MEETING MINUTES

Isotopes and Radiation Division

Date and Time: November 9, 2025 – 3:00 – 4:30 pm (EST)

Location: Fairchild East/West (*or MS Teams***)**

Attendees: Erik Wilson, Kenan Unlu, Jim Bowen, Kyle Hartig, Derek Haas, Raymond Cao, Wei Min Lin, Greg Downing, Raymond Cao, Weslee Kersey, Steve Biegalski, Garrett Londrea, Brenden Heidrich, Padhraic Mulligan, Lin-Wen Hu, Miltos Alamaniotis

1) IRD Executive Committee Meeting – Call to Order

- Erik Wilson called the meeting to order.

2) Review of Past Minutes, June 2025 Meeting

Jim moved and Derek seconded. Everybody approved.

3) Review Status of Action Items, June 2025 Meeting

a. Update website (Miltos Alamaniotis)
   - Miltos will update the web site within a month and everybody who has new should email Erik

b. Update Bylaws and Rules (Jim Bowen)
   - ANS decided to change the meeting format. Jim reported that transition office will happen.

c. Student awards for RANC - Provide update on award format, then vote on email (Steve LaMont)
   - Steve LeMont has the RANC list, but he was not available at the time. Jim mentioned that there are currently four student awards; however, discussions are underway to increase the number to five during the Marc conference.

d. Send out the standards list and those needing volunteers to EC (Jim Bowen)
   - List was sent out by Jim.

e. ANS 15 – Licensing research reactors, find participate for committee (Lin-wen Hu)
   - We are still looking for volunteers to populate the committee. Lin mentioned that the ANS committee is active and has updated the website. She will also look into finding a volunteer from IRD to participate in the committee.

f. Contact TRTR regarding IRD providing sponsorship (Brendan Heidrich)
   - Brendan reported that they held a meeting at Texas A&M University in September, and that the meeting went very well.

4) ANS Operations Overview

- Erik mentioned that the briefing slides were sent out today. He noted that American Nuclear Society has experienced steady growth, particularly since the COVID period. Revenues have increased

slightly, although expenses have also risen, primarily due to food and accommodation costs associated with meetings. However, revenue growth has outpaced expenses, placing ANS in a very strong financial position. Conference attendance also remains robust, with the Chicago meeting drawing high participation and the Winter Conference also achieving significant attendance.

- An announcement was made that there will be no annual meeting held after 2027.
- The student conference will be co-located with training classes.
- The number of conferences is increasing, including ANS-sponsored and topical meetings.
- Erik solicited ideas from members for engagement initiatives and general program improvements within American Nuclear Society.
- Mentoring courses are performing very well, with solid registration numbers.
- Opportunities for increased involvement from divisions were discussed.
- Publications and standards activities remain strong, with a high number of submissions and outputs.
- Outreach activities continue to be strong.
- Public policy efforts are highly active, with committees generating new ideas; additional input is being solicited.
- Divisions are performing well overall, with healthy financial contributions. IRD holds a reasonable share within the divisions given its size.
- Erik noted that American Nuclear Society allocates a significant portion of its expenditures toward student support (awards, scholarships, etc.). While other operational costs exist, a large share of revenues ultimately supports students, which was highlighted as a positive outcome.

5) Treasurer's Report

- Greg reported on 2025 income from members and income generated from the MARC meeting.
- He noted that revenues are expected to approximately double by the end of the year.
- A significant portion of funds is now being allocated to student support, and the level of student funding needs to be further defined.
- Total support is expected to approach $100,000.
- Lin emphasized the need to allocate funds to provide monetary recognition for awardees.
- She also noted that most of the funding was generated from the MARC meeting.
- Lin suggested establishing a dedicated account to recognize colleagues for service through a separate award mechanism within IRD. Kenan supported this proposal.
- Lin further proposed a $1,000 award for this purpose.
- There was discussion that the process becomes more complex when establishing separate awards and accounts. Greg commented on IRD budgeting considerations and requested further exploration of the appropriate structure and status for new awards.
- Erik noted that coordination with the national American Nuclear Society will be necessary to determine whether this can be implemented. Lin will follow up on this action item.

6) IRD Statistics

- IRD has continued to grow, with membership increasing by the end of fiscal year 2025. The division now includes more than 1,100 members.
- Membership distribution was also discussed, with students representing approximately 20% of the division. Members come from a diverse range of organizations, including national laboratories, utilities, and industry.
- Erik emphasized the importance of increasing student engagement in IRD activities.
- Among the 18 divisions, IRD has experienced one of the highest growth rates compared to the others.

