



Go Nuke!

A newsletter from the North American Young Generation in Nuclear

November 2008

o President's Corner	Page 1
o World Nuclear University	Page 3
o Local Chapter Update	Page 5
o Atlantic NA-YGN Regional Event	Page 7

o Between the Covers	Page 2
o IYNC	Page 4
o Southern Nevada Launch	Page 6
o Events	Page 8

President's Corner

By: Brent Williams

Every now and again, we see letters in newspapers by well-meaning people who are against nuclear power. A common theme in these letters is that the local public has no say in whether nuclear stations, used fuel repositories, or fuel processing facilities get built in their communities. Another concern is that the nuclear industry understates its environmental and health impacts.

Some of these letters consist of disjointed emotional rhetoric. Some of these letters are well-written and thoughtful. It is very dangerous to assume that people who are opposed to our technology are uneducated or otherwise ignorant.

So how can otherwise intelligent and reasonable people decide that our industry is forcing itself down their throats?

Perhaps they paid attention to what happened at Love Canal, or the relationship between mining companies and the government of Montana, or maybe they saw "The China Syndrome."



Perhaps they saw the site Vice President of Three Mile Island telling the media that it was none of their business how his employees solved the issue at hand. Maybe they remember the President of the Ukraine saying in a speech that over half a million people in 1986 died as a direct result of the Chernobyl accident.

It is a very small and prudent leap from "that big industrial company makes profit at the expense of human health" to "all big industrial companies make profit at the expense of human health," especially if you completely misunderstand an industry. In the past, concerns about other industries have been justified. How can the public know that we are different?

To build public trust, we need a strong and independent regulator. We need to operate the way we say we do: safely, cleanly, reliably and transparently. We need to build our new units on schedule and on budget. In short, we need to be who we say we are.

Are you up to it?

Have you ever wondered what to say when asked, "Why nuclear?"

Safe, environmentally-sound, reliable, and economically favorable energy is needed for our nation's viability and advancement. Nuclear Energy must be part of our solution for a balanced and secure energy mix.

Check out the Nuclear Fact Sheet under Public Information at the NA-YGN website.

<http://www.na-ygn.org/publicinfo/index.php?Page=docs>

Between the Covers

Between the Covers

NA-YGN Book Review



Unleashing the Power of Everyday Leadership

Author: Hal Pitt

Rating: Excellent!

Review: Amy Buu



160 pages, easy to read style, with concise tips, case studies, and self-assessment tools on multiple aspects of being a manager and/or leader

Did you know that in NA-YGN's [2007 NA-YGN Benchmarking Report](#)... "47.5% of our survey respondents indicated that giving young professionals the opportunity of leading small or non-technical was the third most effective developmental opportunity? On the same token, 23.8% of young professionals rated the selection process for leadership or visibility opportunities as the least effective development program because it is perceived to occur in a manner that appears unfair, secret, and or pre-determined." In short, nearly 50% of us enjoy leading teams. Nearly 25% of us feel that these decisions are made unfairly. But, do we really know what makes a "great" manager or leader? How do we know if we have what it takes to be a "great" manager? If you have ever thought about being a manager or needed a thought-provoking book to assess your management skills, this is a great starting point and a low investment for less than USD \$30.00.

Mr. Pitt covers a broad spectrum of management fundamentals and challenges, using a "Number One" approach, e.g. "The number one job as every manager is to make sure your employees are doing the jobs that they were hired to do" and "The number one way to motivate and retain most employees is to show appreciation for a job well done." In every chapter (~5 pages each), there are golden nuggets filled with case studies/references, his personal experiences, and action plans. Nineteen different topics are covered and address how to be an effective manager,

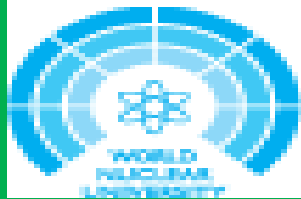


No recommendation for further enhancement, however, the book's bibliography is a good start.

understanding your employees, having a situational leadership style, dealing with problems within the organization (e.g. stress in the workplace), and even poor performance behavior. This book is to the point, pragmatic, and provides great actionable suggestions on how to become more effective.

