

PREFACE

FIFTH TOPICAL MEETING ON THE TECHNOLOGY OF FUSION ENERGY

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This issue of *Nuclear Technology/Fusion (NT/F)* represents an important milestone for the series of topical meetings on the technology of fusion energy. The organizers of the Fifth Topical Meeting, held April 26-28, 1983, decided with the American Nuclear Society to have full-length papers from the meeting published by *NT/F*. This assures widespread distribution of the technical content of the meeting throughout the larger technical community and makes it possible to reference all of this important work.

From my perspective, the meeting was a great success. A total of 254 papers were presented (84 oral, 170 poster), 398 persons registered for the meeting (367 full-day, 14 one-day, and 17 student registrations), and the weather cooperated beautifully.

As indicated within this special issue, the technical coverage at the meeting was very broad. We were fortunate to have a plenary session at which the leaders of the European, Japanese, and U.S. fusion programs were able to provide an overview of the worldwide fusion effort, which is by any measure

very impressive. Special sessions included the U.S. Next-Generation Tokamak and Tandem Mirror Programs and Large Construction Projects (JT-60, JET, TFTR, and MFTF). Invited and contributed papers in the regular sessions covered topics from plasma engineering to environment and safety; from tritium, materials engineering, and neutronics and shielding to operations and maintenance; and from alternative concepts to inertial confinement fusion and fusion systems studies.

It was a pleasure for me to serve as technical program chairman and to benefit from the strong support of J. L. Scott, general chairman, and the many other hardworking individuals and organizations who, individually and together, contributed so much to the success of the meeting. Special thanks go to W. R. Becraft who organized the Fifth Topical Meeting effort to assure the timely publication of these proceedings, including the peer review of all the papers. It was also a pleasure to work with G. H. Miley and his staff in arranging for this publication.