



The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics



SCHOOL of NUCLEAR KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

18 - 22 September 2006

Miramare, Trieste, Italy

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP, Trieste, Italy), in cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA, Vienna, Austria) and the World Nuclear University (WNU, London, UK), is organizing a School of Nuclear Knowledge Management, to take place from 18 to 22 September 2006. This announcement contains preliminary information, and how to obtain the Application Form for requesting participation.

PURPOSE and CONTENT DESCRIPTION

Background:

The nuclear sector is a knowledge-based endeavour similar to other highly technological industries and relies heavily on the accumulation of scientific knowledge. Recent trends, such as an ageing workforce, declining student enrolment, and the risk of losing accumulated nuclear knowledge and experience, have drawn attention to the need for better management of nuclear knowledge in governments, industry and academia. Current initiatives to combat the potential loss of critical knowledge appear to focus on increased training and education collaborations with universities and research institutions and some innovative solutions are being considered and educational programmes being initiated.

The knowledge management process normally includes knowledge identification, knowledge acquisition and development, knowledge dissemination and use, and knowledge preservation. Organizations need to manage their pool of corporate knowledge as a strategic resource and not as a mere planning input that only receives attention towards the end of the project implementation phase. In many Member States organizations are taking the concept of "managing knowledge within an organization as a strategic core competency that must ensure greater competitiveness than your rivals in this globalised economy". Developing an effective and sustainable approach to knowledge management is of significant importance to the nuclear sector. It requires an objective assessment of the current strategies and initiatives and a significant amount of discussion in an open forum to develop new approaches to nuclear knowledge management.

Content Description:

In recent years, it has become apparent that "managing nuclear knowledge" requires special skills that can be derived from various disciplines and fields, including data management, information technology, archives and libraries, human resource planning, academic institutional planning and training.

The objective of the School is to provide participants with an overview and basic understanding of the tools, mechanisms and challenges in each of those fields, to exchange experiences and information on implementation of Nuclear Knowledge Management, and to present the lessons learned and accumulate national experiences and good practices in the subject area. The main focus will be on common difficulties, possible solutions and good practices with the aim to make results and insights directly applicable in a workplace in the nuclear sector.

Participation:

The invitation to the School is directed to scientists and managers in academia, industry and possibly in the governmental sector who are in charge of managing nuclear knowledge in any form, either as data, as human resources or as institutional knowledge.

Applicants from all countries who are members of the UN, UNESCO or IAEA may apply. As the School will be held in English, participants must have a good working knowledge of that language. Although the main purpose of the Centre is to help research workers from developing countries, through a programme of training activities within a framework of international co-operation, a limited number of students and post-doctoral scientists from developed countries are also welcome to attend.

As a rule, travel and subsistence expenses of the participants should be borne by the home institutions. However, limited funds are available for some participants who are nationals of, and working in, a developing country and who are not more than 45 years old, to be selected by the Organizers. As scarcity of funds allows travel to be granted only in a few exceptional cases, every effort should be made by candidates to secure support for their fare (or at least half-fare) from their home country. It is stressed that participants whose travel expenses are paid by the ICTP are required to attend the entire activity. For logistics reasons, the total number of participants is limited. There is no registration fee for this activity.

The Application Form is obtainable from the ICTP WWW server: <http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?1769> (which will be constantly up-dated), or from the activity Secretariat. It should be completed and returned before **15 JUNE 2006** to:

School of Nuclear Knowledge Management
the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics
(Smr.1769)

Strada Costiera 11, I-34014 Trieste, Italy

The decision of the Organizers will be communicated to all candidates as soon as possible.

If sending your applications by e-mail: smr1769@ictp.it
(please save and send file attachments in RFT format)

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in cooperation with

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World Nuclear University
London

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LOCAL ORGANIZER

C. TUNIZ
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DEADLINE

for requesting participation

15 June 2006