



December 2012 Quarterly Report

Accomplishments and Look Ahead

November 2012

- ATR NSUF hosted a booth at the American Nuclear Society Winter meeting in San Diego, California November 11-13.
- Todd Allen presented an update on the ATR NSUF Program at the Nuclear Engineering Department Head Organization (NEDHO) meeting held at the ANS meeting.
- Todd Allen chaired the OECD NEA Expert Group on Innovative Structural Materials working meeting in Paris.
- Jeff Benson and Jim Cole traveled to Brigham Young University and University of Utah to give overview presentations and discuss with faculty members research opportunities at ATR NSUF.

December 2012

- ATR NSUF researcher Dr. Yong Yang led a seminar about nuclear science and technology and renewable energy at the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) in Idaho Falls, Idaho on Dec. 5.
- FY13 Fall call for proposals closed December 17, 2012.
- First quarter call for rapid turnaround proposals closes December 31, 2012.
- Awarded experiments from Spring FY12 call and from the fourth quarter call for rapid turnaround proposals.

Noteworthy News

The Year in Review—New Partners, Staff, Projects

As we wind down the year 2012, we wanted to take this opportunity to highlight some of the accomplishments of ATR NSUF, our users and partner facilities.

In 2012, we awarded 15 new experiments. Performing most of this research, more than 20 students spent time at the Idaho National Laboratory and ATR NSUF partner facilities utilizing the many instruments and beam-lines made available through the user facility.

Along with performing outstanding research, two of these students obtained their Ph.D.s (Alicia Certain, University of Wisconsin, and Walid Mohamed, North Carolina State University) and one student received a master's degree (Donald Moore, University of Florida). Congratulations to these students, and our best wishes for interesting and fulfilling careers. We hope to see you back using our facilities in the near future!



Along with awarding experiments, ATR NSUF added two new partner facilities in 2012. Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and Purdue University joined our growing list of partner facilities, bringing even more diversity to the capabilities offered. We would like to take this moment to thank those of you who have joined us as partners and offered your institutions' unique instruments and facilities to ATR NSUF users. You are helping us achieve the goal of collaborative research across the country, a model we will continue to endorse and encourage.

In June of 2012, ATR NSUF hosted the 4th Annual Users week, this year combined with the MeV school hosted by Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). Approximately 50 researchers from 26 countries spent their first week at ORNL leaning about nuclear materials research, then spent their second week at Idaho National Laboratory where presentations, discussions and facility tours highlighted the most pressing nuclear fuel design questions and how the ATR NSUF capabilities can help answer those questions.

This fall, Todd Allen, who has led the user facility for the past 4 years accepted the offer to become the Deputy Laboratory Director

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at Idaho National Laboratory, and will begin his new position in January. It was his vision that made ATR NSUF into the user facility it is today. Please join us in thanking him and in wishing him the best in his new position.

Since we are taking this time to thank those who have helped us achieve success, we would be remiss not to thank all the researchers who so willingly give their time to review the many proposals we receive over the course of the year. Through their efforts, we are able to award the excellent science that is the foundation of the user facility.

Many other accomplishments occurred throughout the year, including bringing Jim Cole on board as the ATR NSUF Chief Scientist, having Julie Ulrich join us full time as our Communications Liaison, offering a joint call for NEUP/ATR NSUF proposals, development of a new ATR NSUF website (coming in early 2013), and completion and close-out of three ATR NSUF research experiments. We are excited by all the accomplishments of 2012 and look forward to the challenges and opportunities 2013 will present.

The entire ATR NSUF staff would like to take this moment to wish you and yours a very happy holiday season and a successful 2013!

ATR National Scientific User Facility Searching for a New Scientific Director, a Farewell from Scientific Director Dr. Todd Allen

As mentioned in the September 2012 Bimonthly report, beginning in January 2013, Dr. Todd Allen, our Advanced Test Reactor National Scientific User Facility (ATR NSUF) Scientific Director, will officially begin his new position as Idaho National Laboratory's (INL) Deputy Laboratory Director for Science and Technology, replacing Dr. David Hill.



Todd Allen, outgoing ATR NSUF Scientific Director

The search for his replacement is underway. Since Todd has been with ATR NSUF since the very beginning, he has a unique perspective on what the position of scientific director offers. "The new Scientific Director will have the opportunity to increase the national and international use of the ATR NSUF, further expand on the scientific equipment available to researchers, improve our interfaces with partner facilities and links to other synergistic national capabilities, and expand the educational programs that are foundational to increasing the size and capability of the user community," Todd said.

In addition to being at the forefront of exciting research capabilities, Todd says the new scientific director also has other benefits to look forward to. "They have the opportunity to build on the founda-

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tion established in the first five years of the NSUF, adding their own set of ideas and enthusiasm to further improve the NSUF,” Todd said. “They also get the opportunity to work with the extremely dedicated and motivated people that staff the NSUF.”

Todd remarked that he has learned a lot during his time with ATR NSUF. “Creating the NSUF allowed me to fully understand the desire of the research community to connect their outstanding ideas to unique national capabilities that were previously inaccessible to them. Providing the means for researchers to “Prove Their Principle” was always a role for the Idaho facilities, and with the NSUF we modernized the idea.”

Looking back on what he accomplished as Scientific Director, Todd said he definitely enjoyed the job. “This has been an awesome opportunity, allowing me to link my academic experiences to the needs and abilities of laboratories and industry,” he said. “The ability to work with DOE to build something new and exciting does not come along often and I really appreciated them trusting me to make their program a success.”

View the ATR NSUF Scientific Director job posting by clicking on the careers link at inl.gov (job posting #7349).

