

## AGENDA

**Local Sections Committee Workshop and Business Meeting**  
**8:00 am – 12 noon**  
**Sunday, November 11, 2007**  
**Calvert Room – Omni Shoreham Hotel**  
**Washington, DC**

8:00 a.m.      **Introductions**

8:10 a.m.      **Goal/Purpose of Workshop**

The goal of the workshop is to prepare the LSC to develop the five-year plan for Local Sections revitalization. The LSC five-year plan is a significant component of the ANS Strategic Plan and is scheduled to be finalized by June 2008. The five-year plan may include changes in the structure of Local Sections needed to meet the needs of their members and to support activities in nuclear science and engineering at the local level.

Successful practices from “healthy” Local Sections may be helpful as part of the plan, but these alone may not be the solutions required for inactive or dormant groups. Therefore, we will not be focusing on a recitation of successful practices. Rather, the LSC will review challenges to the vitality of Local Sections and brainstorm what changes may be required to revitalize local groups.

8:15 am      **Review Challenges to the Vitality of Local Sections**

Time and commitment? Demographics? Motivation/Support? Distance? Other?

8:30 or 8:45      **Brainstorm “Possible Solutions”**

Think “outside the box.” Don’t focus on implementing specific successful practices.

9:15              **What CHANGES are Needed to Implement “Possible Solutions”**

9:45 – 10:00 am      **Break**

10:00 am      **Business meeting**

1. Approval of minutes, June 2007
2. Business case for free registration of local section chairs at national meetings
3. Utility Integration Group
4. Report to the Board of Directors
5. Any other items resulting from workshop

12:00 noon      **Adjourn**

## Status of Local Sections

(based on communication or lack of communication with ANS Headquarters)

Nov. 1, 2007

Section	State	Listed on 2006 Survey	Active	Inactive	Dormant	Ann. Report Received
North Alabama	AL	N		x		
Birmingham	AL	N		x		
Arkansas	AR	Y		x		
Arizona	AZ	N			X June 04	
San Diego	CA	Y	?	?		
Northern California	CA	Y	x			c
Colorado	CO	Y	?	?		
Connecticut	CT	Y		x		
Washington DC	DC	Y	x			c
Florida	FL	Y		?		
Southeast Florida	FL	N			X Nov 05	
Georgia	GA	Y		x		
Iowa	IA	N			X June 04	
Idaho	ID	Y	x			p
Chicago	IL	Y	x			p
Central Illinois	IL	Y		?		
Kansas	KS	N			X Nov 05	
Louisiana	LA	Y		?		

Section	State	Listed on 2006 Survey	Active	Inactive	Dormant	Ann. Report Received
Northeastern	MA, NH, RI, VT	Y	x			p
Michigan	MI	Y	x			c
Upper Midwest	MN	N		x		
Missouri	MO	Y		x		p
Mississippi	MS	Y	x			P
Eastern Carolinas	NC	Y	?			
Nebraska	NE	Y		x		
Northern NJ	NJ	N		x		
Carlsbad	NM	Y	x			c
Trinity	NM	Y	?			
Nevada	NV	Y	x			p
Northeast NY	NY	N		x		
Niagra Finger Lakes	NY	N		x		
Long Island	NY	Y	?			p
Metro NY	NY	Y		?		
Ohio	OH	Y		?		
Oregon	OR	N		x		
Pittsburgh	PA	Y	x			p
Delaware Valley	PA	N		x		
Central PA	PA	N		x		
Northern Pennsylvania	PA	Y	x			p

Section	State	Listed on 2006 Survey	Active	Inactive	Dormant	Ann. Report Received
Piedmont Carolinas	SC	Y		?		
Savannah River	SC	Y	x			c
Columbia	SC	Y		x		
Chattanooga	TN	Y			X Nov 06	
Oak Ridge/ Knoxville	TN	Y	x			p
South Texas	TX	N		x		
North Texas	TX	Y		?		
Virginia	VA	Y	x			c
Eastern Washington	WA	Y	x			c
Puget Sound	WA	Y		x		
Wisconsin	WI	Y	?	?		
Austria		N	activity		X Nov04	
Japan		N	x			p
Korea		N	x			p

