

Fellowships

Placing scientists with institutions in the U.S. for training in a variety of fields.

Training

Hosting IAEA-ANL training courses for participants from around the world.

Recruitment

Encouraging U.S. citizens to consider IAEA employment opportunities.

IP Newsletter

Transferring knowledge in peaceful uses of nuclear technology to developing countries.

Two Courses for the Quarter IAEA-Argonne Training Courses



The International Programs hosted two training courses during the months of July, August and September.

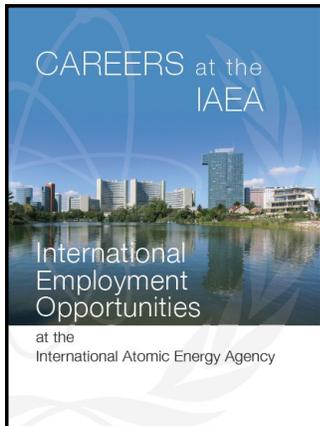
August began with the “Leadership & Management for Introducing and Expanding Nuclear Power Programs,” which was held from 6 – 17 August 2012. The main objective of this training course was to help decision makers and those responsible for developing and implementing a nuclear program in emerging nuclear power States obtain knowledge and develop the skills and abilities needed for success in this undertaking. Course activities revolved around three major inter-related objectives: (1) providing knowledge of 19 issues a State has to consider when establishing a nuclear power program and the actions necessary to establish the safety infrastructure; (2) sensitizing participants about the specific processes, organization and management systems related to the nuclear power business; and (3) further strengthening the

networking among emerging nuclear power countries and sharing international and field experiences. The course was led by Argonne staff, Joseph Braun (Nuclear Engineering), and the IAEA was represented by Vincent Nkong-Njock.

Immediately following the Leadership course, we welcomed 14 participants from 11 countries for the “Group Fellowship Training for Developing National Long-Range Nuclear Energy Strategies” which was held from 20-31 August 2012. This course concentrated on the necessity of long term planning of energy systems. Participants learned about the necessity of long term planning of energy systems and in particular nuclear energy systems to achieve and maintain a successful nuclear power program. For energy system planning, the participants were introduced to IAEA models and computer codes, e.g. MESSAGE, MAED, SIMPACT, etc., outlining their main features and objectives. Hands-on computer training in using these IAEA tools was also implemented. This course was led by Argonne’s Vladimir Koritarov and Guenter Conzelmann, both from Decision and Information Sciences, and the present IAEA expert was Ismael Antonia Concha Perdomo.

Selecting a Good Fit

Recruitment



Not all conferences are created equal. With that being said, how does the IP pick the events we attend?

With a mission to recruit U.S. citizens to apply for IAEA vacancies, the International Programs (IP) selects its recruitment events primarily based on va-

cancies forecasted to open at the Agency during the year (due to retirement, rotation policy, etc).

While there are several conferences that we attend annually because they have been repeatedly successful for IAEA recruitment, if opportunities are expected in fields where we have not previously exhibited, then through internet research and referrals, we identify events that attract a high number of attendees with relevant demographics and exhibitors similar to us.

It should also be noted that the IP also identifies conferences based upon the IAEA's own hiring initiatives such as gender balance. Since the IAEA is looking to increase the representation of women in its professional staff, the IP considers events hosted by women's organizations and/or for women.

Each networking event not only enables the IP to meet individuals who may be interested in working at the IAEA, but also opens doors to make contacts at universities who are willing to help share opportunities with students and alumni, as well as other professional associations such as the National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists (NRRPT) who are willing to post relevant vacancies on their job boards for their members.

The IP exhibited at four events from July to September: Health Physics Society Annual Meeting (July 22-26 in Sacramento, CA), International Conference on Applications of Accelerators in Industry (August 5-10 in Fort Worth, TX), RadWaste Summit (September 4-7 in Las Vegas, NV), and the Argonne Postdoc Career Fair (September 21 at Argonne National Laboratory). Each event afforded opportunities to meet Americans with a variety of backgrounds and technical expertise.

Success at these events is measured by the number of leads collected. For example, a good goal would be to speak with 100 visitors and collect 60 leads (leads being U.S. citizens who sign up to receive the IP's email alerts of IAEA jobs). Our office distributes job alerts nearly every week, whenever the IAEA posts a new vacancy. When an American signs up for job alerts, they indicate their field (s) of expertise so that their job alerts can be tailored to positions only relevant to them.

Whether a conference is an "old favorite" or a "newbie," with a little bit of research and a lot of networking, there are ways to make the show a success for our purposes.

Scientific Visitors Take on a New Role

Fellowships

Last quarter the IAEA Fellowship program had just begun to implement new policies that allowed IAEA Scientific Visitors funded by the U.S. Government to come to Argonne as IAEA Training Course Participants. After sorting out the initial details of this arrangement, it seems as if this practice will become standard. So far, twenty-two IAEA Scientific Visitors have come through the fellowship program as participants at Argonne training courses. Ten more are scheduled to come to a training course in November as well. This collaboration between the programs allows for more economical training for specialized topics.

The first training course to allow IAEA scientific visitor attendance was the Training Course on Leadership and Management for Introducing and Expanding Nuclear Power Programs. This 2 week course, held August 6-17, 2012, hosted 27 participants, eight of which came through the fellowship program. The participants came from Cameroon, Ghana, Cote D'Ivoire, Niger, and the United Public of Tanzania. Starting a Nuclear Power Program can take up to fifteen years and involves a ton of planning, preparation and investment in order to provide legal, regulatory, technological, human resources, economical, financial and industrial support to ensure that the program is developed exclusively for peaceful purposes and in a safe and secure manner. The main objective of this course was to help decision makers and those responsible for developing and implementing these new nuclear programs to obtain knowledge and develop the skills and abilities needed for success in doing so. In addition to lectures presentations and classroom exercises, participants were able to visit a local Nuclear Power Plant to engage in a structured discussion with the manager of the plant regarding some key topics.

