

MEETING MINUTES

American Nuclear Society – Thermal Hydraulics Division
Executive Committee Meeting

Time: Monday, October 19, 2020, 8:00 PM to 8:30 PM, US Eastern time

Zoom: <https://oregonstate.zoom.us/j/98198523061?pwd=eC9yOFYyMlppODNxbTZvVjNuWVZydz09>

Attendees (14 EC Members): Wade Marcum (OSU), Elia Merzari (PSU), Bao Wen Yang (DEQD, Delta Energy Group), Annalisa Manera (University of Michigan), Fan-Bill Cheung (PSU), John Luxat (McMaster University), Dillon Shaver (Argonne National Laboratory), Xiaodong Sun (University of Michigan), Matt Zimmer (NCSU), Igor Bolotnov (NCSU), Lane Carasik (Virginia Commonwealth University), Yassin Hassan (Texas A&M), Robert Martin (BWXT), Yang Liu (Virginia Tech)

1. **Opening**

Chair (Prof. Wade Marcum)

Meeting called to order 8:05 pm.

2. **Introduce Meeting Agenda**

Prof. Elia Merzari

Introduced proposal, from the NURETH-19 Organizing Committee, for rescheduling NURETH-19 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Three options:

Option I: move to Jan, Feb, or March 2022 (3 weeks in Jan 17, 24, 31st, two weeks in Feb, 2022, and March 7, 2022);

Option II: virtual conference (not preferred);

Option III cancellation

Decision needs to be made before Oct 31, 2020 to avoid 10% cancellation charge.

3. **Discussion:**

All participants

Recognized and emphasized that NURETH is the most important thermal hydraulic conference for ANS, however, efforts should be made to minimize impacts and/or competition from other conferences, including NUTHOS-13, ATH, and other CFD conferences.

Weather conditions might not be the best from Jan to March in Brussels, Belgium; however, weather should not be the main determining factor, as, moving into April or May, there might be too much competition with NUTHOS (Sept, 2021) and other meetings. Need to consider the potential of moving NUTHOS-13 as well, if NURETH-19 moves within 6 months from NUTHOS-13. Based on email correspondence, NUTHOS organized (Professor Ming Lee) had not booked hotels back in June 2020, but it is very likely that the hotels have already been booked now. Need to check if there are any more flexibility in changing hotels and other reservations for NUTHOS-13.

In the early years, NUTHOS and NURETH had mostly different participant groups; however, recently, they have somehow gradually converged, especially among attendants from Japan, Korea, China, and Taiwan. For most organizations, overseas trip approvals are done on an

annual basis. Getting approval for budget and travel overseas twice in the same year will be much more difficult than getting approval for one trip per year. Considering the difference between Dec. 2021 and Jan 2022 is only one month apart (or less), and that there are many meetings already moved to or planned in 2022 (NUTHOS-13, ATH, CFD meeting, etc.), we might not want to totally rule out the possibility of Dec. 2021. However, if NURETH-19 needs to be held at the beginning of 2022, we should consider limiting extending the paper cutoff date and not postponing the conference for too long to minimize the impacts/competition with other conferences.

Suggestions for virtual meeting was also discussed (one suggestion was to have virtual meetings in 2021, and then having another in-person NURETH in Belgium, 2023). Main consideration for virtual meetings is the time zone differences and potential financial impacts → should be considered as the last solution.

Considering the risk and uncertainty of pandemic development, plans should always be made for the return of normalcy. Another main concern in regards to virtual meetings or delaying the meetings for too long is that they might result in significant financial impact.

4. **Motion:**

Motion by Prof. Fan-Bill Cheung

Second by Prof. Xiaodong Sun

Recommendation to move the NURETH-19 meeting date from the original date(8/29/2021) to March 7, 2022 with paper cutoff date to be postponed no more than 3 to 4 months.

No further discussion.

Amended motion APPROVED unanimously (14-0)

5. **Adjournment**

Chair

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.