

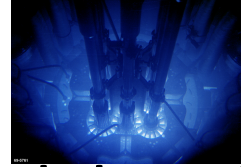
# **Nuclear Science User Facilities (NSUF) Overview and Status**

**J. Rory Kennedy, Ph.D.  
Director, NSUF  
Idaho National Laboratory**

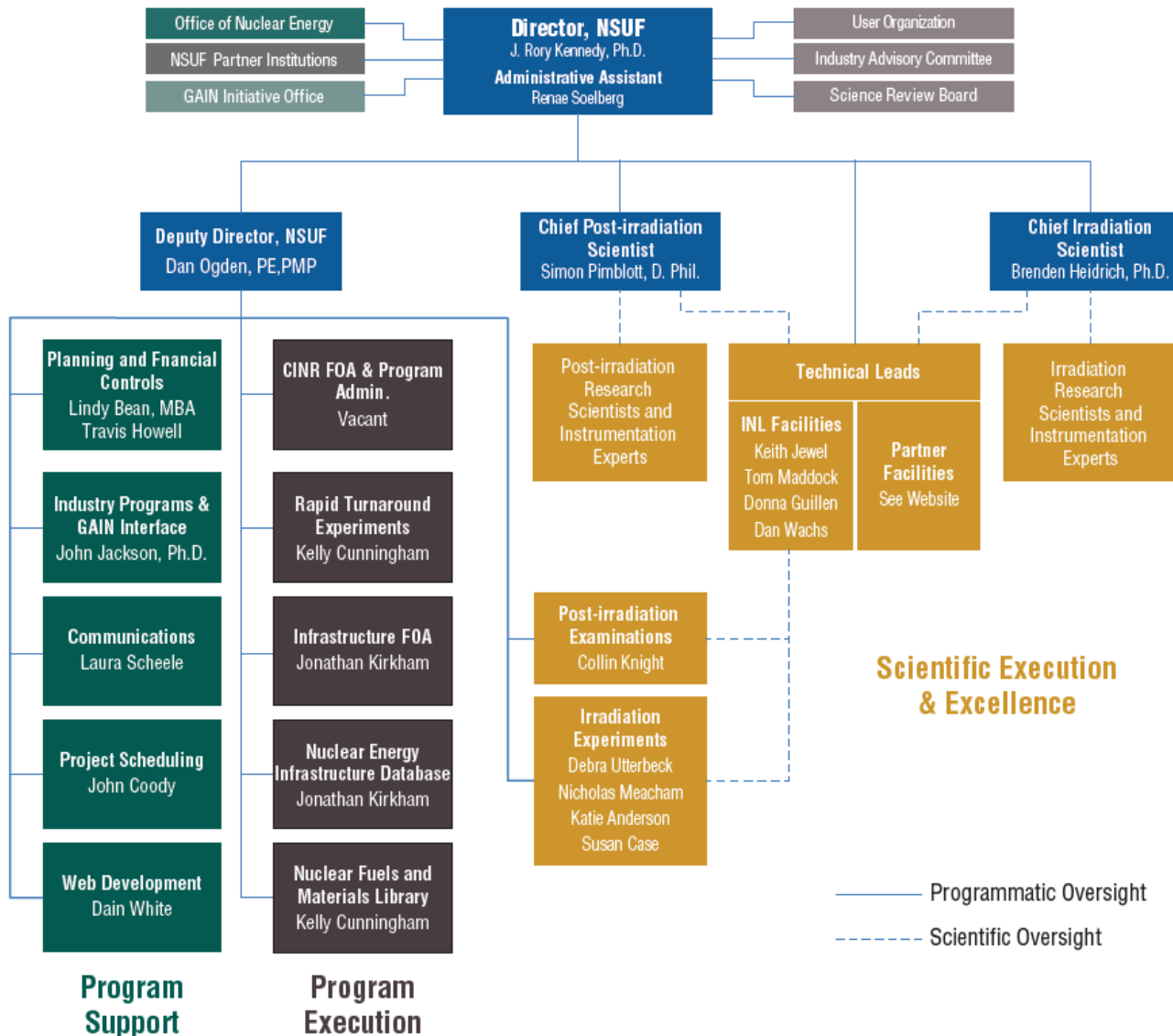
**8<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Academics Discussion Meeting  
Bangor University, Wales, UK  
September 10-11, 2019**

