

Project on
Project on
Nuclear Issues

2011 SUMMER CONFERENCE

JULY 7 - 8, 2011

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

WASHINGTON, DC

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

The PONI yearly conference series brings together junior and senior level professionals from across the nuclear enterprise to discuss a wide range of nuclear issues. PONI conferences are unique in the high value that they place on creative thinking and in featuring new faces in the field, as discussion panels are mainly comprised of individuals representing the next generation of experts, namely graduate students, post-docs and young professionals. PONI holds three regional conferences per year and a year-end capstone event that features selected presentations from the preceding three. Those who present at the capstone event will also be invited to publish a paper based on their presentation in a journal produced by CSIS.

We are now accepting proposals for presentations at the 2011 Summer Conference, which will take place on July 7 – 8 at CSIS in Washington, DC. The event will consist of two days of panel discussions and an evening reception and dinner on the 7th. The agenda will generally focus on the following four topics.

- Preventing Nuclear Proliferation and Nuclear Terrorism
- Nuclear Strategy, Policy, and Posture
- New Technical Means for Improving Nuclear Security
- Arms Control and Nuclear Disarmament

A more detailed version of the 2011 PONI Research Agenda accompanies this call for presentations. Additionally, to incentivize participation from members of the technical community, a \$500 honorarium is being offered for presentations on issues related to technical aspects of nuclear forensics, nuclear material detection, arms control verification and nonproliferation. **Presentations are to be no more than 11 slides in length and last no longer than 10 minutes.** Your presentation proposal should be no more than 2 pages (single-spaced) and should include the following.

1. Your name and organization/school affiliation
2. Notional title of presentation
3. Issue background (brief)
4. Summary of thesis or argument

Presentation proposals are due to mjansson@csis.org by June 1, 2011. Travel support is available for presenters lacking university or organizational backing. If you have any questions about the submission process for the conference, please contact PONI Deputy Director Mark Jansson at (202) 775-3286 or mjansson@csis.org. More information about the Project on Nuclear Issues can be found on the PONI website, located at <http://www.csis.org/isp/poni/>.

2011 Research Agenda

The following research agenda is provided as a guide to outline, in broad terms, topics of interest for the 2011 conference series. It is neither exhaustive nor determinative; PONI will consider all presentation proposals insofar as they relate to the general topical area.

Preventing Nuclear Proliferation and Nuclear Terrorism

Presentations may cover topics including, but not limited to: how we can make better use of political, technical and legal tools to ensure compliance with IAEA regulations and ultimately prevent proliferation; securing nuclear material and countering the threat of nuclear terrorism; integrating treaty-based and consensus-based approaches to countering proliferation; and minimizing security risks associated with the expanded use of nuclear energy worldwide.

Nuclear Strategy, Policy and Posture

Presentations may cover topics including, but not limited to: roles that nuclear weapons play in national and international security, including in deterrence and extended deterrence; how current nuclear powers understand the concept of “strategic stability” and seek to achieve it; the roles and impacts of missile defense and other emerging capabilities; and understanding changes in declaratory policies and their significance.

New Technical Means for Improving Nuclear Security

Presentations may cover topics including, but not limited to: new technical means for advancing stockpile stewardship, nuclear detection, arms control verification and counter proliferation; making the nuclear fuel cycle more proliferation-resistant; opportunities and challenges ahead for turning new science into usable technologies; maintaining delivery systems and specialized industrial base elements; and addressing the challenge of knowledge transfer among key technical areas and between generations.

Arms Control and Nuclear Disarmament

Presentations may cover topics including, but not limited to: political and technical challenges of future bilateral arms control between the U.S. and Russia; bringing more countries into the nuclear arms control process; next steps for arms control treaties such as the CTBT and FMCT; pathways and prerequisites for achieving a world without nuclear weapons; and resolving tensions between nuclear modernization and making progress towards disarmament.