

Fellowships

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

Group 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.

A Time for Reflection

Analyzing the progress we've made and determining where to go from here.

Since the launch of a more streamlined system for the training courses, we've received a slew of compliments from both participants and lecturers. While there is always room for improvement, we found great success in the new method. How can we keep getting better though?

Well, for one, we can listen. On the last day of all courses, we ask participants to fill out an administration evaluation on our website. This is in addition to the daily classroom evaluations that the participants already complete regarding the course materials. Some courses also include a feedback session where the course director asks participants to name what they liked about the course, what we could have done better, and what we could do next time more directly, allowing the participants to share their opinions and feelings. Not only do the participants find this fun as a wrap up session, but we find it informative because of the great amount of live feedback we receive.

What will we do with all this information? Well, we will compile the information during our "off-season," when we do not have a course. The

results should be distributed to all those involved with the course staff, and discussed at a meeting where we can once again think of improvements that enable an even better system for next year's courses. Additionally, an extensive training manual will be composed during this time. While a manual for the training course program already exists, it is no longer applicable to how the training courses currently run. In our efforts to become eco-friendly, this manual will be available to staff on shared drives so as to not make unneeded print copies of a manual that will undergo constant updates. The manual will act as reference to use in the planning of a course.

Also during this time, we will be looking to re-vamp our program's "expense database." The database helps us keep track of spending associated with each training course and keeps us in line with budget. Since we've cut costs in many areas of the training course program, it seems only appropriate that we continue to monitor what we spend. To us, there is no use for useless spending. While this database in its original state is functional, it does have some quirks that

need to be worked out so that the team can feel comfortable operating the database quickly and efficiently.

Other databases that may need a makeover include the "lecturer database" and the "participant database." In order to run more specific queries with little to no error, these databases have to be re-worked to expand their search capabilities. This will be helpful in drafting the programs' annual report. With this report, we will be able to see the breakdown of participant statistics and share them with the IAEA.

With the expanding changes in the training program, team members involved are able to take on new roles and be more creative in their tasks at hand. In the next couple months, we'll not only be preparing for next year's courses, but setting a standard for how the courses will be universally run.



Ekaterina Mikhaylenko from the Russian Federation participated in a three-month fellowship at the Monterey Institute of International Studies' James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies.

Because it had been quite a while since some fellows received their training, it was hard to reach many of them to obtain their input. The results obtained, therefore, are the views expressed by only 37% of the fellows trained from 2003-2009. This inspired our office to think of how to evaluate the program on a more consistent basis.

In an effort to be more efficient and up to date, the International Programs will conduct a survey at the end of each fellowship for both the fellow and advisor. The results will then be compiled into an annual report. In addition, a long-term impact survey will be conducted for fellows every other year to see how their fellowship experience has impacted their work and that of their countries. It's our hope that this new system for evaluation will enable us to make minor changes and adaptations to the program on a continual basis to consistently improve the administration of the U.S.-IAEA Fellowship Program.

IAEA Fellowships

Regular evaluation for continuous improvement.

An important goal for the International Programs office is to keep updated records on each fellowship by way of surveying both fellows and advisors of the U.S.-IAEA Fellowship Program. At the end of 2009, a survey was sent to all advisors who had trained a fellow between the years 2005-2009, and in early 2010, a similar survey was sent to each fellow who had received training in the United States between the years 2003-2009. The results of each were both reassuring of the Program's administration and a confirmation that the IAEA Fellowship Program is a worthy cause.

The advisor survey focused on questions regarding the advisors' institutions and their requirements, their experiences with the fellows, as well as their interest in becoming involved in other IAEA activities. The survey proved that the IAEA Fellowship Program in the U.S. is successful due to the fact that 73% of advisors believed that the training was accomplished within the requested time period, and 22% said it was mostly accomplished. In addition, 79% of advisors were satisfied with the

experience and 83% said they would host a fellow again. Difficulties with fellowships are not common, but some advisors do have trouble when a fellow's language skills are not up to par. This is something that the Program is taking steps to improve upon before bringing a fellow to the U.S. to ensure that time, money, and effort is not lost due to language barriers.

The fellow survey aimed to gain personal information regarding each fellow's current organization and field, their perception of the quality of the IAEA Fellowship Program, and the benefit or impact obtained from the training. The survey results again indicated that the U.S.-IAEA Fellowship Program is a success. Eighty-eight percent of fellows indicated that the objectives of their training were accomplished while 95% believed the knowledge gained was useful for their careers. Ninety-one percent also said the training was relevant to their country's needs, while 86% said they shared the skills they obtained with colleagues, and 77% believe their training has impacted their organization.



Dr. Anchisa Kunawudhi from Thailand trained at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston in Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging.

IAEA-ANL Training Courses

Nuclear Power, Security, Safety, and Research Reactors

The International Programs hosted four training courses in the months of October, November and December. October commenced with the “International Seminar on the Essential Elements of Nuclear Security,” which was held from October 3-14. Twenty-seven participants from 13 countries representing all four regions received an intense contemporary survey of issues and activities regarding multiple aspects of nuclear security. Topics included: international legal frameworks supporting nuclear security, identification of and remedies to nuclear security threats, radiological dispersal devices, incident response, illicit trafficking of nuclear and radioactive sources, detection and identification instruments, practical exercises for Member State planning, as well as procedures to protect against nuclear security threats. The course was led by Argonne staff, Diana Naples (Counterintelligence) and Charles Roche



(Nuclear Engineering). The IAEA was represented by experts, Ann-Margret Eriksson Eklund and George Moore.