# NSUF Historical

- Established 2007 as US DOE Office of Nuclear Energy (DOE-NE) user facility. Intended to support the mission of DOE-NE by linking national intellectual capital with DOE-NE infrastructure.
- Irradiation Effects in Nuclear Fuels and Materials
- Founded at Idaho National Laboratory initially intended as a single institution user facility. INL remains lead and primary institution.
- NSUF operates as typical US user facility (no cost to user, competitive proposal processes, no funding to users) but also some unique aspects.
- Generally select projects through open competitive proposal processes
  - Consolidated Innovative Nuclear Research (CINR FOA, 1 call/year)
    - Irradiation + PIE (\$1.0M - \$4.0M, up to 7 years) includes design, analyses, fabrication, transport, irradiation, disassembly, PIE, disposition
    - PIE only (~\$500K, up to 3 years)
    - Irradiation only (\$500K - \$3.5M)
    - Beamlines at other user facilities
    - Possibility to also receive user R&D funding on limited work scopes
  - Rapid Turnaround Experiments (RTE, 3 calls/year, limited \$\$, executed within 9 months)
- Proposals welcome from university, government laboratory, industry, and small business researchers. Only non-proprietary projects accepted. All awarded projects are fully forward funded.



# NSUF Organization Chart



# NSUF Capabilities Offer Research Opportunities

Neutron  
Irradiations

Ion  
Irradiations

Gamma  
Irradiations

Hot Cells &  
Shielded  
Cells

Low Activity  
Laboratories

Beamlines

High  
Performance  
Computing



ILLINOIS TECH  
SINCE 1890

**BROOKHAVEN**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY



11 Universities

CAES (4 Unis)

