

*Glasstone Award Submission*



*2010-2011*



American Nuclear Society

**TEXAS A&M AGGIES**



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## THE GOAL

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Texas A&M offers one of the best educations in Nuclear Engineering available for both undergraduates and graduates. While our professors do their job to educate these young men and women, it is the responsibility of our American Nuclear Society Chapter here at Texas A&M to help teach the students the skills they need to become professionals in the workplace.

This year the goal was simple: *Work hard, develop professional skills, and distinguish ourselves from the field as sharp, creative leaders.*

From the very beginning, with a restructuring of the Director responsibilities, we set out to put real leadership opportunities into the hands of our bright students. There was no way we could accomplish all the things our President had envisioned without a strong team of motivated individuals.

From the first meeting we called for these individuals and boy did we get them. In the following report, the details of our successful year will be laid out. This is meant to serve as a testament to the hard work and effort of our young Aggies and to provide a fore-shadowing of the quality work we expect of them as they enter into the working world.

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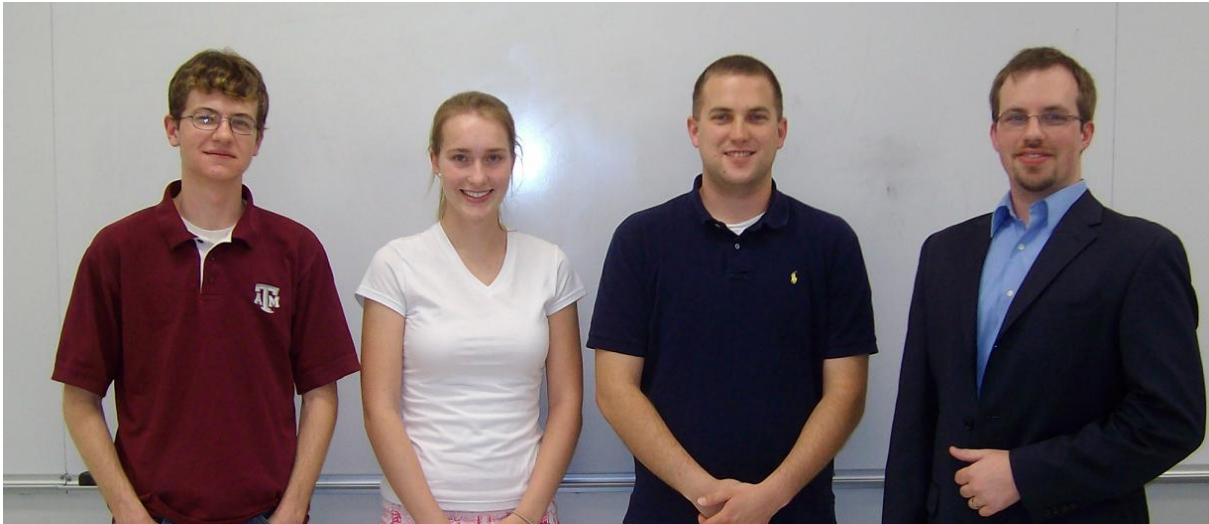
# Leadership

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## Officer Selection

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Elections were held for the 2010-2011 officers a few days before the 2010 ANS Student Conference. The TAMU ANS dues paying membership gathered as we heard speeches from the candidates who wanted to serve as officers. At this time Will Sames had decided not to run for President again and we found ourselves with a new President, Samuel Kuhr. Pete Maginot who served as the previous Vice President was selected for another term. A young and academically outstanding student, Mclan Amos, was elected as the new Treasurer. In the same round a quiet young student, Ashley Swim, would become the Secretary of our ANS group and end up aspiring to even greater roles. A lot of changes would come in the year ahead. The success we have met with has been the result of over 100 students working together to achieve our goals.



