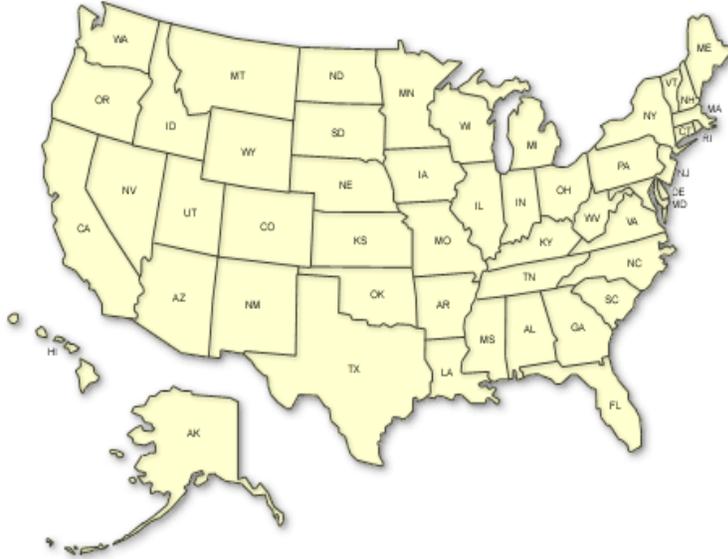




American Nuclear Society



LOCAL SECTIONS TASK FORCE REPORT

***Prepared by
Local Sections Task Force***

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October 2014

I. INTRODUCTION

ANS Bylaw B.2 (a) establishes the following purpose of Local Sections:

“The object of each Local Section shall be the active furtherance in its locality, as defined in the Rules, of the objectives of the Society.”

ANS Rule 17.5.5 states:

“The principal activity of a Local Section shall be the holding of regular meetings for the presentation of papers and discussion of matters relating to nuclear science and engineering and to allied arts and sciences.”

Bylaw B.2 (a) establishes for Local Sections a purpose as broad as ANS’s purpose. While ANS Rules prescribe the important Local Section activity of holding meetings, they do not outline other activities that Local Sections should conduct to fulfill the ANS bylaw cited above. In addition, ANS Rules do not mention the full range of activities in which many Local Sections have been or are currently engaged.

Given the importance of Local Sections as the “face of ANS” on the local level, Donald Hoffman, during his term as President, asked the Local Sections Committee to review the purpose of Local Sections and determine more effective ways for them to fulfill this purpose. Local Sections Committee Chair Bob Penn (now Past Chair) then created a task force to develop a report with recommendations for the Local Sections Committee.

II. TASK FORCE PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES

The specific purpose of the Local Sections Task Force was to:

1. review the strategic goals for Local Sections and, if necessary, recommend revisions to them,
2. review the specific activities Local Sections conduct to fulfill these goals and, where necessary, recommend revisions to them, and
3. present a report with findings and recommendations to the Local Sections Committee for consideration.

The Task Force conducted its deliberations by teleconference and via email. During its deliberations, the Task Force carefully studied the ANS Strategic Plan and also considered the activities that Local Sections typically conduct in relation to the Plan.

III. TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Local Section Goals

The Task Force determined Local Sections, as a whole, do not have clearly specified goals other than the goal of having regular meetings as stated in the ANS bylaws. While individual Local Sections may have

their own goals, a uniform set of goals for all Local Sections does not exist. Therefore, after carefully reviewing the ANS Strategic Plan, the Task Force recommends the following goals for all Local Sections.

1. Promote ANS products, programs and services, including Society membership
2. Support ANS public policy activities at the state and local levels
3. Provide information to the public on the benefits of nuclear science and technology
4. Facilitate the sharing of information among nuclear professionals on the local level
5. Create networking opportunities for nuclear professionals on the local level

B. Activities to Achieve Goals

The Task Force recommends the following activities to achieve each goal.

1. Promote ANS Products, Programs and Services, Including Society Membership:

A review of 23 Local Section annual report submissions in 2012 indicated there were 1,423 active Local Section members, of which 821 or 58% were ANS members and 602 or 42% were not members. Among these 23 Local Sections, 17 distributed some sort of regular communication to a total of 5,300 individuals on their mailing lists.