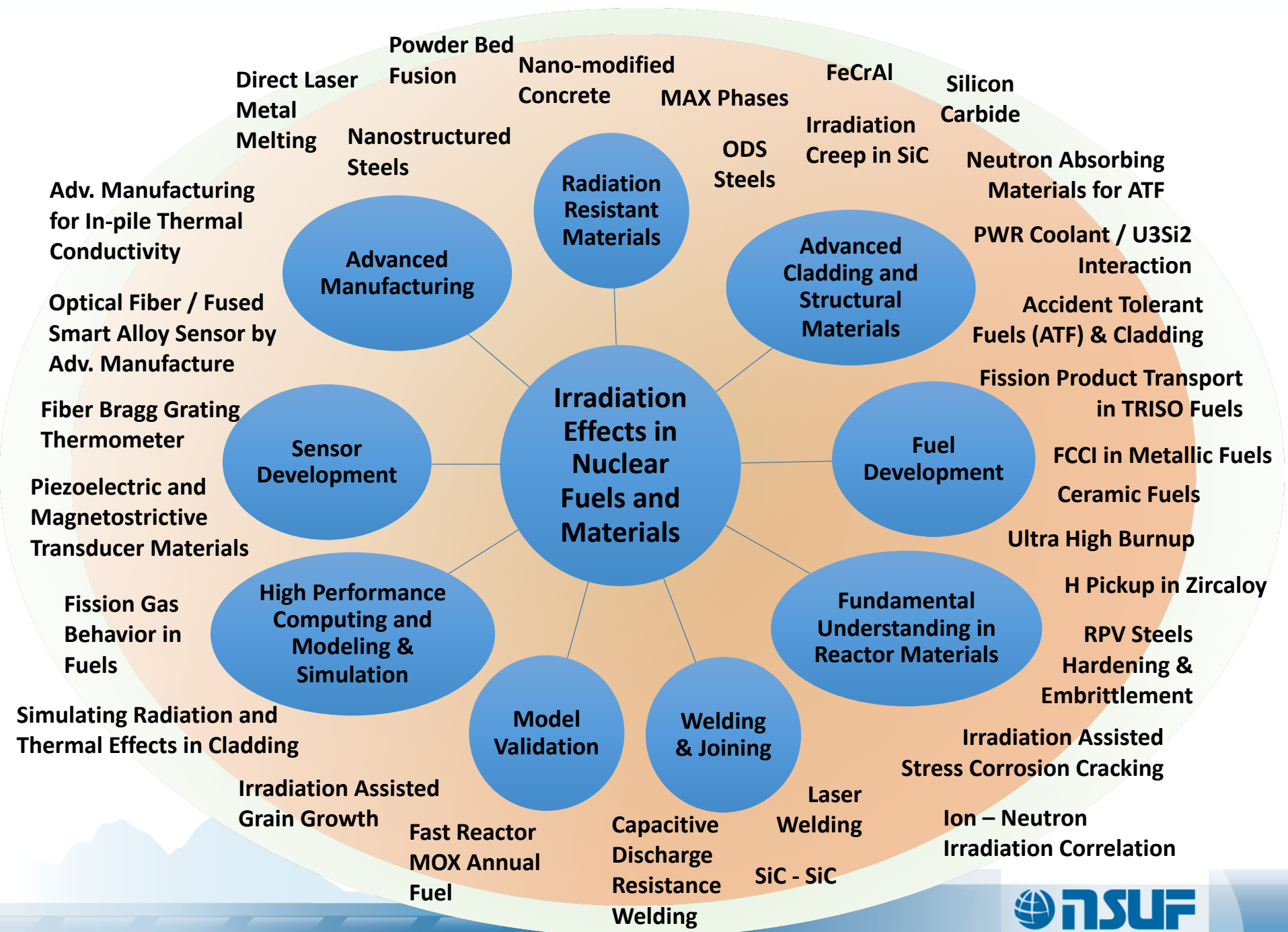
7 National Labs

1 Industry

1 int'l affiliate

Visit [nsuf.inl.gov](http://nsuf.inl.gov) for details  
at individual facilities

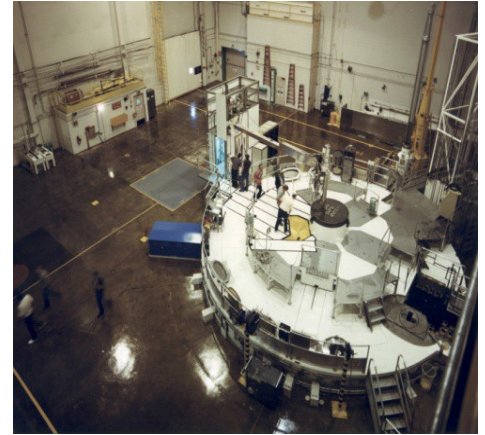




# NSUF Projects Summary

## FY 2007 – FY2019\*

- Total of 39 CINR type projects executed
- Total of 35 CINR type projects currently ongoing
- Total of 289 RTEs executed
- Total of 75 RTEs ongoing
- 438 total projects awarded
  - 269 projects to 45 US universities
  - 133 projects to 6 national laboratories
  - 15 projects to industry
  - 21 projects to 11 international (Oxford U., Manchester U., Liverpool U., Bristol U., NNL, ANSTO, CEA Saclay, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, SCK-CEN, EC-JRC-Karlsruhe, Studsvik Nuclear, )



