

WM2012 Conference Panel Report

PANEL SESSION 45: Young Professionals

Co-Chairs: Robert O. Berry, *Foxfire Scientific, Inc.* (UK)
Leonel Lagos, *Florida International University* (USA)

Panel Reporter: Robert O. Berry, *Foxfire Scientific, Inc.*

Panelists:

1. Aujas Mistry, *UK-YGN*
2. Kenneth Walter, *YGN, Arizona Public Services*
3. Daniel Labrier, *Idaho YGN, Idaho State University*

This session focused on the activities of three different chapters of Young Generation Nuclear (YGN) and their different focuses due to both location and goals of the chapters.

Aujas Mistry (AJ) started the session with a 15 minute presentation of the goals and activities of the UK-YGN. His lecture started with the basic organization of the national chapter and its association with the local chapters. AJ stressed the importance of professional development of the UK-YGN members and the different activities that YGN offers. He pointed out that UK-YGN also is very involved in the political process and UK government affairs that concern the nuclear future in the UK. Several questions were later asked concerning the benefits of membership in UK-YGN and how they were supported by the industry.

AJ also gave a brief lecture discussing changes being implemented to project management to not only cut the time that decommissioning activities take, but also the cost. He cited a specific project he was currently working on as to the expected time and cost savings on this work using these new techniques.

Daniel Labrier gave a very interesting 15 minute presentation that focused on the restart of the Idaho Chapter of YGN. He discussed the work being done by this chapter to capture the knowledge of long time employees of Idaho National Laboratory and the importance of this work. He discussed the outreach activities of the chapter with the local schools and community. He also stressed the importance of these activities and how the locals welcomed the return of the chapter. Several questions were asked about the laboratory's support of the chapter's activities and it was asked why the previous chapter had been shut down.

Kenneth Walter is a worker at the local utility (APS). He gave a 15 minute presentation about the local chapter's activities. He outlined the chapter's goals and activities and how they interact internally within the company and externally with the local community. He stressed the close ties with APS and its support of the chapter's work. Ken also outlined the chapter's work with young engineers at the company and how the YGN chapter aided in professional development both inside and outside the company. He also pointed out the chapter's activities within NA-YGN and how it had been recognized by NA-YGN as an Outstanding Chapter. Several questions followed the lecture, most of

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which expressed some concern about the close ties the chapter had with APS, but Ken pointed out that this was critical to ensure the chapter's success.

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