When reading this book, I not only thought about current and past managers, but about myself – and how I can improve my leadership style. I believe that I am a proactive-solution-oriented person, with a positive mental attitude, and I am passionate and enthusiastic about anything I do, as Pitt covers in Chapter 6. I also believe in the "Law of Reciprocity" – where you do favors for colleagues that ask for help, covered in Chapter 11. What I need to do better is delegating and defining my expectations better so that people know how to achieve my expectations (Chapter 5), as well as utilizing the "Management By Walking Around" technique (Chapter 3).

My takeaway is this: sometimes it gets difficult to juggle work, NA-YGN, and real life, but if you invest the time in understanding yourself and your people, you will be positively surprised by the results. This book is a great way to improve yourself, even if you're not interested in being in management. If you read this book, I would love to hear your thoughts, or if you would like to submit a book review on your favorite professional development book, let us know. My e-mail is buu@na-ygn.org!



World Nuclear University

Andrew Meyer, Bruce Power

What began on Tuesday, December 8, 1953, with U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower's famous 'Atoms-for-Peace' speech to the United Nations has continued with the successful completion of the World Nuclear University (WNU) 2008 Summer Institute in Ottawa, Canada, the fourth such institute since its inception by former US Ambassador John Ritch in 2005.

From July 5th to August 15th, almost 100 young professionals from 36 countries met to discuss the role that both they and the wider nuclear industry can play in trying to address global issues and challenges such as growing energy demand and climate change.

Working predominately from the University of Ottawa, the Institute Fellows received insight from leaders in the nuclear field and other industries including US Nuclear Regulatory Commission chairman Dr. Dale Klein, Greenpeace founding member Dr. Patrick Moore, and the Canadian Minister of Natural Resources, the Honorable Gary Lunn.

The format for the event was a series of presentations covering wide ranging topics from climate change, through the fuel cycle and non-power nuclear applications. Days would begin with lectures, with the afternoons reserved for discussion groups and plenary sessions. From there, the Fellows formed working groups and presented their own views and experiences gained from the experts.

The program also included technical tours of nuclear facilities in Ontario such as the Ontario Power Generation Darlington Nuclear Generation Station and Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd's Chalk River Laboratory – giving the Fellows a unique insight into Canada's long-standing role in the peaceful use of nuclear technology.

The key issues identified during the 6 weeks were:

- Lack of skilled resource and manufacturing capacity. The Summer Institute highlighted the extent of the problem globally and, in particular, the increasing demand from emerging countries.
- The need to engage the public to gain their support for the nuclear renaissance. The proposed timescale will not be met without public education and approval.
- The requirement for development of the fuel cycle, reprocessing strategies, and Generation IV designs to support medium and long-term global energy demand.

- The large increase in reactors required alongside the other energy sources to meet the global energy demand will also require significant upgrades to the regulatory infrastructure, particularly in countries with little or no experience in nuclear power. Safety still remains paramount, as a single mistake could jeopardize the worldwide program.



Expressing a commitment to working together to continue sustainable development of nuclear technology, the Fellows banded together to create a resolution outlining the key facts and challenges facing the industry, as well as a pledge to continue the spirit of international cooperation developed over the last six weeks.

As the event is aimed at young professionals in the industry there are obvious synergies with NA-YGN as it provides an opportunity to meet so many members from different chapters across the world. If you are interested in attending this event in the future or would like any further information then please feel free to contact me.

ABOUT THE WORLD NUCLEAR UNIVERSITY

The World Nuclear University, inaugurated in 2003 in London, England, is a non-profit global partnership committed to the improvement of education and leadership in the peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology. Its six-week Summer Institute aims to offer outstanding young nuclear professionals at the start of their careers a chance to interact with top international experts and form professional networks with each other.

The IYNC is an international conference that occurs every two years and the governing body.

From the first Congress held in Slovakia in 2002 to the latest one held in September in Interlaken, Switzerland it has been gaining attention and support similar to NA-YGN. For the 28 Americans and 16 Canadians, it provided a unique opportunity to network with 326 participants from 29 different countries.