Y - yes

N - no

c - complete report

p - partial report

? - uncertain/maybe

LSC

Name	Member LSC	Section	offer?	Email
Chuck Vincent	N	Hd qtrs	N	cvincent@ans.org
Audeen Fentiman	Y		N	fentiman@purdue.edu
Pamela Gondeck	<del>Y</del> N	Louisiana	N	pgondec@entergy.com
ROBERT PENN	Y	VIRGINIA	Y	ROBERT.PENNA@nva.com
Reed Johnson		Virginia	N	w.r.johnson.kab@nva.com
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Steve Herring	Y	Idaho		
Dominique GRENECHE	France	SEFANS		dominique.greneche@jreva.com

**Minutes**  
**Local Sections Committee**  
Sunday, June 24, 2007  
ANS Annual Meeting  
Marriott Copley - Boston

Agendas (**Attachment #1**) were distributed.

**Local Sections Committee Workshop, 8:00 - 10:30 AM**

This session focused on the recently completed Survey about Local Sections.

Printed copies of the raw data in bar graph form (**Attachment #2**) and an extensive analysis of the results, 176 pages compiled by Marketing Assistance and Research Solutions (**Attachment #3**), were distributed to those in attendance. (This information had been made available to the LSC and Chairs of Local sections earlier, via listserve.)

Chuck Vincent provided an overview of information from the detailed analysis document. There was considerable discussion of the information gathered.

The sense of the LSC was that the survey provided a wealth of data that will help shape further action. Results showed that over two-thirds of ANS national members do not currently participate in local sections. There was, however, no indication that the structure of the local sections needs to be significantly altered. Most respondents (63%) said they would be willing to spend 1-4 hours per month on local section activities and were interested in meetings on technical topics and/or social or political issues facing nuclear power. If those types of meetings are offered, the key to getting people to attend them seems to be making sure all ANS members within reasonable driving distance are notified in a timely manner. Electronic communication seems to be a good option.

**Comments/requests:**

- It was requested that we break out Survey comments for those Local Sections where there are more than 10 people responding.
- Regarding the data on page 5 of the detailed analysis, it was requested that we provide information about the population of ANS National Members for each State.
- Regarding the Local Section listing on page 6 of the detailed analysis, it was requested that we provide a summary of those in the following categories: active, inactive, dormant. Also, we were asked to provide information about the number of years the section has been in existence.
- There was a request that we see if there is a way to find new "clusters" of people for Local Sections.
- It was requested that we examine data on those who indicated they were "not notified of meetings" and see if there was a pattern of company or state.
- It was requested that we examine the data for reasons why company managers DO or DO NOT attend Local Section meetings.

**Local Section Committee Business Meeting, 10:45 am- 12:00 noon**

- 1) The meeting was called to order and it was determined that a quorum was present. (Sign-in sheets are **Attachment #4**).
- 2) Minutes of the November 2006 meeting (**Attachment #5**) were reviewed. Reed Johnson moved for approval of the minutes; second by Audeen Fentiman. Motion carried.

*Continuing Business*

- 3) The LSC discussed proposed changes to the Standard Bylaws for Sections (B10.1 & B10.2). The proposed changes were developed by the BRC after the LSC meeting in November. These changes were approved by the BOD, pending endorsement by the LSC. The proposed changes provide a procedure for amending the Standard Bylaws.

Under the proposed changes, amendments to the Standard Bylaws can be proposed by the BRC, the LSC, or a Local Section. Under the proposed revision, the LSC would notify all Local Sections of the proposed change. Comments would be filed with the LSC Chair no later than 45 days prior to the next ANS meeting. Then, the LSC would vote its approval or disapproval. Changes to the Standard Bylaws for Local Sections would require approval of the LSC, the BRC, and the BOD. (Details of the procedure are found in ANS Rules 17.5.1. This specifies that changes to the Standard Bylaws for Local Sections, approved in this manner, do not require full-membership approval of each Local Section.)

After discussion, the LSC voted its approval to the changes to Standard Bylaws for Local Sections. 11 YES, 0 NO.