7) Division Committees

a. Program

b. Kenan reported that there are 14 technical papers scheduled for the current meeting, along with two general IRD chairs. Kyle also organized a special session.

c. A fourth session was canceled due to the government shutdown.

d. Kenan also solicited ideas and proposals for sessions at the next American Nuclear Society meeting.

e. In addition, he listed several meetings relevant to IRD activities, most of which will take place in Europe. The list included five conferences.

f. Derek mentioned that he submitted a request to the publications committee asking whether the NESTOR paper could be presented within IRD sessions.

g. Erik thanked the IRD members and this year's session organizers for their strong participation and contributions.

h. Proposals and ideas for new sessions must be submitted within the next two weeks.

i. Honors and Awards

i. Radiation Science & Technology Award

ii. Vogt Radiochemistry Scholarship

iii. Gozani Family Graduate Scholarship

- Sam, the chair of the committee, reported that the Vogt Scholarship had been awarded. The Gozani Award was also presented to an individual from University of Tennessee. He encouraged members to nominate strong students for future awards whenever possible.
- The IRD Award was presented to Richard Howard from Oak Ridge National Laboratory, who will attend on Tuesday.
- Discussion also covered the IRD representative for the Mishima Award. Jim noted that Patrick Molly from Oak Ridge National Laboratory had served in this role.
- Approximately 100 student papers submitted to the MARC conference were reviewed for paper awards. Initially, four awards were selected; however, due to a tie, Sam suggested adding a fifth award. Jim motioned to allocate an additional $500 for a fifth recipient, Derek seconded the motion, and the proposal was unanimously approved.
- Sam suggested that Miltos collect information for the newsletter so that these achievements and updates can be included.
- Sam also noted that he will coordinate with Tracy regarding how to notify individuals who were not selected for awards.

8) Subcommittees

a. Industrial Measurements and Applications (R. Cao)

- Raymond did get out of the room so no report was given.

b. Nuclear and Atomic Analysis (S. Glover, S. LaMont)

- The main contribution is the MARC conference.

c. Radiation Effects (E. Cazalas)

Ed was not present at the meeting. Erik asked whether there was interest in adding more members to this committee. There was also discussion regarding the possibility of merging this committee with other subcommittees.

d. Safeguards, Forensics and Non-Proliferation (S. Biegalski, K. Hartig)

- Kyle said that they try every other year to have a special session and have contributed session.

e. Research Reactors (L. Hu, E. Wilson)
   - New research reactor that have been selected UIUC, Abilene university project was mentioned by Lin. The training and research reactor conference was mentioned by Erik, who attended. In the meeting that was well attended they talked about new reactors and visionary talks.

f. Isotope Production (J. Bowen)
   - Jim did not have any updated due to his job transition.

g. Neutron Sources, Neutron Beams and Applications (K. Unlu)
   - Kenan mentioned provided some updates. Highlighted the initiatives from various universities on the topic focusing on Penn state.

h. Gamma and Neutron Imaging Applications (I. Jovanovic)
   - Igor was not here.

i. Development and Applications of Nuclear Technology for Life Sciences (R. Steiner)
   - Rob said that he is trying to put a session together for next year. Nothing further. Erik mentioned about isotope production and medical conference updates were shown in the European nuclear conference.

j. Transuranics (TBD)
   - There was no update for this committee. There was some brainstorming on who to bring on. Erik mentioned to bring someone that is not part of the IRD yet.

(note: external noise was made by plates)

- Follow up Discussion:
  - Discussion focused on isotope production across several application areas, including Small Modular Reactor and microreactors. Questions were raised regarding whether dosimetry could become an area of interest for IRD applications, leading to a broader discussion on dosimetry in nuclear technology applications.
  - Erik asked Rob whether he needed assistance in developing ideas for sessions for next year. Rob responded that the primary challenge is establishing contacts within the medical community, particularly in the area of radiation therapeutics.
  - Erik suggested several communities and individuals that could potentially be approached for collaboration and participation. Kenan also noted that some universities with medical physics programs may be interested in contributing to these discussions..

STUDENT ANS CONFERENCE

- Jeremy, a student from Texas A&M University, presented information regarding the upcoming ANS Student Conference. He noted that approximately 900 attendees are expected to participate. The meeting will take place at the student center, and information regarding hotel accommodations was also provided.
- Jeremy mentioned that the submission deadline is January 6 and solicited volunteers to serve as reviewers and judges. Several award categories will be offered, including Best Paper, Best Poster, and Senior Design Poster, with monetary awards associated with each. He also noted that an IRD track will be included in the conference program. The conference is scheduled for April 16–18.
- There was also discussion regarding increasing the level of support to $2,000. Kyle motioned for the increase, Jim seconded the motion, and the proposal passed.

9) Other Interfaces and Contacts

a. Standards Committee Interface (Downing)

- Greg was unable to attend the committee's meetings and, as a result, expressed his intention to step away from the committee. Erik then asked whether anyone else would be interested in serving on or attending the committee..

b. Environmental and Siting Consensus Committee (TBD)
   - No one is interested in this committee.

c. Safety and Radiological Analysis
   d. Erik asked whether anyone was interested in becoming engaged with this effort or whether it should be discontinued. No interest was expressed.

10) Old Business

a. YMG recruiting and IRD membership
b. Updating IRD website
c. Update Bylaws and Rules
d. Document management options
   - No significant updates on those topics here.

11) New Business

- Raymond Cao noted that some executive committee members have not attended meetings recently. Erik stated that he will reach out to members to encourage greater participation and engagement within the IRD committee, as the committee is currently near its minimum membership threshold. He also emphasized the need to identify enough candidates for the next election cycle in order to maintain a healthy number of Executive Committee members.

12) Conclusion – Call to Adjourn

- Jim motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Kenan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting was successfully adjourned.
- Erik wished everyone a successful and enjoyable American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting..