

WM 2014 Conference Panel Report

PANEL SESSION 45: Young Professionals in Nuclear Science & Engineering

Co-Chairs: Robert Berry, *Foxfire Scientific, Inc (United Kingdom)*

Leonel Lagos, *Florida International University (FIU)*

Panel Reporter: Leonel Lagos, *FIU*

Panelists:

1. **Denia Djokic**, *Post Doctoral Student, University of California Berkeley*
2. **Christine Csimadia**, *President NAYGN*
3. **Duriem Calderin**, *AREVA- Hanford*

This session focused on new hires and graduating engineers having open lines of communication with their employers. The session opened with the three panelists giving a brief introduction of themselves, followed by individual 15 minutes presentations. The audience followed the presentations by asking the speakers question by stepping to the microphone. (8 questions received).

Panel 44 tried to bridge the gap and open lines of communication by outlining the wants and needs of both the employer and young professionals about to enter the industry. The goal is to achieve a satisfied workforce and a better work environment.

Melody Bell broadcasted what the US Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management Office has to offer and the varying incentives for graduating young professionals as well as how they recruit their current interns. They are focusing their attention on different internships and pathway programs to entice current graduating students such as the DOE- FIU Workforce Development Program.

Kevin Cooper from the Indian River State College focused on nuclear industry training to make sure the demand for skilled nuclear technicians is met in a standardized and systematic way. Mr. Cooper described IRSC Regional Center for Nuclear Education & Training (RCNET) activities and nuclear courses for technicians being offered under this program.

Duriem Calderin from AREVA – Hanford and former Florida International University’s DOE Fellow discussed his current position at AREVA as a young engineer/professional and his involvement in the local chapter of North America Young Generation Nuclear (NAYGN). He described some of the activities that he has carried out as a NAYGN member and outreach programs to local high schools in Richland, WA. Mr. Calderin also mentioned FIU’s DOE Fellows program and his experience and training as a DOE Fellow while attending FIU.