*Mclan Amos, Ashley Swim, Peter Maginot, Samuel Kuhr (left to right)*

## Directorship Rejuvenation

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Building upon the previous structure, eleven Director Positions were fully developed and the President appointed students to each position. This was the way we delegated tasks and accomplished events like Big Event, outreach programs, The Scouting Nuclear Merit Badge Program, and professional development. The executive decision to solidify director roles placed leadership opportunities on the shoulders of our students. They were encouraged to lead in a real-world fashion (something that can't be taught in classes.)

This structure required that each Director present a project goal for the semester. At the winter break, the Director had the option to step down and the President had the option to remove Directors who are not performing their duties. This kept a fresh selection of energetic leaders at the top of the ANS leadership.

The success of this rejuvenation was evident in the new leadership among our members and the projects we tackled.



# Corporate Relations

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## Corporate Guests and Recruiters

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TAMU ANS hosted a wide variety of speakers this year in order to fulfill one of our primary missions, informing students of the opportunities that exist after college graduation. Each guest brought professional presentations, personal stories, and food, the driving fuel for young engineers. We shared laughs and great Q&A sessions as our students learned about each company.

This year we were proud to host:

- Hyperion Power Generation.
- The University of Michigan NERS graduate program
- Idaho National Laboratory's Naval Reactors Facility
- Entergy
- Luminant: Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Station
- Bettis and Knolls Naval Research labs
- Halliburton: Well Logging Division
- The United States Navy: Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Program.

# Professional Development

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## Professional Development Workshop

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To begin the year in-line with our goal to develop professional skills, a workshop was created for our members to discuss professional opportunities within our ANS Student Section, as well as the TAMU Nuclear Engineering Department. The topics covered at the event were inter-department research opportunities, ANS student section involvement, conferences, scholarships, fellowships, internships, and jobs. The turnout to the event was good, with 20 to 30 undergraduates coming to learn from seniors, graduate students, and faculty. TAMU-ANS has posted resources online about these opportunities to our student section website:

<http://ans.tamu.edu/internships>.

## Financial Lessons

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One of our members previously worked as a financial planner for five years. With some coordination, he offered to teach financial lessons to the seniors and graduates in two of our seminars this year. These lessons focused on the importance of being smart with money. He explained tools like 401ks and Roth IRA's and gave guidelines on how much to save, how to pay for school, and how to get out of debts. These talks were well received by both faculty and students. The seminar organizer has already requested the presentations for the following semester to next year's seniors and graduates. Finding individual strengths and encouraging our membership to share that knowledge has been a key ingredient to the success of this year.

## Academic Field Trips

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It is very important for students to get real-world experience with nuclear reactors, research facilities, and industry. Often times, these shadowing opportunities are one of the few glimpses a student will have at a career and the work environment. Our intention with academic field trips is to expand this program so that regular annual trips are made to expose students to different careers. This year ANS members, along with WIN members, went to Comanche Peak and the TAMU Nuclear Science Center research reactor located off of the A&M Campus. Students received tours of the facilities and had opportunities to interact directly with professionals in the nuclear field. These events received a lot of positive feedback and offered the additional benefit of helping students build friendships during the travel.

*ANS and WIN  
Event: Aggies  
at Comanche  
Peak Nuclear  
Power Plant*





# Academic Excellence / Study Groups

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## **Study Groups:**

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Freshmen and sophomores don't share a lot of classes together in our undergraduate program. The math and physics classes can be quite large and it is rare to see these young undergraduates in the Nuclear Lounge or computer lab. This year we wanted to change that. Through the direction of one of our students, our student section launched a study group initiative. Lists were made for every class and several students made themselves available for tutoring sessions as tests came up. The Alpha Nu Sigma chapter here at Texas A&M has expressed interest in offering tutoring session next year in the newly renovated Nuclear Lounge and we expect to keep this program growing. It may be hard to quantify the improvement this offering brings, however the impact is obvious. "Students who work in that lounge are the ones making the good grades," commented our Nuclear Engineering undergraduate adviser. She was happy to see so many students working together.

