excellent opportunity for national meeting attendees (including you) to see what the various sessions the Carlsbad topical had to offer and will also serve to advertise our topical meetings to other attendees at the national meeting.

Hopefully you are taking advantage of your membership in RPSD by attending the governance meetings and program meetings at the national meetings, as well as our technical sessions there, but our best is really seen at our topical meetings (in my opinion).

Sincerely,

Robert Hayes, Ph.D., CHP, RPSD 2006 Technical Program Chair

Up-Coming Programs & Meetings

(John Hendricks, Program Committee Chair)

ANS Winter Meeting, Albuquerque, November 2006 - Twelve RPSD Sessions

The Radiation Protection and Shielding Division has 60 papers in ten full sessions and two half sessions scheduled for the ANS Winter Meeting in Albuquerque, November 12-16:

- “The Best of RPSD2006” I & II repeats 9 of the best papers from the RPSD2006 topical meeting in Carlsbad, NM, April, 2006 (Monday, Tuesday)
- “Radiation Protection and Shielding: General” I & II – 11 papers on a variety of radiation protection and shielding topics including medical, detectors, and more (Monday, Wednesday)
- “Homeland Security Technologies for Radiological Search and Identification” 6 papers (Tuesday)
- “Homeland Security Technologies for Consequence Management” 6 papers (Tuesday)
- “Computational Resources for Radiation Protection and Shielding” I and II, 10 papers by developers of most of the major codes used for radiation transport applications, 10 papers (Tuesday, Thursday)
- “Burn-up/Depletion Modeling Capabilities and Results” 6 papers (Wednesday)
- “Codes for Radiation Shielding and Accelerator Applications” 6 papers highlighting electron (EGS, ITS) and high-energy (PHITS, Geant, MCNPX) codes (Wednesday)
- “Safeguarding Radiation Sources and Radioactive Materials” 6 papers (Thursday)
- “Monte Carlo Tutorial” --- see above (Thursday afternoon)

In addition, RPSD is co-sponsoring sessions with other divisions. So we look forward to a great technical program in Albuquerque. Plan to stay for the whole meeting!

Special thanks to the RPSD paper review committee for an outstanding job, providing 160 reviews of the 60 Albuquerque papers. Laurie Waters (LANL) is especially commended for doing 54 reviews.

Monte Carlo Tutorial at Albuquerque – the LANL MCNPX and MCNP Teams will be providing a Monte Carlo tutorial Thursday afternoon, November 12, as a regular session at the meeting (so it is free, with meeting registration). This tutorial will be similar to the one that was held at the RPSD2006 Conference. The tutorial is designed for those who have never run a Monte Carlo code before (no prior knowledge) and is also useful for novice users of MCNP/X. Participants will set up and run a series of problems with the MCNPX Monte Carlo code, which is available as part of the MCNP / MCNPX / Data package from RSICC (<http://rsicc.ornl.gov/>). A number of laptops will be available as community terminals for those who do not have MCNPX running on their own laptops at the meeting. Contact John Hendricks for further details, particularly if you would like to participate (jxh@lanl.gov, (505) 667-6997).

ANS Annual Meeting, Boston, June 2007

For the ANS Annual Meeting in Boston, June 2007, the Radiation Protection and Shielding Division plans two tutorials and calls for papers for four sessions:

- Radiation Protection and Shielding: General;
- Safeguarding Radiation Sources and Radioactive Materials;
- Homeland Security Technologies; and
- Computational Resources for Radiation Protection and Shielding.

The two tutorials are:

- Monte Carlo Tutorial – hands-on introduction to Monte Carlo
- Burnup Tutorial – hands-on Monte Carlo Burn-up with MCNPX

It is not too late to schedule additional tutorials!

Please contact John Hendricks (jxh@lanl.gov) if you would like to be a session chairperson, organizer, or paper reviewer.

RPSD2008

The next RPSD topical meeting is planned for Calloway Gardens, Georgia, April 2008, as a joint meeting with the International Congress on Radiation Shielding (ICRS).

RPSD2010

The Las Vegas local section plans to make a bid for the RPSD2010 meeting. If your local section would like to make a bid, now is the time! The Carlsbad RPSD2006 conference was a great success and highly profitable to the local section.

