



# RPSD Newsletter

March, 2009

## **American Nuclear Society Radiation Protection and Shielding Division**

<http://rpsd.ans.org>

### **Message from the Chair**

**John S. Hendricks**

Greetings fellow RPSD members!

For 2009 RPSD continues to thrive. Our division has 1308 members, or 12% of the ANS membership. Our balance sheet is comfortably positive. We continue to offer an outstanding technical program, both at national meetings and our biennial topical meetings. We continue to pioneer free code tutorials, “Best of RPSD” sessions, and other innovative programs.

Radiation Protection and Shielding is fundamental to nearly all aspects of nuclear science and engineering. The Division is broad enough to meet your technical interests. Recent meetings have had sessions on radiation shielding, modeling, detectors, medical therapy, homeland security, nuclear safeguards, space exploration, oil exploration, diagnostics, radiation sources, and much more.

Our focus is upon codes, data, detectors, shielding analyses, and tools available now – not those under development which may or may not be available later. Networking with our members is fantastic! Our officers and members are leaders from National Labs, Universities, the nuclear industry, medicine, Government Agencies, and more. After our next election, our executive committee will have international and student members to ensure that we also represent a wide variety of backgrounds and experience, and that we represent both young and old.



Although RPSD is a big ANS Division, RPSD is small enough for you to become involved and make a difference. You are invited to the RPSD Technical Program Committee Meeting and the RPSD Executive Committee Meeting on Monday at 4 p.m. at the ANS National Meeting in Atlanta, and please feel free to contact our officers who are listed below.

I look forward to seeing you at our tutorials, roundtables, technical sessions and other fine programs from RPSD!

## **Meetings & Programs**

**Charlotta Sanders, Technical Program Chairman**

RPSD has a very exciting program to offer for the ANS 2009 Annual Summer meeting in Atlanta. In addition to our standard sessions featuring Computational Resources for Radiation Modeling and general topics in Radiation Protection and Shielding, a fun and fast-pasted roundtable on Current Topics in Radiation Protection and Shielding will be offered. Everyone is invited and encouraged to give a short presentation on any Radiation Protection and Shielding topic of interest. Ten-minute time slots will be allotted on a first-come/first-serve basis.

Be sure to not miss our Monte Carlo dice seminar given by John “the Dice Man” Hendricks. Participants of this seminar will be taken on an entertaining walk through the history and applications of Monte Carlo for radiation transport. Dice will be used to solve for the value of pi, to determine the criticality of the reactor, and then to “fry the guy on the other side of the wall” with a radiation shielding problem. This is a fun and educational seminar offered on Wednesday (06/17/2009) morning that, as stated earlier, you do not want to miss.

RPSD is also sponsoring numerous tutorials at the ANS 2009 Annual Summer meeting on Wednesday (06/17/2009) and Thursday (06/18/2009). Tutorial topics include NJOY, VISED, MCNP variance reduction, and MCNP/X depletion/burnup with VESTA. The tutorials are ‘hands-on’ sessions where the attendees are provided with an opportunity to learn how to use the various codes.

Hope to see you in Atlanta!

P.S. Please don’t hesitate to let us know if you have any suggestions for future topics or session ‘types’ that you’d like to see RPSD organize.

## **Upcoming Topicals**

**MCD - Brian N. Aviles TPC**

The 2009 International Conference on Mathematics, Computational Methods and Reactor Physics (M&C 2009) will be held from May 3 - 7, 2009. This conference is part of a

series of topical meetings organized by the Mathematics and Computation Division of ANS, and returns to beautiful Saratoga Springs, NY, the site of the 1997 conference. With over 300 papers in oral and poster sessions, eight workshops, and a variety of planned social activities, M&C 2009 will provide multiple opportunities to share information with colleagues from around the world.

Conference and hotel registration information can be found on the conference website, [http://local.ans.org/ne-ny/topical\\_2009\\_neny.html](http://local.ans.org/ne-ny/topical_2009_neny.html). Please note that early registration discounts end on March 31, 2009, so register early. For further information, please contact Ray Gamino at [gamino@kapl.gov](mailto:gamino@kapl.gov). We look forward to seeing you in Saratoga in May!

## **RPSD, IRD, BMD Joint Topical**

Las Vegas, NV April 19-23, 2010

The conference is set up to be hosted at the Palace Station Resort and Casino. Please use the group code **PCIANs** to which you will be able to reserve a room well below government per diem rates (even the upgraded suites are below per diem rates; we got a nice deal this time). Palace Station is a standard Vegas resort casino off strip which includes a free shuttle to and from the airport as well as shuttle service to the strip.

