

Foreword

Selected papers from the 2019 American Nuclear Society Student Conference

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This special issue of *Nuclear Technology* features selected papers from the 2019 American Nuclear Society (ANS) Student Conference, hosted at the Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia, April 4–6, 2019.

The ANS Student Conference is a student-organized conference dedicated to engaging nuclear science and engineering students through professional society involvement in their field of study. The conference series includes the participation of students and professionals from all over the United States and world. In 2019, the Virginia Commonwealth University hosted with the theme of “Nuclear is _____”: to explore the many opportunities accustomed to students within the nuclear science and technology realm. The conference highlighted the many supportive activities, technologies, and experts in varied fields of

nuclear science and technology. Obvious examples of the application of the theme include “Nuclear is thermal hydraulics,” “Nuclear is neutronics,” and “Nuclear is non-proliferation.” Other, less obvious applications of the theme include “Nuclear is cyber security,” “Nuclear is health,” “Nuclear is advocacy,” and “Nuclear is economics.” The 2019 ANS Student Conference saw a total of 149 summary papers presented and 430 attendees, with 323 students and 107 professional attendees.

The conference committee invited summary papers covering topics from all sectors of the nuclear field, with a special session on international applications. Four expanded papers successfully completed a peer-review process conducted by academic researchers, U.S. national laboratory scientists, and industry professionals and are included in this special issue.