The second course to host Scientific Visitors was a course on Developing National Long-Range Nuclear Energy Strategies (INPRO). This course was held from August 20-31, 2012 and included fourteen scientific visitors from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Thailand and Bangladesh.



In all, thirty participants from around the world were in attendance. The purpose of this course was to familiarize Member States, in an integrated manner, with tools and methodologies that are available from the IAEA for long term planning of energy systems and in particular, nuclear energy systems. Participants learned about the necessity of long term planning of these systems to achieve and manage a successful nuclear power program. Members of the IAEA as well as international experts on the subject came to Argonne to give lectures and presentations to assist the participants.

This sort of collaboration between programs will continue in November when a one week course on Accidents in Radiotherapy and the Role of Audit will include ten scientific visitors from Cameroon, Ghana, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan Tunisia and the United Republic of Tanzania. These participants will join other participants from around the world to receive training under the direction of Dr. Francisco Aguirre of the University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. The IAEA Fellowship Program looks forward to the increased training opportunities for its scientific visitors through partnership with the IAEA Training Courses.



Time for a Change

Nominations

Since its start in 1987, the IAEA Meeting Nominations program has been operating smoothly, processing over 500 meetings each year. In recent years, however, the International Programs group has made significant changes to the each of the other programs we administer. Thus, this quarter marked the beginning of change for the Nominations Program.

Our office maintains a website for the Nominations Program where the status of the IAEA meeting is tracked and U.S. nominee information is recorded. Key administrative officers at the IAEA and other governmental organizations have the ability to login and review the status of the U.S. nominations. Whether they are the lead agency on the topic of the meeting or an outside agency, our site has many different people viewing the status of these meetings. As some of these viewers are required to provide their clearance for the meeting, it is imperative that the site be accurate and up to date at all times. Significant changes to the site have made this feat more easily attainable. Although the Nominations website may not look much different to these visitors, the site now looks and operates much differently internally.

With the help of our IT personnel, the site has been altered and improved on our end. We were able

to add certain features that only our office could see and use. For example, we have added a deadline column, comment boxes, flags, and upload document fields so that we are able to quickly see which meetings require our immediate attention and action. Being able to record details about the meetings in the same place as the general information is recorded has made the program much more efficient and easier to operate. Since implementing these changes, we're able to clear on meetings much faster, while still maintaining our accuracy.

Still, we foresee more changes to the site in the future. As the program continues to grow, it becomes apparent that there is definitely a need for a better tracking system. The purpose of tracking these meetings is so that our office can make sure that each U.S. nominee is cleared to participate in the IAEA meeting. We are responsible for processing all of the nominations and invitations of U.S. citizens to attend IAEA non-safeguards technical and consultancy meetings, and IAEA international conferences. Whether the person is a private citizen or a federal employee, they are required to work with our office before traveling and participating in an

IAEA meeting. Perhaps in the future, we can create a website where individual emails to clearing agencies and nominees can be eliminated entirely. A website that is a one stop shop would be great for ensuring our program is up to date and keeping up with the current times, all while maintaining its essential function and primary purpose of clearing U.S. citizens to attend IAEA meetings.



The screenshot shows the IAEA Meeting Nominations website. At the top left is the IAEA logo. To its right is the title "IAEA Meeting Nominations". Below the title are two input fields: "Username:" and "Password:". Underneath these fields are two buttons: "Login" (green) and "Reset" (grey). Below the buttons are three smaller buttons: "Close", "Request user and password", and "Ask questions". At the bottom of the page is a blue banner with white text that reads: "Please submit all IAEA meeting nominations including the Host Country Agreement letters to iaeanom@unvie.at. The US Mission has phased-out email nomination confirmation notifications since August 1, 2010. This website will be used to replace the email."

Upcoming Activities

	Staffing & Qualifying of Regulators and Operators of Research Reactors (IAEA-Argonne Training Course) October 8-12					
	Safety Assessment of NPPs to Assist Decision Makers (IAEA-Argonne Training Course) October 15-26					
	Agronomy, Crop, & Soil Science Societies (Recruitment) October 21-24					
				October		

November

	US & International Associations for Energy Economics (Recruitment) November 4-7					
	American Nuclear Society (Recruitment) November 11-13					
	Integrated Management Systems (IAEA-Argonne Training Course) November 5- 16					
	Accidents and Audits in Radiotherapy (IAEA-Argonne Training Course) November 26-30					

December

	Preparation, Review & Assessment of Safety Documents for Research Reactors (IAEA-Argonne Training Course) December 3-7					

Introducing Two New Faces



Faith Ruppert

Gina Orta

In the past quarter, Faith Ruppert and Gina Orta joined the International Programs Office. Both have worked at Argonne National Laboratory for many years before joining our group; Ruppert, for 19 years, and Orta, for 13 years.

Ruppert has been promoted to several different administrative roles since joining the laboratory in 1993 as a Senior Secretary in the temporary services program. Her past roles include Administrative Secretary within Reactor Engineering, Executive Secretary within the Chemical Sciences and Engineering Division, and Executive Secretary within the Leadership Computing Facility. In her current role, Ruppert works as the Training Coordinator for the IAEA- Argonne training courses.

Orta has also been promoted several times as well, from custodian to main gate receptionist and senior clerk to her current role as Senior Secretary. In this position, Orta works as the office's secretary. Orta's role allows her to work within each of the programs administered by the International Programs Office.

Both Ruppert and Orta have made great strides in working within our office. The future looks bright for them and the rest of our team.