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In a related matter, Reed Johnson, on behalf of the BRC, asked the LSC to approve an addition to and two minor grammatical changes to the Standard Bylaws for Local Sections. He explained that the BRC wanted to get these changes implemented at the same time as the finalization of the process for amending Standard Bylaws for Local Sections.

**Standard Bylaws for Local Sections, B 7.3**

This section of the Standard Bylaws specifies that the Local Section, through its Executive Committee, shall adopt suitable rules for operation. The request was for the addition of the sentence, "The procedure for amending the rules shall be specified in the rules."

**Standard Bylaws for Local Sections, B3.3**

The requested change was to break a long sentence into parts, and eliminate two words so that the section would read, "The Section shall not have authority to act for or in the name of the Society without prior approval of the Board of Directors or the elected Corporate Officers. However, the Section on local matters may represent the official position of the Section upon the approval of the Section Executive Committee and after consultation with the Chair of the Society's Public Policy Committee or the Executive Director of the Society."

Standard Bylaws for Local Sections. B4.4

The request was to insert the word "and" in order to clarify the intent of second sentence of the first paragraph. The sentence would read, "Section Participants whose qualifications for participating the Section activities have been approved by majority vote of the Section's Executive Committee shall be entitled, upon payment of a contribution, or mailing fee, not less than the annual Section dues, to receive notice of, AND to attend meetings and to have other privileges specifically granted by the Section.

After discussion, the LSC approved the changes. 9 YES, 0 NO, 2 ABSTAIN.  
These changes will become official when approved by the BOD.

- 4) As a matter of information, it was noted that a change to the ANS BYLAWS (B9.1), approved in the recent ballot, mandated Local Sections to adopt the Standard Bylaws for Local Sections by June 30, 2008. This means that Local Sections must prepare and submit for review a set of Local Section Rules for use with the Standard Bylaws.
- 5) Audeen Fentiman presented a revised draft of LSC Liaison Responsibilities (**Attachment #6**), listing "essential activities" separate from "additional best practices." The LSC approved adoption of this list.
- 6) Audeen Fentiman presented the draft of a Business Case (**Attachment #7**) for waiving the meeting registration fees for the Local Section Chair at one meeting each year. There was not time for a detailed discussion. Feedback on the proposal was to be directed to Audeen.
- 7) Chuck Vincent noted several sections where Surveys of membership were indicated due to inactivity or dormancy. These surveys were postponed in view of the larger overall survey about Local Sections; they are subject to further direction by the LSC.

*New Business*

- 8) David Pointer, Bob Penn, and Reed Johnson volunteered to work with LSC leadership in proposing next steps for the LSC as it makes recommendations and handles its responsibilities under the ANS Strategic Plan.
- 9) It was noted that Annual Reports from Local Sections are due by August 31.
- 10) The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Submitted by,  
Chuck Vincent  
ANS Staff Liaison

