

CANADIAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY/SOCIÉTÉ NUCLÉAIRE CANADIENNE INC.

To: CNS Council
From: Bill Garland <garlandw@mcmaster.ca>
Subject: Update on the Universities Committee
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The main current activities of the Universities Committee are the student conference and the new CANTEACH project.

Annual Student Conference - March 2000:

- The conference took place March 10 and 11 at McMaster University.
 - Details of this successful even can be found in the report on the conference recently submitted to Council and at <http://epic.mcmaster.ca/~garlandw/univcomm/studconf2000/confindex.htm>.
 - All actions are complete except for the clearing of cheques and the final closing of accounts. The conference essentially broke even.

CANTEACH:

- The CANTEACH project is an AECL - CNS Universities Committee initiative that began officially in March 2000 with the mandate to produce technical educational material on CANDU reactors. Planning is well underway. AECL has provided a part-time consultant to carry out some of my current duties at McMaster, thereby releasing me to pursue this project part-time. The status of activities is attached.
- You can find more details at <http://epic.mcmaster.ca/~garlandw/canteach/canteachindex.htm>.
- Contributions, suggestions, advice, etc. would be most appreciated.

Upcoming Meetings:

- An informal meeting will be held for all those interested in the committee's activities at the Annual CNS Conference (June, 2000). There has still been no progress on setting up an educational session at the conference other than commitments for two papers have been made (Jeremy Whitlock and myself) .

Cc via email:

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Activity Log

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Current Activities

- Do an inventory of existing educational material related to CANDU. **Status:** reactor physics is about ½ done.
- Contact potential authors and assign tasks. **Status:** just started. **Anyone wishing to be involved in this project should contact me if they have not already done so.**
- Define the format for the document modules. It is proposed that a word processed document in standard portrait mode (as per a typical textbook) be used. This document will be the reference text and will contain all material used for the preparation of derivative formats (such as overheads for presentations, CD-ROMs, etc). Any material that will eventually be used as 'overheads' (ie in landscape mode) should be embedded in the reference text as half-size figures. **Status:** A [sample document](#) (pdf 26kb) is available for comment and a consensus is being sought.
- Preparation of reactor physics modules. The target is to have a significant number produced by 2000-09-01 based on existing material. Bill Garland will be the chief author. This will be a test of the proposed format. **Status:** just started.

Ongoing Activities

- The site is to be kept current as action items progress.

Activities On Hold

- None.

Future Activities

- Collection of a glossary of terms and nomenclature. This will be an ongoing task. **Status:** no start date set.
- Complete the inventory of existing educational material (down to the individual concept level) related to CANDU. **Status:** targeted for completion 2000-05-30.

Completed Activities

- Establish a web site. **Status:** Done as of 2000-02-13.
- Broad-brush overall CANDU topic areas and list on the web. **Status:** Done as of 2000-02-13.
- Define the electronic form for material delivery. It is necessary to resolve early on which tools we will

use and what document format will be used. Obviously the two are linked. Ultimate delivery format is to be pdf since it is the de facto standard, is compressed and any application that prints can generate it. Adobe FrameMaker would allow hyperlinks to be preserved in pdf files but Compose, an Acrobat plug-in, can compensate for that and FrameMaker poses a steep learning curve for potential authors. Therefore, nix to FrameMaker for now. Thus standard word processors and other common applications will be used to develop educational modules that can be mixed and matched. From there, pdf documents will be produced and annotated to make the final product for delivery (textbooks, classroom lectures, CD-ROM and web-based material). An HTML front end (captured to pdf) will be used for hyperlinking the various modules, as for the recent [CNS Student Conference](#), for example.

Status: Done as of 2000-02-13.