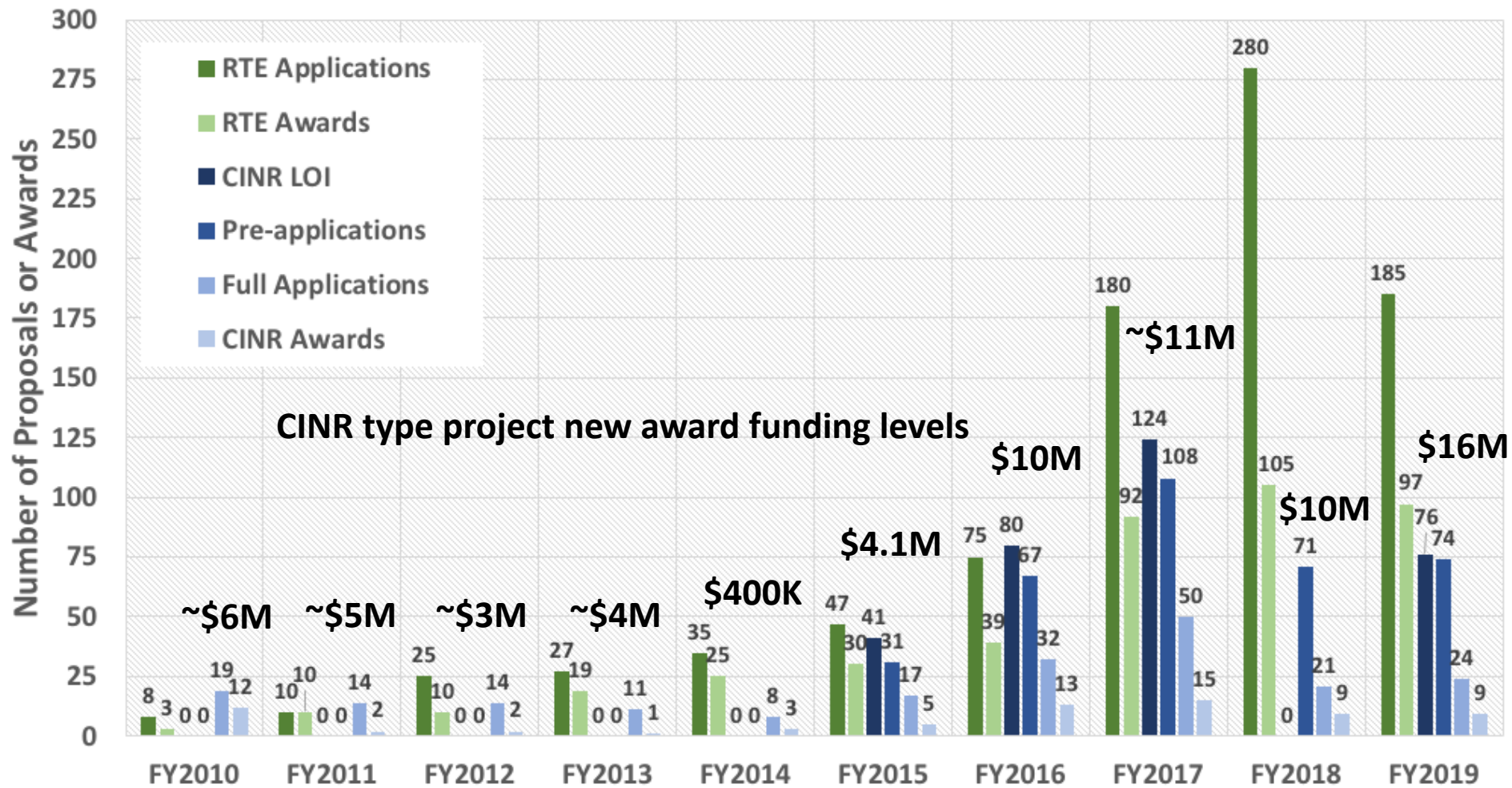
## FY 2019

- Effective FY2019 budget: ~\$30M (same as FY18, FY17 & FY16)
- Total effective FY 2019 budget allocated to projects: ~\$20.6M direct (CINR + RTE) + ~\$3.4M supporting (PIE coordination, experiment managers, experiment analyses, shipping, SCK-CEN pilot projects)
- At any particular time, NSUF is managing ~100 – 130 projects