## Business Case Template

1. **ANS Area(s):** Local Sections Committee
2. **Project Name:** Registration Waiver for Local Sections Officers
3. **Strategic Focus:** For example, Asset Management  Operations  Cost  Workforce
4. **Project Category:** For example, Board Discretion  Economic
5. **Project Total Costs:** We propose to have one officer from each active local section or plant branch attend one ANS national meeting each year. ANS Headquarters staff members estimate that there are about 30 local sections or plant branches either sufficiently active or sufficiently interested in being active to benefit from having an officer attend an ANS national meeting. The maximum cost of waiving one local section officer's registration fee would be  $\$720 \times 30 = \$21,600$  per year.
6. **What is the Problem or Situation?** Local sections are not adequately connected to ANS National. As a result, local section members who do not have the chance to attend National meetings do not benefit as much as they could from ANS, nor do they contribute as much as they could.
7. **What is the project Objective(s)?**
  - Bring one officer of each local section/plant branch to one national meeting each year
  - Have those officers attend the Local Sections Committee workshop and meeting to provide an update on their sections' activities, share best practices, make the Committee aware of any problems the local sections are facing, and brainstorm on solutions to those problems
  - Strengthen the ties between local sections/plant branches and ANS National
8. **What alternatives have been considered?**
  - a. Alternative Assessment (1) ANS National members reach out to local sections. The Local Sections Committee (LSC) has a liaison assigned to each local section and plant branch. In addition, ANS officers visit as many local sections and plant branches as possible. These activities are ongoing and efforts could be made to increase the number of contacts.
  - b. Alternative Assessment (2) Increase the frequency of electronic communications between ANS National and the local sections and plant branches.
  - c. Industry Benchmarking - none
  - d. Peer Assessments - Discussions with local section officers who do attend ANS National meetings and Local Sections Committee meetings. They find being at the National meetings stimulating, and they make many contacts which they can pass along to members of the local section or plant branch.
9. **What are the potential outcomes of each alternative?**
  - a. Assessment (1) To date, outreach by LSC members and national officers has not provided the number of local section contacts or the depth of commitment to local section action that is desired. LSC members connect with their assigned local sections or plant branches electronically and typically communicate with only one or two members of the section. ANS officers visiting a local section are likely to interact with a large number of members, but they can visit only a limited number of local sections or plant branches. In addition, ANS pays for the officers' travel. This approach has resulted in very limited connections between local section members and ANS national. Increasing the number of

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local section members contacted would require a substantial commitment of national officer time and resources for their travel.

- b. Assessment (2) Results of a recent survey of ANS members and discussions with local section members at past LSC meetings indicate that many of the local section members, and especially the younger ones, use the local meetings for networking and learning about the status of the industry, particularly as it relates to local companies. Members tell us that electronic communications are fine for announcing meetings, but they do not seem to be a desirable way to network or learn the latest technical information.
- c. Industry Benchmarking – none
- d. Peer Assessment - see discussion in 9.b.

**What are the criteria used to determine the selected alternative?**

Provide basis for selection: The proposed alternative was selected because it appears to offer the most direct connection to the largest number of local section members at the minimum cost – direct connection being defined as someone who has attended a national meeting talking with a local section member.

**10. Have there been previous attempts to address this problem? Explain.**

Yes. As noted in 8.a. LSC members serve as liaisons to local sections and plant branches. In addition, ANS officers travel to local sections. But these actions have not provided strong connections to ANS national for significant numbers of local section or plant branch members.

**11. Are other ANS areas affected?** Some groups, for example, the Membership Committee, would be affected by strengthened connections with local sections.

**If yes, what are they doing?** Local section members periodically receive invitations to join ANS, but unless those members feel a strong connection to ANS national, they are unlikely to establish or maintain a national membership.

**12. What are the project's key drivers (including sensitivities)?**

The key driver is the need for ANS to have a stronger local presence in the areas where nuclear professionals work; to be recognized as *the* organization for nuclear professionals and *the* source of information for professionals, employers, local decision makers, and the public.

**13. Why is this the recommended solution or action?**

Having an officer from each local section or plant branch attend the ANS national meeting and the LSC workshop makes it possible for ANS national to connect directly with a larger fraction of the local section and plant branch members than the other alternatives considered. It provides the local officer with information and contacts he or she can pass along to all of the other members of his or her section. The officers have an opportunity to discuss best practices for local section operation with other local leaders, which is much more informative than simply reading a list of best practices distributed by the LSC. In addition, it provides ANS officers and headquarters staff with an opportunity to learn first-hand about the activities and concerns of the local sections.

**14. What is the value to ANS?**

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The primary value of the proposed action is a closer connection between ANS national and its local sections. As the nuclear industry revives and aging members of our organization retire, new employees will be hired, and active local sections will offer them a connection to ANS national. Through this closer connection with the local members, ANS will be able to provide more people with up-to-date information on the industry and strengthen its reputation as *the* professional society for employees of the nuclear industry and *the* source of credible information on nuclear science and technology. The closer connection will probably also result in some new members in ANS National.

**15. What are the consequences of delaying or not implementing the project?**

The nuclear industry is hiring more people now than it has in decades. The number of nuclear engineering students has tripled over the past 6 years. If the ANS does not have a local presence in the areas where the number of nuclear professionals is growing, those professionals will find another society to meet their needs. It will be much more difficult to pry those professionals away from another society once they have established relationships within it. The window for improving the connection between ANS National and local sections/ plant branches is relatively small.

