



## Foreword

This First Symposium on Nuclear Fuels and Structural Materials for Next Generation Nuclear Reactors (NFSM-1) was embedded within the American Nuclear Society Spring Meeting, held June 4–8, 2006, in Reno Nevada, USA. The timing of this meeting comes just a few years after a number of Department of Energy sponsored programs, such as the Generation IV Next Generation Reactor Program; the Nuclear Energy Research Initiative Program; and, the Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative have begun to bear fruit in the area of nuclear fuels and structural materials research. These and other programs have marked a trend away from dormancy into what is hoped to be a renewal in safe nuclear fission power in the US.

This symposium had dual goals. The primary goal was to encourage interaction between materials scientists and the larger nuclear community through presentation, in an accessible manner, of emerging materials technologies. Towards this end the symposium was quite successful with active interest outside of the nuclear materials community.

The second purpose of this meeting was to foster cross-talk between the fuels and structural materials communities on a technical level. This was accomplished by consolidating nearly all the technical talks into a poster session and actively encouraging active interaction and discussion. Due to the format of the meeting the majority of the papers for this special edition emerged from the poster session.

The organizers would again like to thank all participants who made the symposium and these proceedings possible.

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