The theme was “Time Does Matter,” because as the nuclear renaissance ignites around the globe and more new plants are announced, the leaders in the nuclear industry must prove that they can deliver on their promises on-time and on-budget.

The week opened with keynote speakers. Ric Perez, Westinghouse Senior Vice President, Global Growth & Innovation called for the Young Generation to be Stewards for Nuclear Power in his presentation, “Challenge for Global Nuclear Leaders of the Future.” The week was capped off with



Technical Tours to Swiss Nuclear Power plants or other test facilities. In the case of the tour to Leibstadt, the participants were given a tour inside the cooling tower, spent fuel building, reactor floor, and other areas of the operating plant.

In contrast to the Annual NA-YGN Professional Development Workshop, the Congress is more technically focused. This year it offered a technical program consisting of five scientific and technical tracks plus one track for Young Generation and IYNC activities. One hundred and thirty papers were accepted and presented in the technical program sessions of the congress. The six tracks ran concurrently over three days. The technical tracks were:

Nuclear Science and Technology, Nuclear Fuel Cycle Decommissioning, New Plant Construction, Non-Power Applications of Nuclear, and Nuclear Politics and Economics.

The framework for these technical sessions provide opportunities for ESL (English as a Second Language) Young Professionals to hone their skills as well as a testing ground for YG to present papers to their peers as they become the leading experts in the field. It also gave students a forum to present advanced degree research. Of the 28 Americans that attended, two presented papers.



Congratulations to Kansas State Student, Sam Brinton, who won best paper for his track. In contrast, ten of the sixteen Canadians presented papers. The technical program committee,

which reviews the abstracts and papers, was also heavily staffed by Canadians.



There is a lot to learn on the international stage. They are already building and reprocessing. They have already started planning for Cape Town, South Africa in July 2010.

There are plenty of ways to get involved if presenting does not interest you. The Congress can always use help reviewing abstracts and papers, asking for sponsorship money, and coordinating events.

More information on how to get involved is coming. Mike Kurzeja, VP of NA-YGN, Misha Swanson, the US Representative, and Bharath Nangia, the Canadian representative, are working to increase communication and involvement between IYNC and NA-YGN.

Local Chapter Updates!

New Chapters!

We'd like to welcome multiple new chapters to the NA-YGN family. We're happy to announce that Entergy-Palisades, Indian Point, Entergy-Grand Gulf, and Entergy-Pilgrim have joined NA-YGN. We're now up to 64 local chapters. This is amazing!

Northeast Region!

Northeast Regional Workshop held on September 11th. Plans are in the works to visit local schools for recruitment.

Mid-Atlantic Region!

Regional Team Building Picnic held on September 13th. The chapters hosted several meetings to discuss upcoming elections and the effects on the nuclear industry.

Carolinas Region!

The Regional Picnic was held after being delayed due to the hurricanes. Areva completed 350 hours of community service!

South Region!

The Regional Career Fair was held November 6th-7th. The region is also planning multiple food drives for the holidays.

Midwest Region!

The Regional Career Fair was held at Clinton Power Station. Many chapters are involved in recruitment at local schools.

West Region!

The Regional Conference saw the return of the SONGS Annual Beach Volleyball Tournament. Many

chapters are planning local food drives.

Canada Region!

OPG Chapter hosted a successful golf tournament. Multiple lunch-n-learns were also held. The region is discussing the viability of a Career Fair in Toronto.

Mexico Region!

Our friends in AJENM submitted numerous drawings for the annual poster contest which were displayed at the November ANS Winter Meeting in Reno, Nevada



Thank You IYNC2010 Proposal Team!

NA-YGN has recently submitted a bid proposal to host the International Youth Nuclear Congress in 2010. In just one month, an integrated team of NA-YGN members managed to pull together a comprehensive package outlining a joint NA-YGN Professional Development and IYNC Technical Meeting in just one month.

