



INEA Annual Newsletter 2010

For those of you who read the Chairman's Report, most of this newsletter will sound remarkably familiar. We hope that you will find the consistency reassuring rather than a suspected symptom of senility.

The new Chairman of the INEA for 2011 is Dr. Juan Eibenschutz of Mexico, who was elected at the Annual General Meeting in Vienna. Dr. McFarlane completed his 2-year term as Chairman and handed over the reins of the organization at the end of December 2010.

In the 2009 newsletter we discussed a number of initiatives that were intended to increase awareness of the INEA as well as member interaction within the Academy. The slate of potential activities was too formidable to attack in its entirety. Considered screening was employed, narrowing the list to a manageable set of the most promising ideas.

During 2010 we pushed ahead with two initiatives: 1) refreshing and rebalancing the membership, and 2) pursuing social media that could be appropriate for INEA. Our more active members suggested a number of other initiatives. We would like to acknowledge and thank Dr. Baldev Raj for proposing several viable initiatives.

This year focused on modernizing the website, with partial success. To do so we had to move the site which also eliminated the annual expense. Development of the site has taken much longer than expected. However, we are at a point where future modifications should be able to take place at a faster pace. The address of the site is:

<http://www.ineacademy.org>

You must type the whole address into your browser address bar, at least until we can score more hits in the popular search engines. One improvement that we intend to establish is a members' only section where ideas can be exchanged prior to establishing an official Academy position. Another favorable proposal is to put links to credible sites with important position papers or educational opportunity announcements.

We also implemented a second social media initiative in 2011. Each of you has received an invitation to join the professional media site "Linked-In." Barbara Taylor has established an INEA group within Linked-In which only INEA members will be asked to join. This will be an opportunity to keep the organization up on your current activities and positions without opening up the information to the world at large. We will see how this goes. Having a personal membership in Linked-In will provide an opportunity for younger scientists and engineers to contact you for advice and mentoring if you so choose.

The membership drive has been a partial success. Several major regions of our nuclear world had fallen behind in nominating new members as the established members became inactive. We were able to revitalize the membership with new nominees from Russia, China and India, with continued nominations from Latin America, North America, and Europe. The new IAEA Director General, Yukiya Amano accepted a membership in line with the tradition of his predecessors. A list of members elected since the last newsletter is provided in the table below. Please give them your congratulations when the opportunity arises.

New Members Sept. 2009 – Sept. 2010

Hector Otheguy	Argentina	Yukiya Amano	Japan
Odilon Antonio Marcuzzo doCanto	Brazil	Yuichi Hayase	Japan
Yanko Yanev	Bulgaria	Gustavo Alonso-Vargas	Mexico
Mingdan Wang	China	Mikhail Strikhanov	Russia
Mingguang Zheng	China	Antonio Gurgui I Ferrer	Spain
R.K. Sinha	India	Mujid Kazimi	USA
P. Rama Rao	India	Warren “Pete” Miller	USA
M.R. Srinivasan	India	Peter B Lyons	USA
Karou Naito	Japan	John W. Poston	USA

During the year we were pleased by the high level of recognition that was given to some members of the Academy. Honored at the ANS summer meeting with the Henry DeWolf Smyth award for his international statesmanship, Dick Stratford gave an inspiring acceptance speech. Luis Echávarri received the prestigious “Eurelectric” award. Our Indian colleagues excelled: Shrikumar Banerjee became Chairman of India’s Department of Atomic Energy. RK Sinha replaced him as Director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. Baldev Raj was elected as President of the Indian National Academy of Engineering. Pete Lyons has been nominated to be Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy in the US Department of Energy. We have undoubtedly missed the announcement of numerous other achievements and for that we apologize. We will strive to provide more recognition of our members’ achievements this year.

The Academy should routinely acknowledge outstanding achievements by its members. While we have had no current mechanism to get the information and no established process to put out letters of congratulations, this situation could easily be remedied. We will put the issue to the new Executive Committee to address the issue early in 2011. I strongly encourage members not to be shy about letting us know about significant awards. These events should be prominently displayed on our website, which sorely needs more content.

Members have also had notable achievements beyond awards. For example, Professor Kazimi was a principal in the recently issued “MIT Study” on the future of the nuclear fuel cycle in the United States, a document that is sure to have significant influence on US nuclear energy policy. Professor Kondo was reappointed as Chair of the Japan Atomic

Energy Commission to oversee an entirely new set of commissioners. Unfortunately, not all achievements are good for the INEA. Soon after his election to the Academy, George Apostolakis was forced to withdraw, because of his nomination to the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, a perceived conflict of interest by the NRC lawyers.

For the past several years we have tried to produce significant papers as a measure of vitality of the INEA. While a very few members have written some thoughtful white papers, this activity is challenged in at least two ways. The first is that in order for a paper to be adopted as an INEA position, there is a lengthy consensus-building process during which some of the edge of the author's argument is lost. Second, and perhaps more importantly, there is no ready market for the papers. We have no meetings or publications of our own, no established market and only volunteer authors. It is a heavy lift for INEA to compete with papers produced using significant resources, often with the input of our members

We have agreed that our esteemed members would be willing to participate in credible education initiatives as lecturers or by providing material. To date we have not found an effective means to implement this notion. However we note that KunMo Chung is the principal architect of an important new nuclear engineering education initiative in Korea.

We wish you all a healthy and successful 2011.