## Scouting

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### **Increased Volunteer Participation and Leadership Reorganization**

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There were two main steps taken by TAMU ANS to increase volunteer participation and motivation.

The first step was the identification and placement of leaders within the society. Leaders were selected for work ethic, communication ability, and experience. These leaders were placed within a leadership committee that held regular meetings as required.

The second step was the identification and placement of volunteers. The entire TAMU ANS section was queried through a questionnaire completed during organization registration and due pay. From the list of those who indicated interest in Nuclear Science Scouting Program, a meeting was arranged to discuss the goals of this semester's program. Volunteer opportunity tiers were discussed. The three tiers offered were counseling, chaperoning, and general assisting, each with different commitment requirements.

Listed below are those who volunteered to assist in the Scouting Programs.

**General Directors**

Wesley Deason – Boy Scout Program  
Julie Borgmeyer – Girl Scout Program

**Assistant Directors**

Christopher Chance – Administrative  
Lloyd Price – Curriculum

**Counselors**

Lily Raabe – Nuclear Power  
Leigh Ann Emerson – Radiation Health and  
Safety

**Chaperones/Assistants**

Ashley Swim  
Eric Davied  
Matthew  
Fitzmaurice  
Rose Twaddle  
Karin Pharr  
Alice Dale

### **Redevelopment of Presentations, Quizzes, Worksheets, and Activities**

Lloyd Price, Lily Raabe, and Leigh Ann Emerson were tasked with improving and reformatting the previously developed program materials. They were given free reigns to over the material and held meetings on their own accord. The presentations were improved through the addition of illustrations, better organization, and better language. The worksheets were rebuilt to better utilize the fill-in-the-blank method in order to increase retention. The quizzes and worksheets were built to work off of the presentation and each other. Using this reconstructed format, the participating Scouts could listen to and watch the presentation, then quickly record what they learn in the already constructed sentences. The filled-in worksheets could then be used to complete the quiz, prompting the Scouts to review the material in the process. Lastly, many activities were added to increase the movement of participants and to better illustrate concepts.

### **Introduction of Program Webpage and Prerequisite Quiz**

With the new website format and editing capability, it was relatively easy to post information about the Scouting Program online with other TAMU-ANS materials. Information was posted concerning the purpose and history of our program, as well as this year's program details. Additionally, a prerequisite quiz was constructed using Google Forms that enabled the Scouts to review atomic and chemistry basics before coming to the program, leaving more time for activities, tours, and materials. It was found that the introduction of a webpage reduced the workload of leadership considerably, as well as providing a window into one of our active programs to share with website visitors.

## Development Into a Multiannual Program

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Although the program has been successfully run for the past two years, it was of concern that the program, if not properly recorded and categorized, would be weakened or even lost in future implementations. A binder recording the core of the program is in construction that would carry the details and intent of the program. In addition to this, a director has been selected for next year's program and he is being trained up to lead a well planned and recorded program for the 2011 -2012 school year.

## Results

### Attendance

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	Scouts	Parents	Staff
*Girl Scout Program (February 26, 2011)	40	10	12
Boy Scout Program (March 26, 2011)	32	19	9
Boy Scout Program (April 9, 2011)	43	22	10

The figure above shows the attendance for this year's programs.

\*note: Due to lack of recording data, the attendance for the February 26th Girl Scout Program is approximate however it is felt to be accurate.

### Budget

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Dues Collected	515*
Materials	497.73
Remainder	17.27

The figure above shows a simplified budget for the 2010-2011 Scouting Program. No dues or materials were recorded for the Girl Scout Program due to the organization of Girls Scout Interest Patch Programs.

\*note: Not all attendees paid dues as dues were only charged to those eating a pizza lunch.