**16. What are the risk elements of the project?**

The risks are primarily financial. The maximum cost of the proposed project is \$21,600 per year. If fewer than 30 local sections and plant branches participate, the cost will be less. Costs of the project will be offset by any new membership fees that would not have been realized if the local section officer had not attended a national meeting and made connections he and his section members found to be useful.

**17. What are the bases for the assumptions? Is there a commitment?**

The bases for the assumptions made in the calculation of project costs are current ANS member registration fee and number of local sections and plant branches that regularly submit annual reports or contact ANS Headquarters.

The current LSC Chair and Vice-Chair, along with the ANS Headquarters liaison to the LSC, commit to making local section and plant branch officers aware of the opportunity to attend the ANS national meeting, to making the LSC workshop and meeting valuable to those officers who do attend, and to following up with the officers attending to maintain and strengthen the connection with the local section.

**18. Project Results/Performance Outcomes:**

As with any project designed to build relationships, this one will take some time to work. We estimate that three years will be required to demonstrate the project's effectiveness. The performance outcomes will be:

- more local section and plant branch officers attending ANS National meetings and participating in LSC workshops
- increased membership and activity in the local sections and plant branches whose officers attend the meetings
- increased ANS national membership from areas represented by the officers who attend the national meetings

**19. Proposed Mechanism for Performance Measurement. Is the Work Aligned With Current ANS Strategies? Are Internal Resources (ANS Staff) Utilized Appropriately?**

The mechanisms for measuring success of this project are the three in the bullets in Item 18. Increasing local section membership and activity is a key component in 4 of the 5 goals in the strategic plan. The ANS staff member serving as a liaison to the LSC has been very active and effective.

## Business Case Template

1. **ANS Area(s):** Local Sections Committee
2. **Project Name:** Registration Waiver for Selected Local Sections Officers
3. **Strategic Focus:** For example, Asset Management  Operations  Cost  Workforce
4. **Project Category:** For example, Board Discretion  Economic
5. **Project Total Costs:** We propose to have two officers from each inactive section selected for revitalization and two officers from an active section interested in becoming more active attend ANS national meetings without paying the registration fee. The total number of people attending with registration waivers and the conditions under which they attend are outlined below.

The proposed program is for three years. In Year 1, one officer from each of two sections selected for revitalization and one officer from an active section that wants to become more effective will attend the June national meeting without paying the registration fee. A different officer from each of the 3 sections will attend the November national meeting. The officers will be expected to carry out a number of tasks prior to, during, and following the national meetings. Thus, in Year 1, ANS will make an investment of 6 registration fees ( $\$720 \times 6 = \$4,320$ ).

If the approach taken in Year 1 is successful based on the criteria outlined in Item 18, it will be repeated in Year 2 with an officer from each of 3 sections selected for revitalization (different sections from those selected to participate in Year 1) and 1 active section attending the June and November national meetings without paying the registration fee. The investment will be  $\$720 \times 8 = \$5,760$ . If the approach taken in Year 1 is not successful, it will be modified and the new approach will be tried with only 2 inactive sections and one active section.

In Year 3, the number of inactive sections selected for revitalization will be increased to 4, and again one active section will be involved. The ANS investment will be  $\$720 \times 10 = \$7,200$ .

**What is the Problem or Situation?** Many local sections are inactive or do not adequately serve the needs of nuclear professionals in their areas. The sections are not active in the Local Sections Committee and typically do not provide a link between nuclear professionals in their area and ANS National. As a result, local section members and nuclear professionals in the area served by the local section do not benefit as much as they could from ANS, nor do they contribute as much as they could.