\* As of 4/2019

# Interest and Support Continue to Grow

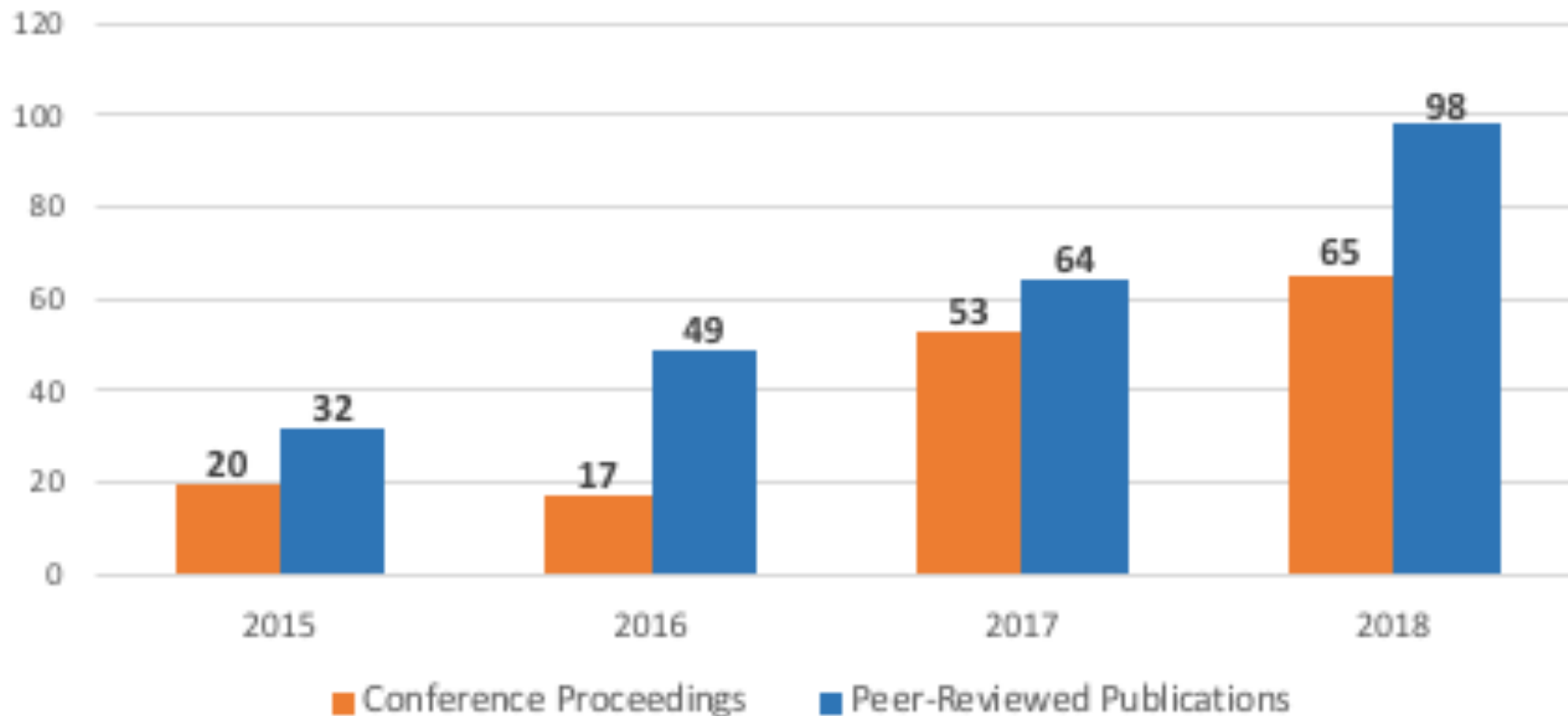
## NSUF Research Projects



Graphics created by  
Brenden Heidrich

# NSUF Publications

NSUF Publications/Proceedings



- Continuing to see results from early irradiation tests
- Increase in RTE awards.
- H-index score of 17
- Journal of Nuclear Materials is by far the most published in journal.