## Pictures

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ANS helps bring Girl Scouts to the Nuclear Science Center

## Undergraduate Socials

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### **Glow in the Dark Party**

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During our Beginning of Year (BOY) Party, students met at the Student Recreation Center. After a hearty meal of fried chicken, French fries, Texas toast and an assortment of drinks, we enjoyed an evening of playing volleyball and basketball. It is great to be in college and our students make the most of moments like these. Over 30 students came out to have fun.



## Tailgate: Texas A&M vs Oklahoma

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Annually, ANS and the Nuclear Engineering Department team up to host a tailgate for at least one major football game. This year we hosted a tailgate at the Texas A&M vs Oklahoma football game. We started the pre-game festivities with lots of hotdogs and hamburgers as well as adult and junior grade refreshments. Over 100 students, faculty and staff enjoyed a great time together and had an even better time later that evening when our Aggies pulled out a victory over the Sooners.



ANS Aggie Tailgate

## Chili Cook Off

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For the 28th consecutive year, Prof. Kenneth L. Peddicord again opened his home to TAMU-ANS and TAMU-HPS to hold the annual Chili Cook-Off. The Chili Cook-Off is an excellent time for student chefs to bring out their best chili, side dish, and dessert creations to be judged by Department faculty and spouses. Alternatively, this was an excellent opportunity for students to extract revenge on those professors with whom they had grading grievances.

## Graduate Socials

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Graduate student events were hosted by ANS to enhance student interaction within the Nuclear Engineering Department. Texas A&M boasts one of the largest Nuclear Engineering Graduate Schools, and many of these students come from widely varying backgrounds. Students hailing from Michigan, Florida, Georgia, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Virginia mingle with students from India, Pakistan, Jordan, China, Japan and beyond. Encouraging fellowship is essential to building a co-operative and vibrant research environment. Socials hosted for these students consisted of meeting at local eateries and gathering for study sessions. An end of the year a BBQ is planned as a final farewell to the academic year.

## Intramurals

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TAMU-ANS participated in a number of intramural athletics this year in order to have some fun as a group and get away from the grind of studying. Two main goals of the intramural director were met this year. One goal included getting more of the female members involved in the fun and the goal was accomplished in that we had three co-ed sports teams this year. We will continue to grow the number of co-ed and women's team in the future as well.

Another goal was to have more success in the playoffs in order to show the intramural community that ANS is more than just a bunch of smart kids out there to get knocked around. This goal was met when the men's five on five basketball team made it to the third round of the playoffs and finished the season with a 5-1 record. The team was also sponsored by Champions sports apparel who gave the team free shirts that said "NUKES" on the back so everybody knew who the team members were representing.

All of the teams represented ANS very well and many individuals participated throughout the year. There was a great amount of fun to be had and there will be more in the future as we continue to improve the intramural program and get more people involved.

# Outreach Events

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## Freshman Welcome

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Before the first day of class, TAMU-ANS hosted a freshman welcome to introduce students to Nuclear Engineering, ANS, and college life. Current students shared their knowledge and advice, and mixer worksheets were handed out. New students were given tours of our computer lab and the Nuclear Lounge. This event was the first step in spurring greater freshman involvement in our society for the year.

## Aggieland Saturday

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Prospective students and their families are invited to Tour Texas A&M at the an annual campus-wide open house. During this one day, visitors had the opportunity to meet current students, tour the dorms, visit libraries and computer labs and see what Texas A&M has to offer. The Nuclear Department works with the Engineering school to present information about the different engineering majors available. Our students are always willing to help and many of our freshmen get a kick out of helping someone else at such an early stage in their college career.



Aggieland Saturday: Presenting to prospective students





## Aggieland Saturday: Tours of a Nuclear Reactor

### Engineering Open House

At the beginning of every school year, the College of Engineering hosts an open house where all undergraduate students interested in engineering may see what activities and academic areas each department and student organization focuses on. TAMU-ANS, TAMU-HPS and TAMU-INMM all assisted the department in recruiting interested students.

