

The Nuclear Engineering Department Heads Organization (NEDHO) congregates heads of nuclear engineering schools, departments, and programs in North America to address issues facing academic programs in nuclear science and engineering.

Officers: Kostadin Ivanov (Chair) North Carolina State University  
Todd R. Allen (Vice Chair/Chair Elect) University of Michigan  
Steven Biegalski (Immediate Past Chair), Georgia Institute of Technology  
Arthur T. Motta (Past Chair), The Pennsylvania State University  
Brian Woods (Past Chair), Oregon State University

Ray Furstenau  
Director of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

April 23, 2021

Dear Ray

This letter is first to express our appreciation for the NRC University Programs in Scholarship/Fellowships and Research and Faculty Development. Such programs have had a very positive impact on our departments over the years.

We are also writing to urge NRC to consider a significant change that could make these programs even more effective. We recommend that the NRC allow foreign faculty, who are hired into our departments on the tenure track, to compete for and receive Faculty Development Grants and Research grants. Currently only citizens or permanent residents are allowed to apply for these grants.

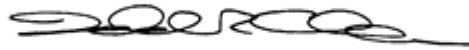
The reasoning for the request is that a significant fraction of faculty in US Nuclear Engineering Departments are, in fact, foreign born. These people bring their talents and contributions to this country and, in the natural course of events, become permanent residents and citizens, which ultimately benefits US students and society as a whole. However, the point in their career at which they need the most help and support (soon after hiring and needing to establish themselves) is when they cannot be supported.

We believe that allowing these faculty to apply for these grants will ultimately benefit nuclear engineering students, our department, and the country as a whole.

Thank you for considering this request,



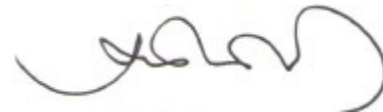
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