

2008 ANS National Student Conference

Conference Press Release

March 15th, 2008

The 2008 ANS National Student Conference demonstrated the growing popularity of the annual student conference and was a strong indicator of the ongoing rebirth of the nuclear field in the United States. This year, the momentum generated by the continuing student conference tradition attracted world-class speakers, international participation, and nearly one-quarter of the entire U.S. nuclear student community.

The 2008 conference was host to a record 375 students, 175 professionals, 16 universities, and 40 companies and organizations. Also noteworthy was the record 170 student research presentations. Guest speakers included Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei via video (Nobel Peace Prize Lauriat and Director General, IAEA), Dr. Patrick Moore (Co-Founder, Greenpeace), Dr. Anne-Marie Choho (Vice President for Engineering and Construction of the Plants sector, AREVA NP), Mr. Luis A. Reyes (Executive Director for Operations, NRC), and Mr. James J. Sheppard (President and CEO, South Texas Project Nuclear Operation Company).

Conference attendees were provided with a host of debuting events focused on facilitating personal interaction between students and professionals. Offered for the first time were on-site interviews, a university fair, private recruitment luncheons, a mentor luncheon, a recruiter golf tournament, professional keynotes within the student presentation tracks and a variety of professional development and networking opportunities. Also unique to the 2008 conference was the Nonproliferation and International Safeguards embedded topical, presented by the Texas A&M Student Chapter of the Institute of Nuclear Materials Management.

The organizers delivered a conference that further catalyzed the growth of the nuclear science and technology community. In recognition of the need for a new, diverse workforce to complete future plant construction, the issues raised by upcoming international nuclear powers, and the ever-increasing number of new nuclear related technologies, the 2008 ANS National Student Conference provided a unique perspective to attendees on important aspects of the expanding nuclear family.



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