American Nuclear Society

**Professional Divisions Committee**

**Report to the Board of Directors**

**June 2014**

**Hans D. Gougar, Chair**

1.0 Recent Actions driven, coordinated, or supported by Professional Divisions Committee

*November 2013 Winter Meeting* – All Professional Divisions and Technical Groups were urged to support the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of Fission that took place at the meeting in Washington DC. Related technical and panel sessions were sponsored by BMD, MCD, NISD, OPD, RPD, and NNTG.

*November 2013 Winter Meeting* –Professional Divisions and Technical Groups were urged to report specific activities supporting the ANS Strategic Plan. Detailed responses were received from AAD, ANSTD, BMD, ETWDD, DESD, FCWMD, FED, HFICD, MSTD, NCSD, NISD, OPD, RPSD, RPD, RRSD, THD, and NNPTG.

Updated Rules conforming to the ‘new’ Division Bylaws and Rules standard have been drafted for each Professional Division, including the Decommissioning and Environmental Sciences division which was formed form a merger of the DDR and ES divisions. The sets of Rules have all been reviewed by the Bylaws and Rules Committee and endorsed except for those of the IRD, BMD, and DESD. DESD and BMD Rules have been submitted to the BRC and are awaiting endorsement. A new set of IRD Rules are under review by the IRD Executive Committee.

Spring 2014 – Finance webinars were proposed, developed, and presented by HQ staff for training Division Treasurers and other officers in managing Division finances. The first webinar was held on May 29, 2014. More are scheduled.

Metrics for evaluating Professional Division health and performance have been the subject of review by subcommittees of the PDC, specifically in the areas of Student support, Young Member support, and Meetings.

* The Student Support subcommittee concluded that no changes to the metrics were warranted at this time.
* The Young Member subcommittee, in cooperation with the Young Member Technical Group, presented recommendations for changes that would recognize a greater variety of ways in which Young Members can be, and are being, supported by the Divisions. The initial response to the proposal by some members of the PDC was less than positive. The group therefore decided to leave the metric as is and to work internally within each Division to achieve a greater level of support.
* A Meetings Support subcommittee, with some coordination with the Strategic Plan Meetings Task Force, is developing new metrics that would better recognize the relative capabilities and activities of larger and smaller divisions in supporting ANS meetings. A preliminary proposal will be presented to the PDC at the June PDC meeting. The modified metrics would also adjust the way in which different classes of Topical Meetings will be credited toward Division performance. A final proposal will be presented by June of 2015.

2.0 Division/Technical Group Performance

Measures of Division performance were gathered for 2012 and 2013 and are presented below. No measures were collected last year due to staff changes in HQ and, more importantly, the exceptional difficulty in gathering the necessary data. The current system relies heavily on a mixture of distributed (usually paper) records of membership and activities, tribal knowledge of how and where this information is generated and collected, and ad hoc private communication with Division executives. Only recently has the process been reconstituted sufficiently to prepare the attached reports. The process is highly inefficient, overly dependent upon familiarity and available time among the staff, and with an unnecessary degree of subjectivity. The results presented in the attached tables are to be considered approximate and do not indicate any significant trends. The PDC Chair will be working closely with the (continually changing) staff to upgrade the procedure to be more transparent, reproducible, and objective. The new process will be greatly facilitated by the implementation of the new society management software being acquired.