### Future Aggie Majors in Engineering

In April 2011, Texas A&M Student Engineer's Council held their annual 2011 FAME conference. FAME is a recruiting and outreach project where high school students come to Texas A&M to learn about what it means to be an engineering student. Our section provided a couple presenters to give eight 20 minute sessions for rotating groups of students. We spoke about the state of Nuclear Engineering in the United States, give an introduction to nuclear physics, talked about the Nuclear Engineering Department, and answered questions about being an Aggie student.



## Discover Engineering

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ANS, HPS, and WIN members volunteer to showcase Nuclear Engineering for middle school and high school age students. Visitors are welcome to take lab tours and see the nuclear reactor in the basement of the main engineering building. Fiesta Ware and candy, need we say more?



ANS members demonstrate a Geiger Mueller counter over Fiesta Ware.



## Individual Visits and Volunteering for the Department

Our Department will often have individual visitors or small groups come through to visit and check out our facilities, students, faculty, and college life in general. There are so many numerous occasions where our officers and members have responded to the “can you come talk for a moment,” request, that we cannot number them here. The truth is that our ANS members and Aggie students in general are always willing to give a moment to speak to a new student or prospective group. Our undergraduate advisor keeps in close contact with our Outreach Director and we were happy to supply warm smiles to all sorts of Department outreach events.

## Fukushima

When the Fukushima reactors came into the headlines several efforts were launched:

- Our President sent two specific e-mails to the ANS student section encouraging the other Presidents to get involved, educate their students, and encourage their Departments to reach out to the community.
- We had two students (Will Sames and Zachary Pappas) write articles for our campus newspaper.
- We called on the Department to immediately post links to reliable information such as [ansnuclearcafe.org](http://ansnuclearcafe.org) on our Department webpage.
- We encouraged faculty and students to stand up as reliable resources of objective information.
- We helped facilitate an early seminar to our seniors and graduate students so they would have the facts when talking to friends.

*Student-lead action and Departmental resources provided useful information.*

**TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING**

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**NUCLEAR ENGINEERING**

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**News and Information Regarding Events in Japan**

**INFORMATION ON THE JAPAN NUCLEAR REACTORS**

We extend our deepest sympathy and concern to the people of Japan in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami. The Department of Nuclear Engineering continues to follow the developments at Japan's nuclear plants. We urge our students to continue to monitor the situation, consult the faculty regarding your questions, and refer to the following websites for the most current information.

Information updates on nuclear power stations in Japan:

By taking swift, early actions we successfully constructed reliable avenues to our faculty and ANS-National for our community to seek answers. These measures have equipped our students to share valuable information with the Scouts and other students in our college. ANS students even went to present information to other student groups (such as the Energy Club).

These outreach efforts culminated with a talk that was given to the A&M community (faculty, staff, students, and private citizens) on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Dr. Frederick Best and Dr. John Poston, presented in plain English to a live auditorium. The event was taped and will be made available to the public. The effort was planned by our local ANS chapter and the L.T. Jordan Institute which provides programming on international events. Students were involved in helping Dr. Best and Dr. Poston prepare their presentations.

## Community Service

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### Big Event

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The Big Event is a community outreach program put on completely by Aggie students. Students go out to the community and volunteer to help the Bryan/College Station residents with all sorts of yard work, painting, cleaning, and special projects. Gardens are planted, leaves are raked, windows are washed, and trash is gathered and thrown out as the entire community ushers in the spring season. This year our Big Event fell on the same weekend as one of our scouting workshops. Due to the generosity of our students, we pulled off both events! Our ANS Student section held the large scouting event and also staffed 18 students for the Big Event.



