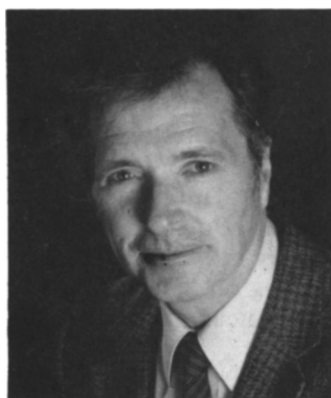


COMMENTS



Publication of reviewed papers for the series of American Nuclear Society (ANS) topical meetings on the technology of fusion energy has established an important tradition in *Fusion Technology (FT)*. Early topical published short summaries of meeting presentations for their proceedings. Reviewed publications of the current type began with the Fifth Topical (Knoxville, Tennessee, April 1983), which was contained in *Nuclear Technology/Fusion*, 4, 2, Parts 2 and 3 (1983). *Nuclear Technology/Fusion* became *FT* in 1984, and the first topical to be covered by *FT* was the Sixth Topical (San Francisco, California, March 1985), contained in *FT*, 8, 1, Parts 2A and 2B (1985). Papers from the

Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Topicals are contained in *FT*, 10, 3, Parts 2A and 2B (1986); *FT*, 15, 2, Parts 2A and 2B (1989); *FT*, 19, 3, Parts 2A and 2B (1991); and *FT*, 21, 3, Parts 2A and 2B (1992), respectively. All of the *FT* issues in this series have provided the fusion community with a comprehensive pacesetter overview of the status and directions in contemporary fusion technology. The current issue will, I am sure, expand and extend this fine tradition.

The key feature of these special issues from the topicals is that the papers have undergone a concentrated peer review. Thus, not all presentations at the meeting are contained in the special *FT* issue. In some instances, the authors may have chosen not to submit a full paper for review, and in others, papers have been withdrawn following reviewers' comments. In this issue, in particular, presentations from panels and some nontechnical overviews were not included. While a vital and interesting part of the meeting, such presentations did not appear appropriate in a reviewed technical journal. If the reader is interested in such omitted presentations, the meeting's *Book of Abstracts* may be obtained from ANS.

Technical Program Cochairs Dr. John Gilligan and Dr. Wayne Houlberg managed the review process in addition to their many other duties. This was a formidable task, which they carried out in superb style. It began with the receipt of many papers prior to the meeting, which were then sent out for review. Some follow-up reviews and reviews of late papers were conducted during and after the meeting. Two reviewers were employed for each paper, and the review criteria provided them was the same as that used for regular issue papers. Because of the tight time schedule, this was not only a very demanding task for the reviewers but also required the authors' cooperation to modify and resubmit their manuscripts in a timely fashion. While this process involved the efforts of a large number of people, I believe you will agree with me that the final product is well worthwhile. Not only does the process ensure

high-quality papers for the special issue, but the knowledge that a review is involved also motivates participants to develop better quality presentations. Thus, I am sure that I speak on behalf of all involved when I express my thanks to the technical program cochairs, the reviewers, and the authors for the strong efforts they put into making the meeting and this special issue so outstanding.

A number of other people also contributed to the success of the meeting and this special issue. These include Dr. Donald Dudziak, General Chair of the Topical, Dr. Ralph Moir, outgoing Chair of the ANS Fusion Energy Division (FED), and Dr. Ronald Miller, the incoming Chair, for their leadership and direction. Dr. David Harris, FED representative to the National Program Committee, and Dr. Nermin Uckan, Technical Program Chair of the 10th Topical, also provided strong guidance. The various members of the Technical Program Committee for the Topical, listed after the Guest Editors' Preface, were instrumental not only in organizing the meeting program but also in handling aspects of the reviews and this publication. Assisting in the editorial process were Marcia Freels, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, who helped process manuscripts and reviews; Celia Elliott, *FT* editorial office, who prepared the instructions for reviewers and the subject index; and Ellen Leitschuh and Christine Yoelin, ANS Headquarters staff, who were responsible for proof editing, preparation of front material, and assembly of the volume, under the direction of Mary Beth Gardner, ANS Technical Publications Manager.

The outstanding papers in this issue should provide vital information and insight for the community at this critical juncture in international fusion engineering research and development. In view of the many new developments, we eagerly look forward to the Twelfth Topical Meeting on the Technology of Fusion Energy, which is scheduled as an embedded topical during the 1996 ANS meeting in Reno, Nevada.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Miley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.