To promote products, programs and services, ANS Membership and Marketing staff members will:

- Provide copy/artwork to Local Sections for inclusion in newsletters
- Provide copy/artwork to Local sections for placements on their websites
- Send brochures/other materials to Local Sections for display on registration tables at their meetings or other events
- Provide “bullet point” talking points regarding upcoming ANS events to Local Section presidents to include in their remarks at Local Section meetings or other events
- Offer limited-time discounts to Local Section members (who are not national ANS members) on featured products/events – incorporate in above strategies

To promote Society membership, ANS Membership and Marketing staff members will:

- Provide copy/artwork to Local Sections for inclusion in newsletters
- Provide copy/artwork to Local Sections for placements on their websites
- Send brochures to Local Sections for display on registration tables at their meetings or other events
- Provide “bullet point” talking points and/or short PowerPoint presentation on the benefits of national ANS membership to Local Section presidents for inclusion in their remarks at Local Section meetings or other events
- Through regular email communications to current ANS members who are also Local Section members, provide “benefits of ANS membership” talking points and encourage member recruitment

2. Support ANS Public Policy Activities on the State and Local Levels:

In the coming years, states and localities will have an increasingly important role in determining the future of nuclear. For instance, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed placing

binding carbon emission standards on US power plants at the state level. Under the proposed regulation, each state will have to develop a compliance plan detailing how it intends to meet the prescribed performance standards. ANS feels strongly that each state should consider nuclear energy as a viable option for complying with EPA's proposed rule once it is finalized. Local Sections are perfectly positioned to engage their state legislatures and administrations to advocate for the inclusion of nuclear in state energy plans.

ANS's Washington Office will provide Local Sections with the basic tools and resources to conduct advocacy activities; but it is the Local Sections themselves that are best positioned to engage with their local political leaders in support of nuclear.

To pursue the public policy goal, all Local Sections would identify a lead contact for public policy matters. This person should:

- act as the Local Section's representative in public policy-related meetings and teleconferences
- assist the Washington Office in identifying any legal or regulatory obstacle to new nuclear development in their states
- work with the Washington Office to develop a plan for engaging the local political leaders, including visits to the state legislature and governor's office, as well as "industry" meetings with US representatives and senators

3. Provide Information to the Public on the Benefits of Nuclear Science and Technology:

At its November 2014 meeting, the ANS Communications Committee will be finalizing a public outreach plan for Local Sections and Student Sections. Before the plan is implemented, the Communications Committee will ask the Local Sections Committee to comment on the plan. Since the Communications Committee wants to implement the plan starting next year, the committee will present the plan to the Local Sections Committee for comment shortly after the ANS Winter Meeting.

4. Facilitate the Sharing of Information Among Nuclear Professionals on the Local Level:

Most active Local Sections hold meetings and/or conduct other activities to achieve this goal, many quite successfully. We believe the most effective way for Local Sections to enhance their activities in this area is to learn about successful approaches from each other.

Local Section workshops at ANS national meetings and Local Section teleconferences ("snap shot calls") that take place every six weeks are excellent vehicles for Local Section leaders to learn from each other. Therefore, participants will be encouraged to discuss on a regular basis the activities their Local Sections conduct to achieve this goal. They will also be encouraged to present new ideas they have discovered through their own creativity or from industry or other professional societies.

5. Create Networking Opportunities for Nuclear Professionals on the Local Level:

The information under Number 4 above regarding information sharing also applies to the creation of networking opportunities.

IV. CONCLUSION

Local Sections are a vital part of the ANS organization. Many of them have contributed a great deal to the Society. We believe, however, that many Local Sections can be even more effective. The first step is to have an agreed-upon set of uniform goals for all Local Sections in furtherance of a common mission. The second step is to have adequate ANS staff support to help the Local Sections work toward these goals. The third step, which may be the most important, is for Local Section leaders to share their best practices and innovative thinking with each other.

Appendix

Current Local Sections

Arizona
Northern California
San Diego
Colorado
Connecticut
Washington DC
Southeast Florida
Florida
Georgia
Idaho
Central Illinois
Chicago
Kansas
Louisiana
Northeastern
Michigan
Missouri
Mississippi
Wilmington
Eastern Carolinas
Piedmont Carolinas
Carlsbad
Trinity
Nevada
Metropolitan
Niagara Finger Lakes
Long Island

Northeastern
Oregon
Delaware Valley
Pittsburgh
Savannah River
Columbia
Oak Ridge/Knoxville
Chattanooga
North Texas
South Texas
Virginia
Eastern Washington
Puget Sound
Wisconsin
Belgian
India
Japan
Republic of Korea
Taiwan
Austria
France
Italy
Swiss
Latin American