

# **30<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR**

**AIR CLEANING**

**CONFERENCE**

**CONFERENCE WELCOME**

**DR. RONALD R. BELLAMY**

**CONFERENCE CHAIR**

Welcome to the 30<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Air Treatment and Cleaning Conference, sponsored by the International Society of Air Treatment Technologies, Inc. My name is Ronald Bellamy, and I am the present President of ISNATT. I am especially honored and privileged to chair this conference, being the 30<sup>th</sup> in a series of biennial technical meetings started 60 years ago to review research activities at the national laboratories by the Atomic Energy

Commission. Each meeting has provided a very useful and beneficial forum for air cleaning experts from around the world to establish contacts, to network, and to exchange ideas, information, and technology.

Discussion topics this year will include new and old issues, and we hope that issues resolution continues to be a common theme of our conferences.

ISNATT has a group of volunteer officers, which at present also include Gerard Garcia as Vice-President, Curt Graves as Treasurer, and Jim Edwards as Secretary. We have a Board of Directors that include Eric Banks, Dave Crosby, and Mark Pest. At our ISNATT business meeting today at 4:15 pm, we will entertain a slate of officers for the next two years.

I am saddened by the need to speak for a moment about one of our members who has passed away. Raj Raheja of Sargent &Lundy was a faithful attendee of our conferences and a very active member of the ASME Committee on Nuclear Air and Gas Treatment. Raj consistently presented papers and actively participated in our discussions. He was a Sub Committee chair with the ASME Committee on Nuclear Air and Gas Treatment, and I can tell you from first-hand experience that he added significant value to the progress and publications of this organization. He will be missed.

I ask that you silence your cell phones, pagers, blackberries and other electronic devices. Any messages received will be at the Registration Desk. You should have all received a copy of a CD with all of the papers and presentations for your reference both here at the conference and in the future. This CD also contains the minutes of our ISNATT business meeting from 2006, and the attendees at our 2006 conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. As in the past, questionnaire feedback sheets are available for your thoughts, comments and suggestions for future conferences. Anyone desiring to purchase a copy of the 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> conference on CD should see me.

Please take advantage of the many opportunities outside the formal presentations for interface with your colleagues. The breaks for these conferences provide an excellent opportunity for this interface. Our breaks are being sponsored by several of the corporations represented here: ATI, American Air Filter, Camfil-Farr, Flanders-CSC, Ellis & Watts, NUCON, Porvair Filtration Group, and URS-Washington Division.

These companies have also taken the opportunity to set up exhibits for all of us to look at during our conference breaks. A special thank you to each of these sponsors. Please express your appreciation. We are also interested in your feedback specifically on these exhibits and how we can expand and improve on our ability to provide vendor information in a useful form in future conferences.

We have a very ambitious agenda, filled with exceptionally interesting and timely papers and panel discussions.

Our keynote speakers this morning will provide an overview of some of the external stakeholders with an interest in the safe utilization of nuclear power here and abroad. Dennis Adams, on loan from FENOC to INPO, will discuss the role of the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations. He will be followed by Thomas Houghton who will similarly talk about the Nuclear Energy Institute. After a short break, we will conclude this morning with Tom Turek from the Electric Power Research Institute.

Lunch today will be provided by ISNATT and there is no luncheon program, so enjoy a New York Style Deli Buffet and take the opportunity to interface with your peers.

Technical sessions this afternoon will include an international flavor from South Africa, including the Pebble Bed Metal Reactor, and new reactor developments here in the United States. Control Room Habitability continues to be a concern, including inleakage, and we have several papers in that area. Our formal agenda today concludes with an ISNATT business meeting, following we have a social event planned to see the Seattle Mariners. Please pick up your tickets if you have not already done so, and there are still a limited number of tickets available in our group block at the registration desk.

Tomorrow there will be a continental breakfast in this location, followed by a session on HEPA filter performance and associated issues. After the morning break, we will transition to codes and standards progress.

All attendees and others with you are invited to join us on Wednesday for a Great Northwest Buffet Lunch featuring local delicacies. Our luncheon speaker will be Dr. Michele Gerber, Hanford Historian, and noted expert on the Hanford Reservation. She is widely recognized and has published extensively on the Hanford Site, and has spoken about Hanford all over the world. All are invited to what I am certain will be an exceptional and enlightening talk.

Following our working lunch on Wednesday, we will continue to discuss ASME Committee on Nuclear Air and Gas Treatment issues, including a panel session.

ASME CONAGT activities are a large part of our overall program this week. There have been, and continue to be, subcommittee and other working level meetings, and the Main Committee meets Thursday. You are welcome to attend our Main Committee meeting Thursday, and consider becoming involved in committee work. Feel free to talk to any committee member, the ASME staff here, Oliver Martinez, staff secretary, the CONAGT chair Tom Vogan, or the vice-chairs Mark Pest and myself, for further details.

Please plan on a full day Wednesday, concluding with time for any followup discussions, presentations of emergent issues, and any rebuttals. We will review the accomplishments of this conference, receive any last-minute thoughts you may have, and discuss plans for future conferences.

Questions and answers, and discussions, are a key part of the information exchange we hope to achieve. Time will be allowed after each presentation for questions, and we can arrange for followup discussions if necessary. You are the key to a successful conference and we look forward to your active participation. Thank you for your attendance.

Before I introduce our first keynote speaker, are there any questions, comments or issues from the floor that we can address at this time?