6. **What is the project Objective(s)?**
  - The ultimate objective of this project is to revitalize local sections by reactivating those that have become inactive and would like to be active again, starting new sections in places where there is a growing population of nuclear professionals, and helping somewhat active sections to become more active.
  - In order to meet the main objective, several other supporting objectives must be met. They include
    - A person willing to lead the revitalization process and a successor must be identified and must agree to take on the task
    - The leader and successor will prepare a preliminary plan for section activities for one year
    - The leader will bring the plan to the June ANS national meeting and work with the Local Sections Committee officers and ANS Headquarters staff to prepare a more detailed plan for the year
    - The leader and successor will implement the plan and talk periodically with the LSC officers and Headquarters staff

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- The successor will attend the November ANS national meeting, bringing a report on the section's activities for the year to date, a preliminary plan for the following year, and a leadership succession plan. The successor will meet with LSC Officers and ANS Headquarters staff to prepare a detailed plan for the following year.
- The LSC officers and ANS Headquarters staff, with input from the local sections involved in the project, will prepare a short report describing the 3 years of revitalization activities and analyzing the results. The purpose of the report will be to describe the process and results in sufficient detail to guide future revitalization efforts.

**7. What alternatives have been considered?**

- a. Alternative (1) ANS National members reach out to local sections. The Local Sections Committee (LSC) has a liaison assigned to each local section and plant branch. In addition, ANS officers visit as many local sections and plant branches as possible. These activities are ongoing and efforts could be made to increase the number of contacts with local sections.
- b. Alternative (2) Increase the frequency of electronic communications between ANS National and the local sections and plant branches. The electronic communications have included a survey of inactive sections to determine what could be done to make the local sections more valuable.
- c. Industry Benchmarking - none
- d. Peer Assessments – Discussions with local section officers who do attend ANS National meetings and Local Sections Committee meetings. They find being at the National meetings stimulating, and they make many contacts which they can pass along to members of the local section or plant branch.

**9. What are the potential outcomes of each alternative?**

- a. Assessment (1): To date, outreach by LSC members and national officers has not led to reactivation of the inactive sections. LSC members connect with their assigned local sections or plant branches electronically, and ANS officers visit local sections with travel costs typically paid by ANS. These approaches have resulted in very limited improvement in local section activity, due in part to the fact that continued activity depends on having strong local leaders.
- b. Assessment (2): Results of a recent survey of ANS members and discussions with local section members at past LSC meetings indicate that many of the local section members, and especially the younger ones, use the local meetings for networking and learning about the status of the industry, particularly as it relates to local companies. Members tell us that electronic communications are fine for announcing meetings, but they do not seem to be a desirable way to network or learn the latest technical information.
- c. Industry Benchmarking – none
- d. Peer Assessment - see discussion in 9.b.

**What are the criteria used to determine the selected alternative?**

Provide basis for selection: The proposed alternative was selected because it results in identification of local leaders, development of plans for at least 2 years of activities in the local section, and support of the local leaders by LSC officers and ANS Headquarters staff in implementing their plans.

**10. Have there been previous attempts to address this problem? Explain.**

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Yes. As noted in 8.a. LSC members serve as liaisons to local sections and plant branches. In addition, ANS officers travel to local sections. But these actions have not resulted in revitalization of the local sections.

- 11. Are other ANS areas affected?** Some groups, for example, the Membership Committee, could benefit from revitalized local sections. No other standing committees would be expected to play any role in carrying out the proposed plan.

**If yes, what are they doing?**

- 12. What are the project's key drivers (including sensitivities)?**

The key driver is the need for ANS to have a stronger local presence in the areas where nuclear professionals work; to be recognized as *the* organization for nuclear professionals and *the* source of information for professionals, employers, local decision makers, and the public.

- 13. Why is this the recommended solution or action?**

The key to active local sections is strong and continuing leadership. This plan requires that a leader and a successor be identified for the section. Those leaders are required to work with LSC officers and ANS Headquarters staff to develop and implement two years worth of plans for local section activities. Having the leader and successor attend an ANS national meeting provides the local officers with information and contacts they can pass along to all of the other members of their section. The reactivated section's officers have an opportunity to discuss best practices for local section operation with other local leaders, which is much more informative than simply reading a list of best practices distributed by the LSC. In addition, it provides ANS officers and headquarters staff with an opportunity to learn first-hand about the activities and concerns of inactive local sections.

