The IJNS Awards for Writing on Nuclear Security

The International Journal of Nuclear Security announces its first student writing competition. This competition is sponsored by the Institute for Nuclear Security (INS), the Howard Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy, and the Institute for Nuclear Materials Management (INMM) Student Chapter at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA. It will be judged by volunteers who are leaders in the field of nuclear security. IJNS invites submissions—of 3,000 to 5,000 words—in four broad categories as they relate to nuclear security:

- Policy, Law, and Diplomacy
- Education and Training
- Science and Technology
- Human Reliability

Today’s top students in nuclear science, technology, policy, and security are engaging in international and domestic forums and debates, offering fresh perspectives on complex problems. The International Journal of Nuclear Security hopes to foster international collaborations and connect these aspiring professionals to their international peers and other working professionals. This competition, open to students from multiple disciplines and from all parts of the world, recognizes and encourages their valuable research and insights.

Eligibility
At the time of submission, authors and co-authors must be enrolled as students in a university or equivalent institute of education—from any country. All work must be original and previously unpublished. Manuscripts must conform to competition guidelines on the IJNS website. All submissions must include the name and contact information for a supervising professor/instructor associated with the author(s).

Prizes
The competition has an undergraduate and a graduate division for submissions; each division has four categories, with up to three awards in each category: Distinction, Excellence, and Merit. Students may co-author a paper, but all co-authors must be in the same division (undergraduates and graduates will not compete against one another).

This year’s contest winners will receive cash prizes—to be announced on the IJNS website. First-place (Distinction) winners in each division and category will be published in the International Journal of Nuclear Security; additional awardees will be considered for publication.

Deadline
Submit your entry before midnight of October 15, 2015 (Eastern U.S. time). Please see the IJNS website for additional formatting and submission instructions: http://www.trace.tennessee.edu/competition/

Hints
Judges are looking for the following features in your writing:
- importance of contribution
- originality
- strength of arguments
- intelligence and clarity of organization (structure, introductions, transitions, headings, page design)
- effectiveness and readability of style (making your ideas as accessible as possible to a broad audience)

We look forward to seeing your work!