CANADIAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY/SOCIÉTÉ NUCLÉAIRE CANADIENNE INC.

To: CNS Council file # 1600

From: Bill Garland <garlandw@mcmaster.ca> Subject: Update on the Universities Committee

Date: December 8, 1999

The main activity of the Universities Committee for the coming year will be the student conference.

Annual Student Conference - March 2000:

- Planning is proceeding well, thanks to the enthusiastic help of undergraduate students, graduate students and ex-students.
- The sponsorship drive is underway now that the budget has been approved by Council. The CNA has agreed to sponsor half the deficit up to \$2500. At McMaster University, the Department of Engineering Physics has donated \$600, the Faculty of Engineering has also donated \$600 and the McMaster Nuclear Reactor will run the reactor on Saturday gratis. The external solicitation letter has been drafted and should go out before Christmas.
- Registration is going well. To date, we have received commitments for 9 papers and 19 student attendees in total. Council members who plan to attend can register via the web.

Presentation to the AECL R&D Advisory Panel:

• The above panel invited me to speak on behalf of the Universities Committee about its view on the current nuclear education situation. Comments from committee members were solicited by email and incorporated into a short presentation (attached) delivered to the panel on December 3, 1999. In short, student enrolment is low and industry, in spite of their personnel shortage and growing expertise gap, has not responded. Student interest hinges on industry outreach. Interestingly, I received a call from the AECB the same day expressing the same concerns. Perhaps we are at a watershed.

Upcoming Meetings:

- An informal meeting will be held for all those interested in the committee's activities at the Annual CNS Student Conference (March, 2000).
- An informal meeting will be held for all those interested in the committee's activities at the Annual CNS Conference (June, 2000). There has been no progress on setting up an educational session at the conference.

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