



ATOMS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## First WNU Fellows Selected

To participate in a unique educational programme designed to develop and inspire a new generation of global leaders in the realm of nuclear science and technology.

74 young nuclear professionals and academics from 34 countries will attend the first annual WNU Summer Institute, 9 July – 20 August 2005

Inaugurated in late 2003, the WNU is a partnership of leading world institutions of nuclear education and research.

The WNU's essential aims are to enhance nuclear coursework at participating institutions worldwide, to establish widely accepted global standards in academic and professional qualification, and to elevate the prestige of the nuclear profession. These goals are being pursued by a variety of WNU working groups.

The first annual WNU Summer Institute – to be held in Idaho Falls in the USA – is a major manifestation of this newly established global partnership.

The WNU Fellowship is an innovative 6-week educational experience covering a broad spectrum of topics pertinent to nuclear technology. The 74 WNU Fellows will also engage in team-building and leadership exercises as they become part of an expanding global network of future leaders in the nuclear profession.

## The Selection Process

In the Fall 2004, applications for the WNU Fellowship were solicited from the global nuclear industry, from IAEA member governments, and from the WNU's worldwide network of leading institutions of nuclear learning. By years' end, the response was an impressive slate of 133 well-qualified applicants from 46 countries.

In January 2005, selections were made at the WNU Coordinating Centre in London in consultation with WNU Country Representatives and officials of the WNU's four Founding Supporters: the IAEA, the NEA-OECD, the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO), and the World Nuclear Association (WNA).

Qualification criteria emphasised demonstrated academic and professional excellence. Flexibility was applied to the maximum age of 32, and this limit will be raised slightly in future years.

The selection process aimed for a synergistic, internationally diverse mix of leading students and top young professionals already in government, academia, or the nuclear industry.

## The First WNU Fellows

Information about the 74 WNU Fellows will appear on the WNU website: [www.world-nuclear-university.org](http://www.world-nuclear-university.org).

The average age of WNU Fellows is 30. One-fourth are women. Half have doctorates or are doctoral candidates. About half come from developed countries. The other half represent developing countries and countries in transition.

Half the WNU Fellows will attend with financial support from industry or governmental sponsors to cover a \$9,500 Summer Institute fee that encompasses all costs except travel. Most other fellows will receive financial aid from the IAEA technical cooperation programme. A small number of graduate students have been awarded WNU scholarships funded by industry contributions.

## The Summer Institute Programme

With the selections made, the WNU's Founding Supporters are now cooperating to finalise the Summer Institute's substantive programme.

The U.S. Department of Energy has generously sponsored the first WNU Summer Institute. DOE is supporting a team of Idaho co-hosts that includes the Idaho National Laboratory (the designated technology

innovation centre for the American nuclear renaissance), the Centre for Advanced Energy Studies, the Idaho Universities, and the Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering.

The curriculum for WNU Fellows is being shaped to provide cutting-edge presentations from leading world experts on the full range of topics relevant to the future of nuclear technology:

- **Global Setting**, including energy supply and demand, global warming and climate change, nuclear technology in sustainable development, and key political issues and trends
- **International Regimes**, including safety, radiological protection, non-proliferation and security, waste management, transport, nuclear law, and global emissions control
- **Technology Innovation**, including next-generation reactors, advanced fuel cycle, hydrogen production, desalination, space applications, and controlled fusion
- **Nuclear Industry Operations**, including industry economics, knowledge management, fuel market, comparative risk assessment, public acceptance and communication, and operational excellence

Presenters will include outstanding nuclear and environmental scientists, as well as industry experts, authors and policymakers.

A special lecture series will include WNU Chancellor Hans Blix, hydrogen fuel cell pioneer Geoffrey Ballard, WNU Chairman and WANO founder Zack Pate, Areva Group CEO Anne Lauvergeon, current and past officials of the IAEA, DOE nuclear programme leader William Magwood, Eisenhower Institute President Susan Eisenhower, and renowned global environmental scientist James Lovelock.

Each Summer Institute graduate will receive a WNU Fellowship diploma. Academic credit may be awarded by each Fellow's own educational institution.

While in Idaho Falls, WNU Fellows will live in a hotel overlooking the Snake River, will visit the Idaho nuclear laboratories, and will have weekends available for personal and organised activity, including recreational trips to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

The Summer Institute will conclude with a visit to the Yucca Mountain site for the U.S. geological repository and a graduation ceremony in nearby Las Vegas.

Future locales for the Summer Institute will be determined as this special multinational event evolves.