

UK Project on Nuclear Issues (UK PONI)

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Aim



Support the development of the next generation of nuclear expertise in:

- Industry
- Academia
- Government
- Military

Importance of next-gen development mentioned yesterday:

- BEIS
- TRANSCEND
- UKAEA
- NNL

Sponsors



Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE)

- Also sponsors TRANSCEND and Nuclear Forensics Conference of South West Nuclear Hub

Lockheed Martin

Bechtel

Babcock

- Also sponsors autonomous robotic inspection (part of South West Nuclear hub) and Advanced Nuclear Research Centre

Jacobs Engineering

Rolls Royce

- Also sponsored CAFFE PhD researcher

BAE Systems

MASS

Ministry of Defence (MoD)

What PONI does



Platform for presentations and publications:

- Annual Conference
- US PONI annual conference at STRATCOM
- Nuclear Reactions blog

Training:

- Extensive support to presenters and bloggers
- Experiential learning games: disarmament, arms control and nuclear crisis
- Workshops: nuclear technology, qualitative research
- Lectures, such as lecture to the US military on the intersection of nuclear weapons and strategy
- Round-tables on topics such as public opinion on nuclear weapons

Exposure:

- Bilateral exchange with US, visiting various nuclear sites

Broad Church (1)



Area:

- Policy
- Operational
- Technical

Academic discipline:

- History
- War studies
- International Relations
- Politics
- Economics
- Physics
- Engineering

Broad Church (2)



Disposition towards nuclear weapons:

- Pro deterrence and pro total, comprehensive disarmament
- Typically two groups which do not mix
- However, both groups interested in influencing and gathering intelligence on the other

Sector:

- Defence nuclear
- Civil nuclear

RUSI does not have a position on anything, although individual Research Fellows can hold any defensible position. Purpose of RUSI is to:

- Improve the quality of the debate
- Improve the quality of evidence used in the debate

Plan



- At the moment, a lot of our engagement with academia is with London universities
- We're keen to get people involved from universities outside of London
- Any students: Bachelors, Masters, PhD
- Anyone early in their nuclear career, within their first four years of working as a nuclear professional
- Like to see:
 - Submissions to the Nuclear Reactions PONI blog
 - Submissions for presentations at the PONI annual conference
 - People joining the PONI network
 - It's free
 - Keep people updated on upcoming events
 - A lot of events are filmed and posted online

Any questions?