Immediately following the nuclear security course, we welcomed 21 participants from 12 European countries for the “Regional Training Course on the Safety Assessment of NPPs to Assist Decision Making,” which was held from October 17-28. This course provided the knowledge necessary for participants to conduct safety assessments of new or operating nuclear power plants. Emphasis was placed on the basic concepts of safety, including defense-in-depth and safety margins, an overview of safety analysis methods, including deterministic and probabilistic analysis techniques, as well as their integrated use. The course was led by Joseph Braun from Argonne’s Nuclear Engineering Division, and the IAEA was represented by Milorad Dusic, Artur Lyubarskiy, and John Fraser Preston.

One week after the safety assessment course, the International Programs hosted the “Regional Training Course on Leadership and Management for Introducing and Expanding Nuclear Power Programmes” from November 7-18, which involved a total of 32 participants from 27 countries representing all four regions. The main objective of the 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 addressed: issues for consideration when establishing a nuclear power program, establishing a safety infrastructure, processes, organization and management systems, and networking among emerging nuclear power states.

The course afforded an excellent opportunity to discuss proven and modern approaches face-to-face, and to share information on needs, experiences and lessons learned. In this connection, case studies and presentations on experience and future trends were also included. The course was led by L. Walter Deitrich and Joseph Braun, both from Argonne’s Nuclear Engineering Division, and the IAEA was well represented by Vincent Nkong Njock, Ugur Bezdegumeli, Gary Dyck, Stephen Scott Koenick, and Jongile Majola.

Then to close out the year, we hosted 11 participants from 10 countries in the African and Asian/Pacific regions for a “Workshop on Practical Application of the Graded Approach for the Safety of Research Reactors,” which was held from December 5-9. The workshop reviewed the recommendations of a new safety guide, provided exercises regarding how the guide’s recommendations should be applied, and established a forum for participants to exchange experiences and good practices in the application of graded approaches. The workshop included lectures and participant presentations, in addition to exercises and working group discussions. The course was led by L. Walter Deitrich and the IAEA was represented by Hassan Abou Yehia.



IAEA Staffing

Workshop for Americans at IOs in Vienna, Austria

In October, the International Programs at Argonne co-sponsored an Americans in International Organizations in Vienna (AIOV) workshop. Hosted by Brookhaven National Laboratory, the workshop was intended to provide information to U.S. citizens and their spouses regarding transitioning to living and working in Vienna. The U.S. Mission to International Organizations in Vienna, the U.S. Department of State (DOS) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) also contributed towards the workshop's success.

The workshop was packed with information with the DOS and DOE providing information on their roles and services available through their support programs, while additional presenters covered subjects such as the new Austrian red-white-red card, legal aspects of living and working in Vienna, and managing cultural differences. Working groups encouraged discussion and gathered feedback beneficial to future Americans transitioning to Vienna.

A small expo hall also displayed exhibits from relevant organizations such as the American Women's Association, the U.S. Embassy's Community Liaison Office, the Foreign Service Institute, the U.N. Women's Guild, the Vienna Expat Center, as well as the Women's Career Network.

Finally, testimonials from attendees were captured to gain insight from actual employees and their partners regarding living and working in Vienna.

For more information...

Checkout workshop highlights:
<http://www.bnl.gov/aiov/highlights.asp>

View the workshop photostream:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/68148914@N05/>

Download presentation slides:
<https://indico.bnl.gov/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=380>

Coming Soon

Subscribe online

In January 2012 the International Programs will launch an online subscription form which will allow U.S. citizens to sign up to receive job alerts of IAEA vacancies relevant to their expertise. U.S. experts can simply fill in their contact information and scroll through a list of field and program codes to identify their areas of interest; specifying the types of vacancies they would like to be notified of.

Individuals already receiving IAEA vacancy notices from the International Programs do not need to sign up again through this form.

Sign up to receive email alerts of IAEA jobs in your field.

The International Programs at Argonne National Laboratory aims to increase awareness of career opportunities at the IAEA among Americans.

Contact Information

First Name:

Last Name:

Position:

Organization:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Citizenship(s):
USA

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?
Once you sign up, you'll begin to receive emails like the one below from IAEAStaffing@anl.gov. Emails will come as often as the IAEA posts new vacancies in the fields you select.

CAN I SHARE THE JOB ALERTS?
Yes, please do! You can pass them on by email or through your networks on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn via the social sharing buttons in the top right corner of each job alert.

IS MY INFORMATION SAFE?
Yes. Argonne will not share, sell, or distribute your information in any way.

DOES IT COST ANYTHING?
No. The International Programs at Argonne provides this service free of charge.

WANT TO CHANGE MY INFORMATION?
Contact IAEAStaffing@anl.gov

Behind the Scenes

Technology upgrades enable better Program administration

During the winter break, our web and application server successfully moved to a new, dedicated machine. The new server allows the International Programs to serve more users, and has new sets of technologies that will be deployed in the future.

Please also update your browser's bookmark to point to our new website at international.anl.gov.