*ANS  
Students  
participate  
at Big Event*





*Leaving our mark at Big Event (We did finish painting the wall)*

## Fundraising

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### Sponsorship Package

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TAMU-ANS developed a sponsorship package to recruit corporate sponsors for section activities. There are different levels of sponsorship, allowing an organization to get the desired amount of exposure out of their contribution. Deliverable items are associated with each level as shown below. The US Navy became the first sponsor of TAMU-ANS for the 2010-2011 Academic Year, at the Sponsor Level. AREVA became a sponsor at the Sponsor level, and sponsored part of the travel of TAMU-ANS members to the 2011 ANS Student Conference in Atlanta. The successful implementation of this sponsorship framework represents a change in the way that TAMU-ANS operates and pursues funding for activities. The benefits of this have already been seen by students, as 36 students were able to travel with TAMU-ANS via bus thanks to corporate sponsorship. New club merchandise is in the development, including items that will fit into this sponsorship plan.

#### Sponsorship Levels

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Plutonium - \$5000+

Uranium - \$4000+

Thorium - \$2500+

Sponsor - \$1000+

## Sponsorship Awards

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Through the hard work and sharp insight of our members, we were able to secure three sponsorships this year.

\$1,000 from the Student Engineering Council

\$1,000 from AREVA

\$1,500 from the US NAVY

## Budget

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One goal this year was to leave the bank account with more money than we found it. This was going to be a tall task, especially if we were going to send large amounts of students to the ANS Student Conference and remodel the Nuclear Lounge. Through some creative bargaining, diplomacy, and honest requests for funding, we were able to accomplish our goals and leave 70% more money in the account that we started with. This money is intended to seed future projects and goals of the club. Initially, it will also be used to restock merchandise, fill in gaps for the student lounge remodel, and provide materials for the Resource Library.

2010-2011 Simplified Balance Sheet	
Beginning Balance	\$4,544.43
Dues	\$1,265.00
Merchandise sales	\$847.00
Sponsorships	\$4,272.25
Transfer from 30000 account	\$1,622.82
Travel reimbursements	\$3,564.49
Misc	\$285.66
Merchandise Purchases	(\$600.00)
Hotel Expenses for Winter 2010 and Spring 2011	(\$2,740.40)
Bus co-pay to Nuclear Department	(\$3,650.00)
Ending balance	\$9,411.25

# Special Projects

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## Nuclear Engineering Student Lounge Remodel

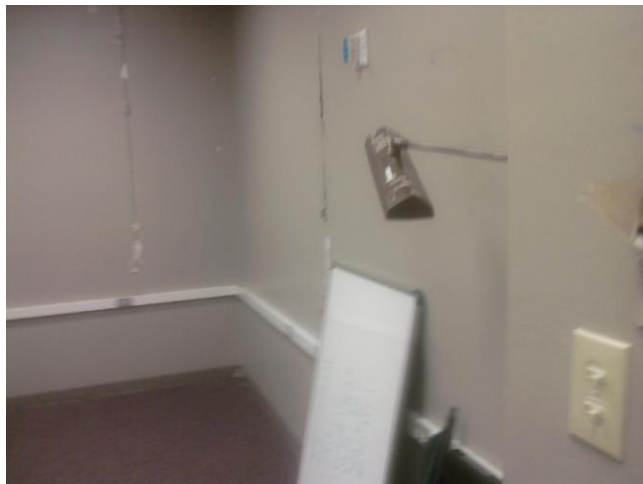
This was an aggressive project aimed at renovating a room dedicated to study and yet void of students who wanted to study within its walls. The old student lounge had an unpleasant smell, which we would later find out came from the 30 year old carpet underneath the existing carpet, cramped, dilapidated furniture arrangements, and cluttered posters and pictures all over the walls. It was possible to study there, if one did not mind feeling like being in a hole in the wall. Upon returning to school, in the fall of 2010, we began the project of renovating the Nuclear Lounge.