- 14. What is the value to ANS?**

The primary value of the proposed action is a stronger grassroots organization that serves nuclear professionals and connects them to ANS national. As the nuclear industry ("nuclear industry" here is defined broadly, including all industries utilizing nuclear science and technology) revives and aging members of our organization retire, new employees will be hired, and active local sections will offer them a connection to ANS national. Through this closer connection with the local members, ANS will be able to provide more people with up-to-date information on the industry and strengthen its reputation as *the* professional society for employees of the nuclear industry and *the* source of credible information on nuclear science and technology. The closer connection should also result in new members joining ANS National.

- 15. What are the consequences of delaying or not implementing the project?**

The nuclear industry is hiring more people now than it has in decades. The number of nuclear engineering students has tripled over the past 6 years. If the ANS does not have a local presence in the areas where the number of nuclear professionals is growing, those professionals will find another society to meet their needs. It will be much more difficult to pry those professionals away from another society once they have established relationships within it. The window for improving the connection between ANS National and local sections/ plant branches is relatively small.

- 16. What are the risk elements of the project?**

The risks are primarily financial but they are minimized by implementing the project one year at a time and evaluating it at the end of each year. The risk to the organization is less than \$5,000 in the first year.

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**17. What are the bases for the assumptions? Is there a commitment?**

The basis for the assumption made in the calculation of project costs is the amount of the current ANS member registration fee.

The current LSC Chair and Vice-Chair, along with the ANS Headquarters liaison to the LSC, commit to making local section and plant branch officers aware of the opportunity to attend the ANS national meeting, to working with the local section officers to develop viable plans for 2 years of local section activities, and to following up with the officers attending to maintain and strengthen the connection with the local section.

**18. Project Results/Performance Outcomes:**

- Inactive sections chosen for participation in the program will have identified, committed leaders for 2 years, a leadership succession plan, and a detailed plan for section activities for 2 years.
- The active section chosen for participation each year will have two years of detailed plans.
- With substantial assistance from LSC officers and ANS Headquarters staff, the local sections will carry out those plans and prepare an annual report on their activities.
- After two years of activity and with some help from LSC officers and ANS Headquarters staff in preparing and implementing plans for years 3 and beyond, the local sections involved will adequately serve nuclear professionals in their areas, including providing a connection to ANS national for those members.
- Local section membership, and hopefully ANS national membership, in the areas served by the local sections participating in the project will increase.

**19. Proposed Mechanism for Performance Measurement. Is the Work Aligned With Current ANS Strategies? Are Internal Resources (ANS Staff) Utilized Appropriately?**

The mechanisms for measuring success of this project are the bullets in Item 18. This project will increase local section membership and activity, which is a key component in 4 of the 5 goals in the strategic plan. The ANS staff member serving as a liaison to the LSC has been very active and effective.

# AMERICAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY

## Report to the Board of Directors

by

### Local Sections Committee

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#### 169<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Directors

Submitted by: J. Stephen Herring

Concurrence: Audeen Fentiman

Date Submitted: November 13, 2007

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The Local Sections Committee (LSC) has been focusing on those aspects of the Strategic Plan needed to expand the vitality and activities of local sections during this time of rising interest in nuclear science and technology. Annual reports on local section activities through August 31, 2007 were submitted by 17 Local Sections in the U.S. and three international sections in France, Japan and South Korea. Over the years, five local sections have been declared dormant by action of the Local Sections Committee, though in one of these sections, Austria, we have been informed of renewed activity. Fourteen sections are apparently inactive, in that we have no information on their activities.

#### **Survey on Participation in Local Section Activities**

In Spring 2007, the LSC conducted a survey of the reasons for participation (or non-participation) in local section activities. The survey was sent to all national members and forwarded to members of local sections by their local leadership. Approximately 800 responses were received and the data was correlated and analyzed by the Marketing Assistance and Research Solutions group at Bemidji State University. The results of the survey (totaling >200 pages) were discussed thoroughly by members of the LSC and leaders of local sections at the June 2007 meeting in Boston. At that meeting, several requests for additional information were made, specifically for the reasons for non-participation by those who identified themselves as managers and by those who said that they were not notified of activities. In addition, within the general category of those not participating, the analysts cross-correlated various responses among those who gave reasons of "distance to events," "lack of time/ conflicting family or work obligations," "participation not supported/encouraged by employer," "Local Section activities are irrelevant/boring/poorly attended," etc.

