

CANADIAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY/SOCIÉTÉ NUCLÉAIRE CANADIENNE INC.

To: CNS Council
From: Bill Garland <garlandw@mcmaster.ca>
Subject: Update on the Universities Committee
Date: December 1, 1998

file # 1600

The following summarizes the status of standing committee actions and activities:

- **Annual CNS Conference October 1998:**

The Annual CNS Conference is one of the few opportunities to meet with those interested in the activities of the Universities Committee. The following summarizes items discussed:

- Romney Duffey, AECL Chief Scientist, expressed interest in university - AECL collaboration. He wished to be put "in the loop", which by this report, he is.
- In an extended conversation with Hugues Bonin, Brent Lewis, Daniel Rozon and Jean Koclas, it was concluded that:
 - A formal education session at the next annual conference would not draw sufficient interest to warrant the effort. However, it was decided that an informal meeting, perhaps just before the Sunday reception, would be a good idea.
 - There was a common need to give courses remotely. Brent agreed to follow up with his dean and I agreed to table the MacWaTor agreement on reciprocal course credits that had been signed by McMaster, Waterloo and Toronto universities. Many universities have distant learning capabilities already but the telephone connect charges can be prohibitive. The internet offers a cheaper alternative. A number of distance learning formats exist: full video conferencing; individual (CUCME type) video conferencing, information sharing on the web, perhaps with sound and animation; joint teaching or remote teaching along the line of correspondence courses augmented by email; travelling professors giving short courses; and combinations of the above.

- **Sharing of Course Material:**

To repeat my usual refrain, a web site has been initiated at <http://epic.mcmaster.ca/~garlandw/> to encourage the sharing of material. A request for contributions and comments has been sent out to university professors and others who might be interested in this. Council members are invited to visit the web site and give their comments. It is hoped that once the site matures, it will be ported to the official CNS web site.

- **Student Conference:**

No progress to report. The 1999 conference will be at Trent University and the 2000 conference will likely be at McMaster University.

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