

**POWER REACTOR SECTION
OF THE HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY**

June 2009

To: Richard E. Toohey, President - Health Physics Society

CC: Power Reactor Section Executive Board

Subject: Power Reactor Section (PRS) Activities for 2008 - 2009

Dear Dick,

This letter provides the 2008 - 2009 Annual Report for the Power Reactor Section.

Annual Meeting

The 2009 Annual Power Reactor Section Board meeting will be held in conjunction with the July 2009 Annual Health Physics Society meeting in Minneapolis. Our last meeting was held at the July 2008 Annual Health Physics Meeting in Pittsburgh. This report reflects activities over the past two years as no annual report was submitted for 2008.

Membership

The 2008-2009 HPS Directory lists approximately 250 members for our section. The Power Reactor Section provides two membership options, Plenary and Section. Plenary members are also members of the national Health Physics Society. Section member's dues are \$35 per year. Section members receive the HPS Newsletter and the HPS Membership Handbook and Directory, but not the Journal. Section members can vote in Power Reactor Section elections. Currently, there are no Section members, as all PRS members are Plenary members of the HPS. However, the Section currently has an initiative to bring on more non-HPS members, principally from our NRRPT members.

Power Reactor Section Board Elections

The PRS Board consists of 10 elected members including the President and Past President serving 2 year terms, plus the Secretary, Treasurer, and six Directors who serve 4 year terms. Elections are held every two years. This practice reduces the burden of annual elections and retains Officers for longer periods of time. The last PRS election was conducted in 2009 with the new section Officers taking office at the 2009 annual meeting (see attached table). The 2008 election was not held as required so we have moved ahead to bring our Section current. A new nominating committee will be appointed at the 2009 annual meeting to solicit candidates for the 2010 PRS elections. Candidates were selected and an electronic ballot was transmitted to all Section members in February 2009. The 2009 election resulted in the election of a President, Secretary and 3 new Directors. We expect to have a full quorum for the 2009 meeting in Minneapolis.

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Health Physics Society Elections

The PRS welcomes Dr. Eric Goldin as our HPS Director Liaison, replacing Mike Lewandowski.

July 2009 HPS Meeting - Power Reactor Section Special Session

It is our pleasure to be conducting a full-day PRS Special Session with the resurgence of a new generation of advanced nuclear power reactors, entitled *Radiation Protection in a Nuclear Power Renaissance*, to be held Tuesday July 14. We are looking forward to this upcoming event and are excited to share this interesting topic with the Society at large, especially with the Human Capital Crisis for power reactor HPs we currently have.

Powernet

POWERNET is the section's list server, which includes over 300 subscribers and has been operating since 1997. The current list of subscribers includes regulators, nuclear power plant staff, vendors, academics, and other interested HPS members. Subscribers do not have to be members of the PRS. However, access to the list is restricted and does not include members of public interest groups. New subscribers should send an email to mike.russell@sce.com.

Postings to the list often include industry news articles. However, the list is most successful in exchanging information and improving business practices between nuclear power plant licensees. Over the last few years POWERNET has become an active and powerful forum for rapid benchmarking within the nuclear power industry. On any given day there are many postings on POWERNET to benefit subscribing members.

Radiation Science Education

The Section continues to maintain a goal of supporting Radiation Science Education. Since 1999, the Section has provided grants up to \$500 to support the distribution of radiation science kits to science teachers (noting that 2008 may be an exception year). The kit includes civil defense Geiger counters along with exempt sources and classroom training material. Classroom material developed by the Power Reactor Section is available on the Section's website (www.hps1.org/sections/prs) under "Documents". During the 2004 PRS annual meeting it was reported that about 4,000 instruments were still available for distribution, however, many are not in working order. At that meeting, Duke Power, Entergy South, and Progress Energy representatives volunteered their companies' services for repairing these instruments.

Committee Efforts

New members will be elected to the Nominating, Program and Scholarship Committees as required by the Bylaws at the July 2009 meeting. In addition, a new Manpower Committee is envisioned to work on issues surround the lack of a sufficient pipeline in the health physics/radiation protection areas for power reactors.

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Mid-Year Topical Meeting

A number of members have brought up the issue of considering sponsoring a Mid-Year Topical Meeting due to the resurgence of nuclear power in the US and abroad. This will be discussed at the next Executive Board meeting in Minneapolis. Any input from the HPS Executive Board is appreciated, and our Director Liaison Eric Goldin will help with guidance on how we might get approval for such a meeting. This topic was also discussed at the last annual meeting in Pittsburgh.

Various Initiatives

The Section is poised to enhance ongoing activities and to raise the level of awareness of Power Reactor Health Physics with respect to the anticipated New Build of advanced nuclear plants in the US and abroad. These include but are not limited to a membership drive (with focus on NRRPT Outreach), improved relations with the NRRPT, and substantial upgrade of the PRS website.



Roger P. Shaw, CHP
President, Power Reactor Section

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EXECUTIVE BOARD - 2008 – 2012

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