

FOREWORD

SPECIAL ISSUE ON THE 11TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RADIATION SHIELDING AND THE 15TH TOPICAL MEETING OF THE RADIATION PROTECTION AND SHIELDING DIVISION

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The 11th International Conference on Radiation Shielding (ICRS-11) and the 15th Topical Meeting of the Radiation Protection and Shielding Division (RPSD-2008) of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) were jointly organized at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, Georgia, from April 13–18, 2008. With this conference we celebrated the first 50 yr of the ICRS. This conference drew hundreds of the world's leading experts in particle and ionizing radiation shielding in its broadest context including nuclear energy systems, accelerator facilities, space, and other radiation environments. There was a total of 290 participants from 22 countries.

Papers presented at this conference appear in three consecutive monthly issues of *Nuclear Technology*, comprising Vol. 168.

The technical program included 4 plenary sessions, 47 parallel scientific sessions, and 8 poster sessions. In addition, 11 tutorials were offered at the conference including radiation surveys for therapy facilities, electron/photon transport and its applications, introduction to Monte Carlo, FLUKA, TRIPOLI, NJOY, Attila, MCBEND, Monte Carlo Burnup, MORITZ, and SCALE tutorials. The technical sessions covered a broad range of topics, including nuclear data, residual activity, hybrid methods, dosimetry issues, accelerator shielding, shield-

ing benchmarks, electron-photon data, medical applications, radiation protection, deterministic methods, lower-energy facilities, aircraft dosimetry issues, methods and applications, high-energy accelerators, intermediate-energy facilities, electron facilities accelerators, regulations and reactor shielding, radiation metrology and regulations, shielding of synchrotron light sources, Monte Carlo methods and applications, radiation detection and measurements, advanced phantoms for radiation dosimetry, transmutation and storage of radioactive materials, shielding of spallation sources and related facilities, nuclear modeling for heavy charged particle transport, activation and transportation characterization calculations, radiation protection issues and methods for deep space exploration, and transport methods for applications in computational medical physics.

The conference raised funds to provide travel grants to 15 students. We would like to thank the sponsoring organizations for their generous contributions to the student travel grants: Health Physics Society, Georgia Section of the ANS, RPSD of ANS, and Canberra.

A highlight of the meeting was the awarding of the Rockwell Award by the ANS RPSD to Enrico Sartori, head of Computer Program Service and Reactor Physics activities at the Organisation of Economic Co-operation

and Development/Nuclear Energy Agency, for his outstanding dedication and international leadership in the promotion of computational tools and benchmarks in radiation protection and shielding.

This conference was possible only through the hard work and dedication of numerous individuals including the organizing committee, the technical program com-

mittee, the topic coordinators, and many others. Finally, we would like to thank all of the conference participants. The true measure of a successful scientific conference is directly attributable to the participants and the scientific work presented at the conference. By this measure, the ICRS-11/RPSD-2008 conference was truly successful.