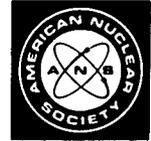


# COMMENTS

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We are most pleased to provide this first publication in a new series associated with *Fusion Technology (FT)* called *Transactions of Fusion Technology*. This series differs from *FT* the journal in that papers published in *Transactions of FT* follow the general guidelines for the long-standing *Transactions of the American Nuclear Society*, which publishes summaries of papers presented at ANS national meetings. Thus, papers in *Transactions of FT* will provide proceedings from fusion meetings. The papers will be selected by the meeting program review committee based on the review of abstracts or summaries.

For example, the program committee of the Sixth International Conference on Emerging Nuclear Energy Systems (ICENES '91) had the responsibility for reviewing and accepting all papers contained in this first issue.

This procedure contrasts sharply with that used by *FT*, which requires a rigorous peer review of the full paper before publication. The *Transactions of FT* series was proposed to meet the needs of conferences like ICENES where it was felt best to publish summaries rather than full peer-reviewed papers. This allows a fast turnaround and the inclusion of more speculative papers.

In planning this new series, various ANS advisory committees discussed its potential role. One concern was the possibility that a series such as this would erode the quality of the journal and draw papers away from it. It was decided, however, that *Transactions of FT* would strengthen the journal over the long run, and papers published in this format could, after further work and elaboration, be submitted to the journal for publication. This approach is to be encouraged; indeed, it follows the precedent set by *Transactions of the American Nuclear Society*, in which summaries published in that format are often expanded into full papers for ANS journals. Such papers have undergone considerable prior scrutiny and have consistently been of high quality. Furthermore, as the same rigorous standards that are currently used for review of *FT* manuscripts are maintained, the quality of the journal should be preserved, possibly even be increased slightly. Also, with *Transactions of FT* serving as a "feeder" route into *FT*, interest in publishing in the journal may be enhanced.

We trust the fusion community will find that the new *Transactions of FT* series provides important and rapid communication of new results from key meetings. We hope that you, the reader, will find this series enjoyable. Of course, while we designate this a "series," the timing of publication depends on the schedules for selected meetings. Some regularity of publication should occur, however, once *Transactions of FT* becomes a "tradition" for some meetings. Along those lines, your recommendations about meetings where this format might be used are welcome and encouraged.

Please note that any comments about *Transactions of FT* or any of the papers in it should be addressed to *FT* as "Letters to the Editor." Such letters will then be published in the journal since *Transactions of FT* will not

carry a "Letters" section. Since the two publications serve virtually the same people, this should not cause any confusion.

I recently read a column in our local newspaper written by an officer of the Sierra Club in which he sharply criticized the ICENES '91 meeting for bringing together a group of "euphoric" nuclear scientists who wanted to race ahead without admitting to or even trying to learn from previous mistakes. This person unfortunately completely missed the mark in evaluating the spirit of this meeting.

Indeed, the presentations were enthusiastic, and they generally dealt with innovative studies and "exotic" systems. As intended, the participants discussed concepts that are currently gaining attention ("emerging"). Some look even farther ahead into the future to "blue sky" visions. However, this does not mean that the problems of the past are ignored. To the contrary, if you look over these papers, it becomes evident that much of the innovation involved is designed to overcome previous difficulties.

Like any new field, peaceful applications of nuclear energy have suffered from inexperience and general reluctance to accept "strange" new technology. However, I do not believe that the field can be accused of ignoring the past. "Lessons Learned" is a continuing motto that has been very effectively applied in every aspect of nuclear power research. The participants of ICENES '91 are, in my opinion, prime practitioners of the lessons learned philosophy. That was a cornerstone of the "new vision" brought out. Indeed, I believe we can all be quite proud of this new vision presented by ICENES '91. You, the reader, must be the final judge of this, however. If you wish to comment, let's hear from you via a "Letter to the Editor."

In closing, I would like to extend the sincere appreciation of the *FT* staff to the organizers of ICENES '91 for their splendid cooperation and help in producing this *Transactions of FT*. Special thanks go to John Nuckolls, General Chair; Carl Henning, Organizing Chair; and Ralph Moir, Program Chair, for their help. In addition, Kim Case and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory staff who handled the manuscripts at the meeting were instrumental in putting this issue together. Without the help of all of these people, this issue simply would not have been possible.

In reading this *Transactions of FT*, please note that a few papers presented at ICENES '91 were not submitted for publication. Abstracts of those papers appear in a meeting abstracts booklet and are not reproduced here.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Miley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent 'G' and 'M'.