# International Collaborations

## ➤ DOE-NE / NSUF and UK / NNUF

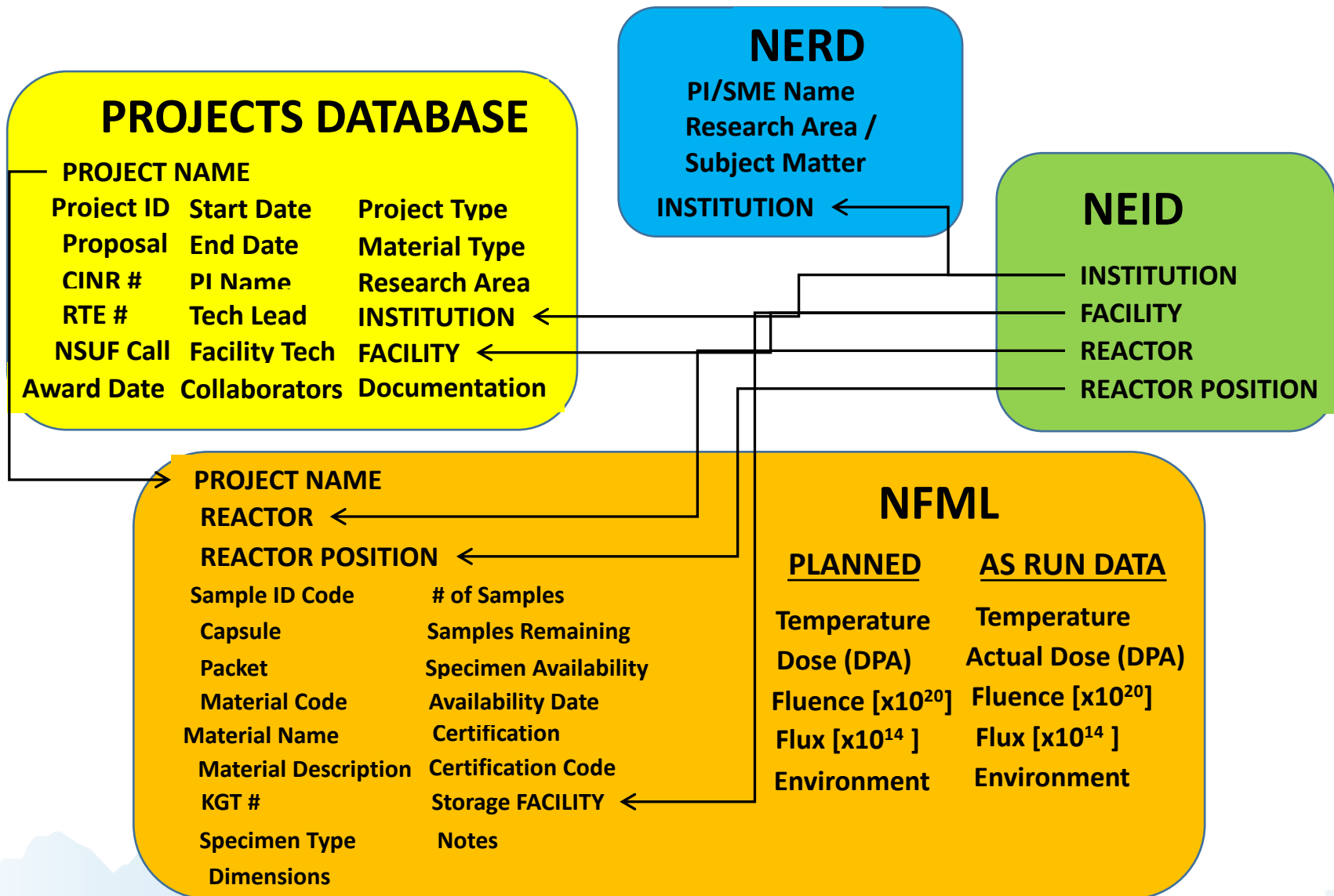
- DOE-NE and NSUF invited to Nuclear Academics Discussion Meetings
- UK National Nuclear User facility (NNUF)
- Initial area of mutual user facility interest and cooperation
  - Nuclear Fuels and Materials Library (Archive)
- NSUF to collaborate with NNUF
  - US – UK Nuclear Energy R&D Cooperative Action Plan signed September 2018
    - Enabling Technologies Working Group

