

PREFACE

EIGHTH TOPICAL MEETING ON THE TECHNOLOGY OF FUSION ENERGY

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The Idaho Section of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) was pleased to have the opportunity to cosponsor and host the Eighth Topical Meeting on the Technology of Fusion Energy with the ANS Fusion Energy Division and the U.S. Department of Energy in Salt Lake City, Utah, in October 1988. Although the attendance of 225 at this biennial meeting was lower than expected, which was probably reflective of decreasing funding for fusion, the presentations, discussions, and renewal of acquaintances were of benefit to all who did attend. The breadth of attendance was about the same as previous meetings, i.e., ten countries, ten U.S. laboratories, two companies, and thirteen universities were represented.

Over the three-and-a-half day meeting span, 182 papers were presented either orally or in the poster session. Twenty-five of these papers were invited, including the five presented in the plenary session. The papers were presented orally in seventeen technical sessions, with three or four sessions being held simultaneously. The latest experimental results, safety concerns, ITER design and progress, and recent inertial confinement fusion developments attracted the most interest. The attendance of nine participants from the USSR and their presentation of two papers were noted additions to the meeting.

Salt Lake City is a beautiful city with a lot of history. Although October is a marginal time for weather in this area, we were fortunate enough to have very pleasant weather. Many people enjoyed the veranda around the pool area during the Tuesday social event. The hotel facilities and service were exceptional. Following the presentation of awards at the luncheon, the lighthearted entertainment of Kristi Flake was a highlight, especially her rendition of the alphabet with help from our Registration Chair. And then there was the

banquet. Dr. Robert Hunter, newly installed as Director of the Office of Energy Research in the U.S. Department of Energy, presented his perception of the outlook for the development of fusion energy from his two months in office. Although his words were not those most of the attendees wanted to hear, they did delineate perceptions that we need to be cognizant of and responsive to in our actions. In addition, he provided some suggested actions that could potentially improve the acceptance of fusion energy development.

The guest program provided a variety of activities from sightseeing to shopping. The beauty of the city and setting, the friendliness of the people, and the historical significance of the area made an impression on all attendees. A performance by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir was enjoyed by many. Those who made the trip to Park City in connection with one of the satellite meetings to the conference enjoyed the nostalgia of a mining town of the Old West plus a look at one of the premier Salt Lake area ski slopes.

I am grateful to the organizing committee for their diligent planning, which was key to the smooth operation of the meeting. There were very few items that were unforeseen. The facilities were very nice, and the hotel staff was very cooperative. The heart of the meeting, the technical program, was assembled by Jimmy Crocker, Doug Holland, Bill Hogan, and an excellent program committee. The organizing committee would like to thank George Miley and the ANS staff for their efforts in support of this publication.

The organizing committee worked hard to make this meeting an informative, enjoyable, and memorable event for all attendees. We had a good time putting it all together and hope that each attendee agrees with us that our objective was met.