September 24, 2019

To the ANS Student Conference Selection Committee,

I am pleased to write to you in support of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign American Nuclear Society (ANS) student section proposal to host the 2021 ANS Student Conference. I am conﬁdent that our students are united, motivated, and ready to engineer an excellent student conference in 2021. As Department Head, I can also conﬁrm that the students will be supported by the Department of Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering (NPRE) and its faculty if their proposal is selected.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign ANS student section has performed exceptionally for many years. NPRE and The Grainger College of Engineering have matched their fantastic eﬀorts by dedicating signiﬁcant resources to the growth and sustainability of the section. Thus, the ANS-UIUC section is the healthy, robust cultural core of the department and is particularly engaged this year. The work they have already done to plan this conference proposal is evidence of their strong intent to showcase our university, department, and student section.

Their motivation is well-placed, as this is a very exciting time to invite students and professionals to visit NPRE at Illinois. The department has grown tremendously in the past five years, with many new hires doubling our faculty population. This remarkable growth is coupled with increased depth and breadth of our research and course oﬀerings. Additionally, student experiences are enriched by new facilities such as the HIDRA stellarator, a world-class plasma fusion device. Our faculty recognizes that the ANS Student Conference is a unique opportunity for our students to share the department’s renewed strength with the national American Nuclear Society student population. We are accordingly thrilled to support their bid for the 2021 ANS Student Conference.

Sincere regards,

Rizwan Uddin

Professor and Department Head