Finally, at the request of several chairs of local sections, the responses of members of individual local sections were collected and sent to their respective local chairs. This information was only distributed to those sections having ten or more respondents to the survey, so that individual responses could not be identified through the demographic parameters of the survey subgroup.

#### **Business Case for Participation by the Leadership of Revitalizing Sections in the National Meetings**

A business case has been prepared by Prof. Audeen Fentiman, the Vice-chair of the LSC, in which we propose that one officer from each of two previously inactive sections be selected to attend the June national meeting without payment of the registration fee. Before the June meeting, the section leader would submit a plan for the coming year and a succession plan for section leadership to the LSC and ANS staff liaison. At the meeting the section leader would review the plan with the LSC and also participate in the rest of the meeting. Generally, selection would be limited to those section leaders who have not attended a national meeting for five years. The successor would attend the November meeting and present plans for the coming year. During the first year, two previously inactive sections would be selected, during the second year three previously inactive sections and during the third year four previously inactive sections would be selected. Further details and restrictions on participation, as well as the estimates of the cost of the project, are contained in the business case, which has been submitted to the Finance Committee and, if approved, to the Board of Directors

### **Local Sections' Workshop**

At the workshop for local section leaders, we listed several of the challenges as identified in the survey and then brainstormed on various ways of meeting those challenges.

The main challenge identified by the section leaders was the limited time available for participation in section events and schedule conflicts among the many activities in which members, especially those with young families, are involved. Corporate changes in location and realignments of the corporate structure were also identified as major challenges to increasing participation in a local section. Some local leaders also noted that employers often attach more significance to activities with ANS professional divisions than they do to local sections.

The attendees at the workshop identified electronic communications as a way to address the shortage of time and scheduling conflicts that often prevent members' participation. While changes in corporate structure and location may remove established leaders from one local section, that movement also provides the opportunity to invite younger members to move into leadership roles. The value of the local section to the employer needs also be more clearly defined and promoted. The ANS can serve as a conduit for continuing education and professional development for employees through 'brown bag' seminars and other programs of interest to the local nuclear engineering community. The role of the local ANS in making employees aware of developments in the broader fields of nuclear science and technology is another service that can be provided to local members and their employers.

We discussed alternatives to the traditional dinner meeting as fora for information exchange, networking and professional development. Some suggested breakfast meetings at the workplace or lunchtime seminars. The use of blogs and electronic newsletters was discussed as a means for maintaining contact throughout the membership. The need for collaboration with the NAYGN and the Young Members Group, as well as WIN, was emphasized. The need for structural changes, either organizational or geographic, was discussed. In developing the five-year plan in support of the ANS Strategic Plan, the list of specific actions, as summarized above, will be refined in the next six months and presented at the June 2008 meeting.

### **Membership in the Committee**

Of the twelve present members of the LSC, nine have terms expiring in June 2008. We discussed with William Burchill the need to early identify those members whom we wish to reappoint to the LSC and the need to canvas the volunteer forms and other expressions of interest for future members of the committee.

### **ANS / Utility Integration Group**

Don Hoffman briefly described the actions of the Special Committee on ANS / Utility Integration in promoting increased vitality for local sections and increased value to local section participation to the utilities. The LSC chair also heard a more detailed presentation by John McGaha on the initiative as given to the President's meeting with committee chairs. The members of the LSC and the leaders of local section were encouraged by the recognition of the value of local section activity and the role of the local section as an avenue for continuing education and professional development. The leaders of the Special Committee and the LSC chair also discussed times for organizing closer collaboration between the two groups, specifically at a working meeting of the Special Committee in March 2008 and/or at the Utility Working Conference in August 2008.

### **Recommended Actions (Motions)**

Please provide a clear, concise statement of desired Board action(s)

Approval of the business case for the attendance of leaders of previously inactive sections at national ANS meetings.

