

NESTet report

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<http://www.euronuclear.org/events/nestet/nestet2011/transactions.htm>

NESTet is a European Nuclear Society (ENS) conference dedicated to networking in nuclear education and training across the fields of engineering, science and technology. It took place from 15. – 18. May 2011 in Prague. This biennial conference is designed to facilitate an exchange of information, collaboration and the sharing of best practices in nuclear education and training in engineering science and technology. It is an important networking opportunity for better co-ordination and collaboration between different stakeholders.

We both attended the sessions on Tuesday May 17th and I attended the morning sessions on Wednesday 18th before taking my plane while Sophie was attending the Young Generation presentations.

The conference was a good demonstration of all types of initiatives on training, encouraging new recruits especially young generation. This is a sector where the industry is developing lots of new initiatives. One can nevertheless regret a lack of co-ordination between all the programmes in Europe. The full papers are available on the web site of the conference.

Tuesday sessions

I had at the request of our President to replace her for chairing the session entitled “Developing skills for tomorrow’s leaders” and to present the WiN Europe paper « How to motivate people to take up a career in the nuclear field : a major mission of Women in Nuclear Europe ». The paper has already been send to all WiN Europe chapters.

Session « What must be done to close the knowledge gap ? »

Some of the ideas in the are interesting in the Tractebel/Electrabel paper. From the Slovenske Electrarme presentation, it is interesting to note the emphasis given to human factors and safety culture to reach excellence in operation, especially when two cultures are brought together (Slovak and Italian).

Session « Developing skills for tomorrow leaders »

The ENELA approach is very interesting and adapted to already experienced or working new professionals. In Technatom the safety culture approach is the one from INPO but the difference between leaders and managers is not clear.

Session « Programmes from all over the world 1 »

The Argentinean presentation was interesting but too general. In Russia large university programme has been developed.

Session « « How to motivate people to choose a career in nuclear ?

The WiN Europe paper was well received but the questions were mostly on increasing the number WiN chapters. But it leads to more discussions later on and compliments from ENS. The Russian presentation on using regional information centres was an interesting one. If WiN Russia joins us they could be part of this good example. The Idaho US paper certainly did not

cover all aspects in training and I had some discussions about it with other US university professors which confirmed this aspect.

Wednesday sessions

Session « What must be done to promote harmonisation ? »

To be noted the following two presentations: the Austrian one from Pr Boch (who received an award from the Young Generation conference), it is not easy to maintain a certain competence in the nuclear field in an anti-nuclear country, and the Atkins UK presentation which was really showing an harmonization proposal for the industry in UK including an interesting taxonomy for the tasks to be performed in all installations.

Closing Session « Laying the foundations for the future : harmonisation and co-operation »

A blue print for work force development (Cogent UK proposal) or the European skills passports (Areva F) are very good suggestions but need to be further developed and accepted by the whole industry. The International Institute on Nuclear Energy (I2EN) newly created in France seems to have also an equivalent role to Play.

Poster Session

You can also find the full paper for the Poster session. I recommend particularly two papers from the Spanish Nuclear Society Young Generation that are being very active to promote Nuclear Power at high school and university level. Some ideas could be of use for our WiN chapters.

Contacts

Partnerships : with ENELA , JP Gauthier is very interested.

With I2EN, Ms. Debreuille also.

Many women participants discussed with us and confirmed their interest in WiN Europe actions while in the past they were not too keen on WiN Global network.

