



# WIN Region II Conference February 2 -3, 2005

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



The Oak Ridge Chapter of Women in Nuclear (WIN) hosted the WIN Region II Conference on February 2nd and 3rd, 2005. This two-day conference was held at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Oak Ridge, TN and attracted over 70 participants from seven states.

Dr. David Hill, the Associate Laboratory Director for Energy and Engineering Sciences at ORNL, gave the opening remarks and

introduced keynote speaker David Henderson.

Mr. Henderson, Program Manager of Nuclear Hydrogen Research at Nuclear Energy at DOE, gave a presentation on the Nuclear Hydrogen Initiative.



Keynote speaker Dr. Maureen McCarthy, Director of Research and Development in the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security, gave a presentation on the purpose and current focus of her Directorate with emphasis on how DHS is trying to foster interest in the areas of technical expertise needed to complete their mission.

Participants heard morning presentations from a panel of speakers including Charles Forsberg on use of new reactor designs to produce hydrogen, Ray Holdaway on space applications of nuclear power and Professor Alireza

Haghighat on nuclear research from an academic perspective.

The Advancement in Management panel discussion included Michelle Buchanan, Karen Downer and Crystal Schrof from ORNL and Maureen Dunn from TVA. Each woman talked about her career path and leadership roles in the various organizations they have worked in.



Jeanette Miller, DOE Oak Ridge Operations and past President of Federally Employed Women, spoke on "Enhancing your Career Through Networking."

The afternoon sessions received tours of several facilities at ORNL including I&C - Sensor and Instrument Research Group, SNS - Spallation Neutron Source, AGR - Advanced Gas Reactor (AGR) Fuel Development and Qualification Program and TRU - TRU Waste Project.

The AGR tour started with a power point introduction to pellet based fuel making which was followed by a series of tour stops to see the various steps in the process. It was fascinating to see the transition from the basic materials to a complex, contained fuel pellet.

During the TRU tour participants visited the control room for liquid processing and then walked inside of hot cells and glove box areas that will soon be processing solid waste materials. Walking inside of a hot cell in everyday clothing was a unique experience!

The tour of the I&C and SNS facilities was an exciting look into the future. All of the participants enjoyed seeing the emerging technologies in the realms of homeland security and particle physics.

The American Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge hosted the conference attendees during the evening while colleagues networked and socialized. Featured guest speaker Betty Maskewitz, ORNL retiree, reminisced about her experiences at ORNL starting in the early 1960's.



For over more than a quarter of a century, Betty devoted her efforts to exploring and implementing innovative ways of effectively sharing radiation protection and shielding technology throughout the world as a means of exploiting nuclear energy for the benefit of mankind while protecting from the harmful effects of the associated radiation. Her efforts demonstrated outstanding international technical and policy leadership in the radiation protection and shielding field and her personal interaction with practitioners around the world consistently and effectively illuminated the human dimensions of the nuclear enterprise.



The primary financial sponsors of this event were Oak Ridge National Laboratory and UT-Battelle, LLC. The Department of Energy Federal Women's Program (FWP) provided posters. The Oak Ridge Chapter of Women In Nuclear, the FWP, the American Nuclear Society, and the Society of Women Engineers provided the many volunteers needed for this event. We thank all of our sponsors and volunteers for their contributions.

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