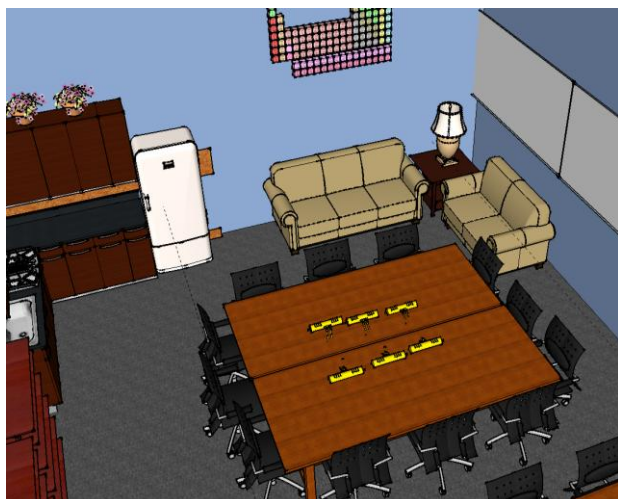
The main motivation was to provide students a suitable and desirable place for studying and interactions. This project has taken several months and required a large co-ordination effort between ANS members, our Nuclear Engineering Department, and professional contractors. ANS students organized and co-ordinate the majority of the work, while constantly working to keep the project on track. The flooring has been removed, asbestos abated, new carpet laid down, the walls painted, electrical outlets have been re-wired, wall-to-wall white boards installed, and a Resource Library has been developed with numerous textbooks and reference books donated by faculty and students. Students are currently working on fund raising to purchase new furniture to maximize the study space.



*Nuclear Lounge with posters and miscellaneous Ethernet conduits removed from the wall. The conduit in the center of the room was a constant nuisance and made furniture arrangement difficult.*

*Note the one whiteboard. This was the only board in the whole room. Additionally, the old carpet was torn, frayed, and a faint odor was commonly present.*





ANS Student Lounge Renderings  
New Features included: two table  
study areas, a couch reading area,  
large whiteboard space, cabinets  
to house microwave and fridge,  
and bookshelves for the new  
Resource Library

(Prepared by Student Members)



## Resource Library

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Students collected 20+ textbooks during the spring of 2011. The goal is to have a current textbook from every class our students are required to take. This is an ambitious project; however we have met with great success. Currently the books are being wrapped with a special cover to identify them as resource books and they will be available for the summer 2011 year. At the end of the semester we expect to receive more donations and we are aiming to have a fully stocked library by January 2012.

In addition to the textbooks, our newly remodeled lounge hosts more comfortable areas for studying and reading. Copies of "The Economist" have been made available by a faculty member. ANS "Nuclear News" is also available for students in the lounge. We expect more valuable resources to be donated as the students show their ability to care for the current books and periodicals.



Students work to paint the Nuke Lounge



*New paint, new white boards, new carpet, and electrical work complete.*

*Happy Students*





## ANS Conferences

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### **Sumer 2010: San Diego**

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Our student section sent seven students to the Annual meeting in San Diego. We participated in several presentations and poster sessions.



*ANS Students in San Diego – What great weather!*

### **Winter 2010: Las Vegas**

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For the winter meeting held in Las Vegas, our student section organized travel and rooms for 11 students. Of these students five were presenting posters or papers. This conference was particularly useful in showing some of our top students the atmosphere in which they will be soon presenting their own research.

### **Spring 2011: Atlanta**

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Texas is a long way from many of the east coast nuclear industries. In response to a local career fair which hosted only five nuclear engineering companies, we were determined to send a large number of students to the ANS Student Conference. The attraction of a large career fair and the opportunity to bring attention to our program culminated in 36 students traveling by bus to the Georgia Tech hosted event.

Though this may seem like a simple task, it soon became obvious that we would have to really sell the idea of taking a bus across five states and over 800+ miles one way to the Department. Funding was provided for 13 students to fly to the conference instead of the initial funding requested for the bus. When approached, the majority of those 13 offered to pool their money to help pay towards the cost of the \$7,000 bus rental. A travel sponsorship from AREVA helped bring the cost down again, and finally it was just a matter of rallying the students.

