



Chairman's Report 2010

2010 was my second and final year as Chairman of the INEA. I thank you all for your support and participation during the past two years. It has been an honor to serve as Chairman of the Academy. I trust that you will continue to support my successor, Dr. Juan Eibenschutz of Mexico. Dr. Eibenschutz expressed considerable enthusiasm for leading the Academy. With our help I feel certain that he will do an outstanding job for the INEA.

Before recounting some of the year's highlights, I must acknowledge the indefatigable efforts of our Secretary, Gerald Clark. Gerald was unavailable for a couple of months this summer while he dealt with a personal issue. My very reliable administrative assistant Barbara Taylor and I tried to fill in for him, but in the end found it too challenging to be 100% effective. When you have the opportunity, please wish Gerald well and tell him how much you appreciate all that he has done for the Academy.

The following sections of this report represent my personal opinion, not any consensus of the membership or the Executive Committee. My statements are more blunt than one usually finds in these annual reports, but I feel that I owe the membership a candid assessment. Perhaps together we can identify our purpose, realistic future activities, and the type of organization we should be.

During 2010 we pushed ahead with two initiatives: refreshing and rebalancing the membership; and pursuing social media that could be appropriate for INEA. Our more active members suggested a number of other initiatives. I would like to acknowledge and thank Dr. Baldev Raj for proposing several viable initiatives. I was, unfortunately, unable to sufficiently engage the membership to pursue them. Perhaps Dr. Eibenschutz will be more successful next year.

During last year's AGM, we had suggestions for engaging INEA in a number of social media experiments. Immediately following the meeting there was considerable enthusiasm for this suggestion among those of us who heard Dr. Yanev's excellent presentation. During the next several months, I conducted informal surveys and consulted several experienced social media experts. In a word, social media such as blogs, Facebook, tweeting, etc. require near real-time response. INEA procedures have required consensus building that takes months, or at times years to develop. I was advised against engaging INEA in any type of fast-paced social media, advice that I heeded.

Instead we focused on modernizing the website. To do so we had to move the site, which also eliminated the annual expense. Development of the site has taken much longer than I expected. However, we are at a point where future modifications can take place at a faster pace. The address of the site is:

<http://www.ineacademy.org>

You must type the whole address into your browser address bar, at least until we can score more hits in the popular search engines. The old site in Brazil will stay in place through December 2010. One improvement that we intend to establish is a members' only section where ideas can be exchanged prior to establishing an official Academy position. Another favorable proposal is to put links to credible sites with important position papers or educational opportunity announcements.

I expect a second social media initiative to be implemented before 2011. Each of you will receive an invitation to join the professional media site "Linked-In." Barbara Taylor has established an INEA group within Linked-In which only INEA members will be asked to join. This will be an opportunity to keep the organization up on your current activities and positions without opening up the information to the world at large. We will see how this goes. Having a personal membership in Linked-In will provide an opportunity for younger scientists and engineers to contact you for advice and mentoring if you so choose.

The membership drive has been a partial success. Several major regions of our nuclear world had fallen behind in nominating new members as the established members became inactive. We were able to revitalize the membership with new nominees from Russia, China and India, with continued nominations from Latin America, North America, and Europe. The new IAEA Director General, Yukiya Amano accepted a membership in line with the tradition of his predecessors. A list of members elected since the last Chairman's report in 2009 is provided in the table below. Please give them your congratulations when the opportunity arises.

New Members Sept. 2009 – Sept. 2010

Hector Otheguy	Argentina	Yukiya Amano	Japan
Odilon Antonio Marcuzzo du Canto	Brazil	Yuichi Hayase	Japan
Yanko Yanev	Bulgaria	Gustavo Alonso-Vargas	Mexico
Mingdan Wang	China	Mikhail Strikhanov	Russia
Mingguang Zheng	China	Antonio Gurgui I Ferrer	Spain
R.K. Sinha	India	Mujid Kazimi	USA
P. Rama Rao	India	Warren "Pete" Miller	USA
M.R. Srinivasan	India	Peter B Lyons	USA
Karou Naito	Japan	John W. Poston	USA

During the year I was heartened by the high level of recognition that was given to some members of the Academy. Honored at the ANS summer meeting with the Henry DeWolf Smyth award for his international statesmanship, Dick Stratford gave an inspiring acceptance speech. Luis Echávarri received the prestigious "Eurelectric" award. Shrikumar Banerjee became Chairman of India's Department of Atomic Energy. RK Sinha replaced him as Director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. I saw several other

publicized achievements during the year, but didn't make notes that I could retrieve when it came time to write this report.

In retrospect, the Academy should routinely acknowledge outstanding achievements by its members. While we have had no current mechanism to get the information and no established process to put out letters of congratulations, this situation could easily be remedied. I encourage the incoming Executive Committee to address the issue early in 2011. And I strongly encourage members not to be shy about letting us know about significant awards. These events should be prominently displayed on our website, which sorely needs more content.

Members have also had notable achievements beyond awards. For example, Professor Kazimi was a principal in the recently issued "MIT Study" on the future of the nuclear fuel cycle in the United States, a document that is sure to have significant influence on US nuclear energy policy. Professor Kondo was reappointed as Chair of the Japan Atomic Energy Commission to oversee an entirely new set of commissioners. Unfortunately, not all achievements are good for the INEA. Soon after his election to the Academy, George Apostolakis was forced to withdraw, because of his nomination to the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, a perceived conflict of interest by the NRC lawyers.

Turning now to the matter of the type of organization that we are, allow me to express my opinion after two years of trying to energize activities within INEA. Clearly the Academy is an honorary organization and we do a service by electing members from across the nuclear world.

For the past several years we have tried to produce significant papers as a measure of vitality of the INEA. While a very few members have written some thoughtful white papers, in my view this activity has little chance of measureable success because of two reasons. The first is that in order for a paper to be adopted as an INEA position, there is a lengthy consensus-building process during which some of the edge of the author's argument is lost. Perhaps more importantly, there is no market for the papers. We have no meetings or publications of our own, no established market and only volunteer authors. It is a heavy lift for INEA to compete with papers produced using significant resources, often with the input of our members. I don't advocate abandoning this effort, just that we should recognize its limitations barring significant process changes.

We have agreed that our esteemed members would be willing to participate in credible education initiatives as lecturers or by providing material. To date we have not found an effective means to implement this notion. I will however note that KunMo Chung is the principal architect of an important new nuclear engineering education initiative in Korea.

I am personally open to suggestions on how to make INEA a more vibrant organization. If you have ideas to share, I am sure that the Executive Committee will listen.

I wish you all a healthy and successful 2011.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H McFarlane', written in a cursive style.

Harold McFarlane
25 October 2010