IYNC will decide where the 2010 conference is held during the 2008 conference in Interlaken, Switzerland. The NA-YGN Core would like to say thank you to everyone who was involved pulling bid package together.

Southern Nevada Launch Meeting!

The Southern Nevada Chapter of NA-YGN held their launch meeting on Wednesday October 1, 2008, on the campus of the University of Nevada – Las Vegas (UNLV). Attending were representatives of several nuclear-related organizations including graduate students from the UNLV Chapter of the American Nuclear Society, scientists for the Nevada Test Site’s Environmental Management Program, scientists for the Yucca Mountain Project (Federal High Level Waste Nuclear Repository), and an intergovernmental relations specialist (also from the Yucca Mountain Project).

The meeting agenda was packed, however everything ran smoothly.

First, the chapter recognized guest speaker Evaristo “Tito” Bonano, Program Manager for the Lead Lab (Sandia National Laboratories) of the Yucca Mountain Project. Dr. Bonano spoke about his wide-ranging experiences in the Nuclear Industry, then spent another fifteen minutes taking our questions. The chapter was grateful for his time and looks

forward to opportunities to here from speakers in the future.

The chapter formally adopted a Charter and Bylaws as drafted by member Candice Trummell. Next, the chapter held their first election. Congratulations to the newly elected President, Steve Hommel of Integrated Science Solutions Inc., and Vice President, Amber Wright of UNLV’s Radiochemistry Program. Elections to fill the other Chapter Offices will be held in subsequent meetings.

Finally, the first Social/Networking event was planned in hopes of recruiting a larger membership pool. The group agreed to meet at Jillian’s in downtown Las Vegas’ Neonopolis (near the Fremont Street Experience) on Friday, October 24th. Jillian’s offers a wide range of activities including bowling and billiards.

For more information about the Southern Nevada Chapter of the NA-YGN, please contact Steve Hommel: shommel@issi-net.com



The chartering members of the Southern Nevada Chapter of NA-YGN: From Left: Candice Trummell, Steve Hommel, Nathan Bryant, Amber Wright, Keely Brooks, Bob McCall, and Jamie Warburton.

Atlantic NA-YGN Regional Event!

Atlantic Regional Teambuilding Picnic – Seneca Creek State Park

On Saturday, September 13th, close to 50 members from the AREVA, Bechtel, Constellation and DC chapters gathered at Seneca Creek State Park for a fun-filled day of teambuilding. The day started off with networking over a cookout buffet of hamburgers, hot dogs, bratwursts, potato and macaroni salads, and cookies. The afternoon



competition was a 'toxic waste' scenario. The teams had to collect a waste container from a “no entry” zone, negotiate a course, and deposit the waste in a final receptacle,



all without touching the waste container or spilling the waste. And, to top it all off, before starting each team had to write a procedure for handling the waste and stick to it during the timed event!



teams built devices from straws, tape, and rubber bands to protect an egg dropped from various heights. The second team

all without touching the waste container or spilling the waste. And, to top it all off, before starting each team had to

EVENTS

National and International Events

December 1-2, 2008

West Regional Career Fair
University of New Mexico

January 2009

Northeast Region Career Fair
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

January 2009

Carolinas Regional Career Fair
South Carolina State University

February 11, 2009

Mid-Atlantic Region Career Fair
University of Maryland, College Park



2009 Young Professionals Congress

**Working Outside of the Box
Understanding Ourselves As Instruments of Change**

Washington, DC • Omni Shoreham Hotel • November 15-19, 2009

**Sponsored by the American Nuclear Society and
the North American Young Generation in Nuclear**

YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT!

Are your professional development needs being addressed? Do you want to take control of your career development? Are you looking for an opportunity to demonstrate your leadership skills?

What are you waiting for? Get Involved!

To get involved, contact one or both of the general co-chairs today!

All backgrounds, vocations, ages and experience levels are welcome.

General Co-Chair (ANS YMG):

David Pointer, Argonne National Laboratory [dpointer@anl.gov]

General Co-Chair (NA-YGN):

Amy Buu, Westinghouse Electric Company
[buu@na-ygn.org]



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