With an initial number of 13 students planning to attend, we were able to stretch dollars, work through the appropriate channels and secure a bus which took a total of 36 Aggies out to Atlanta. In Atlanta we found a great career fair, excellent presentations, a lively night life, and new friends among the other member schools.

We made the impression we were looking for and we now have verbal commitments from TVA, Dominion, Duke, and several other companies to come to Texas A&M next year to recruit our students. Additionally, several students have already secured internships and job offers from this trip. What a success!



*ANS Student Conference: "The Future is so Bright, I gotta' wear shades"*

*- Or maybe we are going to see an IMAX*

# Awards

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## Leadership Recognition

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During the recent 2011 ANS Student Conference, two of our leaders were acknowledged for their outstanding contributions. The Leadership Award, received by Samuel Kuhr, and the Service Award, received by Ashley Swim, are outward symbols of the successful projects our entire society accomplished this year. We were very blessed to have so many students step up through official and unofficial leadership roles. Our society has expanded and flourished into a vibrant and active group of students.

As elections came around this year, the room was packed, there was a buzz of energy, and warm pizza smells filled the air charged with smiles and laughter. We are having a great time in Aggieland and we wanted to share our story for the benefit of others.



*Aggies at the ANS Student Conference Awards Banquet*

## The Next Step

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Everything we built this year was made possible by the hard work of last year's officers and directors. They gave us a firm structure to build upon and we extend a warm, "Thank you."

For our own success, it has come and gone just like that. We have happy students, job offers, a renovated Nuclear Lounge, a rejuvenated section, and a new officer corps eager to take the reins. This is what we love about being Aggies, as one group finished, the next group steps up.

We have hosted two major ANS Student Conferences within the past decade and our new officer corps is looking to bring another one to Texas A&M. In order to accomplish this goal we will once again have to prove that this is the best location for such a prestigious event.

We are preparing, we are building, we are growing, and we look forward to the challenges of the new school year.

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**American Nuclear Society  
Texas A&M Chapter**

### On a Special Note:

The events surrounding the natural disaster in Japan have brought into focus the benefits and challenges of nuclear power. We, as Nuclear Engineers, often become frustrated with the public's lack of, "common sense," and often times we hear how someone else should be "out there" promoting nuclear power. "Big Industry should be advertising more," "professors should be making better connections across departments and speaking out with the media," "Congress needs to get it together and put money into nuclear power plants," and the list goes on. As students, it is our responsibility to do everything in our power to promote the peaceful, responsible, and safe use of Nuclear Energy for the good of the world.

Not only does it provide power we desperately need, nuclear science also provides vast opportunities in healthcare, proliferation prevention, food processing, and many more applications. We encourage our students to get involved now and not wait for someone else to lead. By taking action, we ensure that something IS being done to build a positive image of the Nuclear Industry and, more importantly, that image needs to be backed-up by safe and reliable practices.

Nuclear accidents will continue to occur, especially with older plants, and in countries without stringent safety measures for their nuclear power endeavors. It is extremely important that the United States play an active role in building our own new power plants and nuclear facilities so that we can help lead the world in the secure and safe development of nuclear energy.

Let us work hard now, not tomorrow. If we see an opportunity to vote for a difference, or answer a question, or calm a fear, or take responsibility for a reality, let us not put it off in hopes that someone else will build our future for us. We are the Nuclear Engineers of America. We are some of the best and brightest minds in the world. The future is ours to craft, ours to win, and ours to lose if we don't take responsibility.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the Japanese people in this time of tragedy. We stand resolute to help support their recovery and to learn from the events surrounding the failure of the Fukushima power plants. We will build stronger and smarter, so that mankind can continue to thrive and other countries can come to a sustainable and healthy level of lifestyle.

We will work hard, love always, and serve others as we would like to be served. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I look forward to supporting our new officers in the new school year.

Sincerely,

Samuel Kuhr

President – 2010-2011 American Nuclear Society - Texas A&M University Chapter