RPSD Governance Meetings

All members of the Radiation Protection and Shielding Division (and those interested in joining) are invited to the RPSD Technical Program Committee Meeting and the RPSD Executive Committee Meeting. Both meetings are on Sunday afternoon, November 12, at the ANS Winter Meeting in Albuquerque. At the Technical Program Committee meeting plans will be made for the ANS Annual Meeting in Boston, June 2007, RPSD2008 and RPSD2010. At the Executive Committee meeting all matters related to RPSD activities, initiatives, and performance are discussed, including scholarships, awards, budget, metrics, nominations, standards, and more.

Notes from the June 2006 Executive Committee Meeting

RPSD is the lead division for two ANS policy statements: Radon (with Biology and Medicine Division) and Low-dose health effects. Contact Dave Anderson if this interests you.

Division membership is 1327, ~12% of ANS and has been steady since 2000. A Strategic Plan is in development, contact Ray Klann if interested. The RPSD website (<http://rpsd.ans.org/>) is maintained by Stephanie Frankle, frankles@lanl.gov

Message from the Membership Chair **Promoting ANS Membership – Every Member's Responsibility**

ANS is as good as we, the members, allow it to be. We are the ones that decide what this organization is and what it can become in the future. We all clamor to have a larger voice, which can only be accomplished as ANS membership grows. Statistics show that the most effective way to gain new members is through personal invitation from an ANS member. Maybe you have wanted to talk to a colleague about ANS but just didn't know what to say. Below are some suggestions to help you promote ANS membership in your sphere of influence.

Share Personal Experiences about ANS – we can share our experiences with ANS in multiple ways. Some examples are:

- Add your testimonial to the ANS website and refer non-members to this website (www.ans.org/memberinfo/testimonials.html)
- Send an e-mail encouraging a colleague to join ANS (template is available at www.ans.org/members/invite)
- Display and/or distribute the ANS membership brochure included in your renewal package

Plug ANS Membership Benefits – Let everyone know that you are a member of ANS and the benefits that it has provided you. Some services/benefits that ANS offer are:

- Timely and credible information through magazines, journals, etc.;
- Continuing education through topical meetings and workshops;
- Scholarships for student and recognition and awards for professional accomplishments;
- Online job bank;
- Representation of your profession; and
- Volunteer opportunities through committees, outreach programs, technical group activities, etc.

Recruit ANS Members through Your Organization's Publications

Get to know the editor of your organization's publications. Tell him/her that you have some news to spread. Write an article for them to publish about ANS membership. Also, ANS can supply you with a membership recruitment article (contact Gloria Naurocki, gnaurocki@ans.org).

Do your part!

Charlotta Sanders, RPSD Membership Chair

RPSD Officers and Committees

Officers:

Andrew Hodgdon, AREVA, Chair (2007), andrewhodgdon@verizon.net
John Wagner, ORNL, Vice Chair/Newsletter (2007), wagnerjc@ornl.gov
John S. Hendricks, LANL, Secretary (2007), jxh@lanl.gov
Stephanie Frankle, LANL, Treasurer (2007), frankles@lanl.gov

Executive Committee: (year term expires)

F. Arzu Alpan (2007), alpanfa@westinghouse.com
Nolan Hertel, Georgia Tech (2007), nolan.hertel@me.gatech.edu
Erik Shores, LANL (2007), eshores@lanl.gov
Charlotta Sanders, YMP (2008), charlotta_sanders@ymp.gov
Jeremy Sweezy, LANL (2008), jsweezy@lanl.gov
Man-Sung Yim, NCSU (2008), yim@ncsu.edu
Robert Hayes, Bechtel-Nevada, (2009), hayesrb@nv.doe.gov
Jennifer Tanner, PNL (2009), Jennifer.tanner@pnl.gov
Larry Townsend, University of Tennessee (2009), ltownsen@tennessee.edu

Standing and Special Committee Chairs:

Membership – Charlotta Sanders, YMP, charlotta_sanders@ymp.gov
Honors and Awards - Dave Court, LANL, david.court@pentagon.af.mil
Scholarship - John Poston, TAMU
Program - John S. Hendricks, LANL, jxh@lanl.gov
Benchmarks - Dick Amato, BAPL
Standards - Bill Hopkins, Bechtel, retired
Bylaws – Eric Shores, LANL, eshores@lanl.gov
Nominating – David Anderson, Electric Boat
Web-site – Stephanie Frankle, LANL, frankles@lanl.gov
ANS Board Liaison - Herb Fontecilla