We expect an extremely well hosted meeting both through vendors and the conference itself. Initial registration pricing estimates are in the range of \$550 which is expected to cover multiple catered social events and regular snacks throughout. Technical tours of the Nevada Test Site and the Atomic Testing Museum are expected along with other potential local nuclear related facilities of interest. The conference website is currently active and can be found at <http://local.ans.org/nv/jtm2010.html>.

The technical program is looking like it may be one of the best we have attained insofar as we will now have a complete track on radiochemistry which will cover special topics such as nuclear forensics, detection at statistical limits and benchmarks. No more luncheon or reception speakers (except for the hosted awards banquet). You can also enjoy the mini plenaries with highly recognized and interesting speakers to further enhance our RPSD topical.

Extended abstracts have to be sent to the conference TPC at [Robert.Hayes@WIPP.ws](mailto:Robert.Hayes@WIPP.ws) for initial consideration although authors should indicate their session preference. Those ultimately submitting accepted full papers will also enjoy having these published in a peer reviewed journal. Specifically, accepted papers will be published in the ANS journal Nuclear Technology. Relevant dates are provided below;

<b>10/10/09</b>	<i>Extended Abstracts Due</i>
<b>12/01/09</b>	<i>Author Notification</i>
<b>12/30/09</b>	<i>Pre-Registration Deadline</i>
<b>02/01/10</b>	<i>Final Papers Due</i>
<b>04/18/10</b>	<i>Honorary Chairs Reception for attendees</i>

04/19-23/10 Conference and tours of NTS, and ATM

04/23/10 MCNPX, Tutorials, Workshops

There is no other venue in the world which specializes in scientific and technical advances relating to radiation shielding like the RPSD topicals where all associated and allied fields are welcomed and typically very well represented. Come join us in “fabulous” Las Vegas Nevada next year where some of the most wonderful services this division has to offer are realized in the most practical venue of our biennial topical meetings.

## RPSD Officers and Committees

### Officers:

Chair: John S. Hendricks, LANL, [jxh@lanl.gov](mailto:jxh@lanl.gov)

Vice Chair: Robert B. Hayes, WIPP, [robert.hayes@wipp.ws](mailto:robert.hayes@wipp.ws)

Secretary: Charlotta Sanders, Holtec, [c.sanders@holtec.com](mailto:c.sanders@holtec.com)

Treasurer: F. Arzu Alpan, Westinghouse, [alpanfa@westinghouse.com](mailto:alpanfa@westinghouse.com)

### Executive Committee: (year term expires)

Richard S. Amato (2011), [padamato@verizon.net](mailto:padamato@verizon.net)

John D. Court, LANL (2011), [davec@lanl.gov](mailto:davec@lanl.gov)

Michelle Sutton Ferenci, GaTech (2011), [michelle.sutton@mindspring.com](mailto:michelle.sutton@mindspring.com)

Everett L. Redmond II, NEI (2010), [elr@nei.org](mailto:elr@nei.org)

Erik F. Shores, LANL (2010), [eshores@lanl.gov](mailto:eshores@lanl.gov)

Jennifer Tanner, PNL (2009), [Jennifer.tanner@pnl.gov](mailto:Jennifer.tanner@pnl.gov)

Larry Townsend, University of Tennessee (2009), [ltownsen@tennessee.edu](mailto:ltownsen@tennessee.edu)

X. George Xu, RPI (2010), [xug2@rpi.edu](mailto:xug2@rpi.edu)

### Standing and Special Committee Chairs:

Program – Charlotta Sanders, Holtec, [c.sanders@holtec.com](mailto:c.sanders@holtec.com) and Eric Burgett, GA Tech, [eric.burgett@nre.gatech.edu](mailto:eric.burgett@nre.gatech.edu)

Membership – Arzu Alpan, Westinghouse, [alpanfa@westinghouse.com](mailto:alpanfa@westinghouse.com)

WWW Site & Bylaws - Erik Shores, LANL, [eshores@lanl.gov](mailto:eshores@lanl.gov)

Honors and Awards – Dave Court, LANL, [davec@lanl.gov](mailto:davec@lanl.gov)

Scholarship – John Poston, TAMU, [j-poston@tamu.edu](mailto:j-poston@tamu.edu)

Benchmarks – Dick Amato, BAPL, [amators@bettis.gov](mailto:amators@bettis.gov)

Standards – Bill Hopkins, Bechtel, retired, [wchopkins@insightbb.com](mailto:wchopkins@insightbb.com)

ANS Board Liaison – Joe F. Colvin

Staff Liaison – Sharon S. Kerrick

Ex-Officio – Donald R. Hoffman, John C. Wagner