## ➤ DOE-NE / NSUF / INL and SCK-CEN / BR2 / LHMA

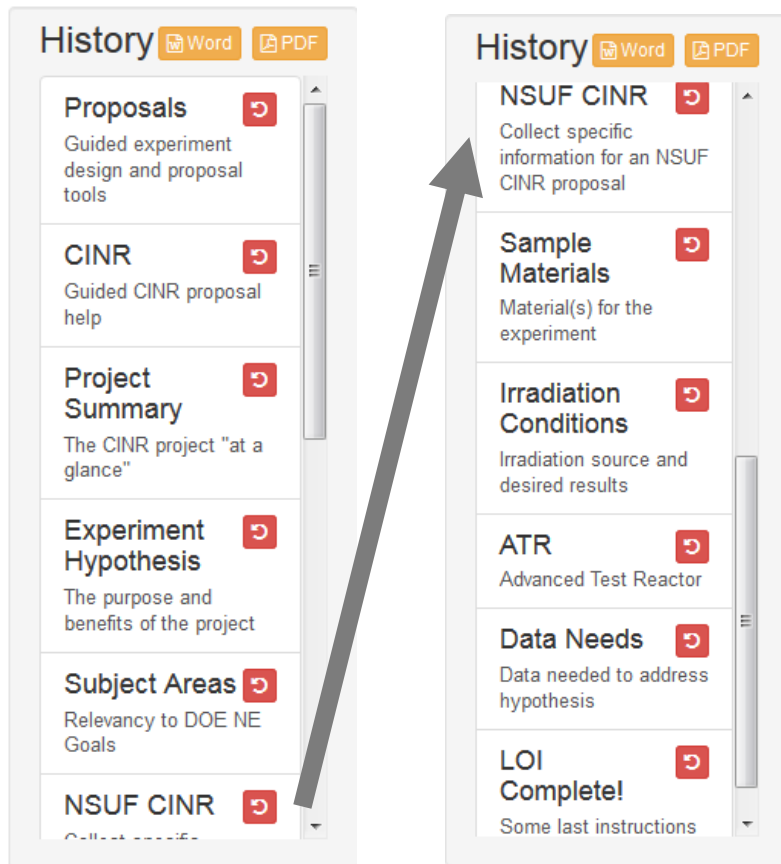
- In-kind contributions
- CRADA with four tasks
  - Monitoring Of Temperature Of Reactor Experiments MOTORE
  - Disc Irradiation for Separate Effects Testing with Control of Temperature (DISECT)
  - Accident Tolerant fuel Test for the Interaction between Coolant and Uranium Silicide (ATTICUS)
  - Cooperative In-Pile Instrumentation Development

# Database Integration

## Combined Materials Experiment Toolkit (CoMET)



# CoMET is Executed through a Process Guidance Application (Wizard)



- The Wizard guides the user through their undertaking (proposal preparation in this case)
- Each box in the history represents a stage in the undertaking where a decision was made and/or information/data was input. At each stage of the undertaking, the user is offered access to additional reference data and information.
- Multiple team members, NSUF technical experts, program managers, and others can all work on an undertaking at the same time, keeping all information in one place.
- The Wizard clearly communicates all relevant information needed for the decision or input required at each stage.
- The Wizard is functional from all communication devices

# Quantifying the Impact of NSUF Fuels and Materials Understanding Scale (FaMUS)

