NITSL NOW

Informing members about NITSL news & activities

Chairman's Update

It was so great to see everyone at the 2023 NITSL Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona! Thank you to the folks that braved the dry heat and I hope you all got a chance to enjoy the lazy river! The 2023 conference was a success and I'd like to thank APS for hosting us. There were some great general session presentations this year, with a large amount focusing on leadership that were quite inspiring! The standing committees did a fantastic job during their breakout sessions and it's always great to hear about what others are working on across the industry. Vendor night was a fun-filled evening with lots of cool prizes being raffled off. It was great to also see the vendor booths during break-out sessions and get the opportunity to have deeper discussions on products/services they provide. Thank you to the EC and Cathy for all the work they put into making the conference a success!

I hope you all stay engaged throughout this next year and help drive some important initiatives at your utility with the collaboration of other utility members and advisors. Please remember to follow us on LinkedIn and share information about NITSL with your peers and leaders! The more members and engagement we have, the more innovative the nuclear industry can be as a whole. Lastly, the NITSL website [nitsl.org] has been updated to show the standing committee contacts, meeting times, and attendee information.

Conference Recap

Hello, NITSL Community! What a wonderful event the 2023 NITSL Conference was! Despite the Arizona heat, we had wonderful representation from utilities, advisors, and our vendor partners. We even welcomed over 40 first time attendees this year! A huge thank you to APS for being such great hosts. APS Team, you went above and beyond in the support you offered NITSL, not to mention the talented speakers you invited and the Tuesday evening event! I also went to thank the EC— you're an incredible bunch of people and NITSL is lucky to have your leadership! I also have to give kudos to Cathy, because she handles so much on behalf of NITSL and we really couldn't do it without her. Last, but not least, I want to thank all of you—the NITSL community. YOU are what makes this community so enriching. If you haven't yet, I encourage you to get involved with our standing committees and share the value NITSL provides with your peers and leaders. Thanks to all of you— members, advisors, and vendor partners—for making this conference, and NITSL, such a great success. I hope to see you for NITSL's 50th Conference in New Orleans next year!

2024 Conference

The 50th NITSL conference will take place July 15–18 2024

at the Roosevelt New Orleans, A Waldorf Astoria Hotel |

New Orleans, LA

Entergy will be our host for 2024 conference.

entergy

Entergy Nuclear, headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, is a subsidiary of Entergy Corporation. Entergy Nuclear owns, operates and supports a fleet of five reactors in four locations, generating enough clean, carbon-free electricity to power millions of homes. Entergy (NYSE: ETR) is a Fortune 500 company that powers life for 3 million customers through our operating companies in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. We're investing in the reliability and resilience of the energy system while helping our region transition to cleaner, more efficient energy solutions. With roots in our communities for more than 100 years, Entergy is a nationally recognized leader in sustainability and corporate citizenship. Since 2018, we have delivered more than $100 million in economic benefits each year to local communities through philanthropy, volunteerism and advocacy.

Entergy is headquartered in New Orleans, Louisiana, and has approximately 12,000 employees.

Learn more at entergy.com and follow @Entergy on social media. #WePowerLife

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Follow NITSL (new company page) on LinkedIn for continuous updates!

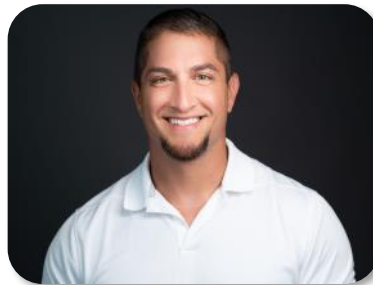*Click on the logo to left to navigate right to it*

Meet the Executive Committee Members for 2023-2024

ALISHA BETTCHER

CHAIR

Alisha Bettcher is an IT Manager at Arizona Public Service for the Palo Verde Information Services (PVIS) Business Intelligence and Data Science team. She has been heavily involved with building out the IT Strategic Roadmaps at PV, partnering with the business across multiple departments like Operations, Work Management, Maintenance, Supply Chain and Engineering. Her involvement with the Equipment Reliability Steering Committee and Technology Executive Steering Committee has allowed for a continuous partnership between IT and the rest of the Palo Verde organization.

ERIK GALLICK

VICE CHAIR

Erik Gallick currently serves as an IT Manager at Constellation in the Tech Ops organization. In his current role, he oversees operational and project support for business network infrastructure in Nuclear. Erik also assists projects as a technical resource by providing guidance and ensuring company IT processes and requirements are followed during development. He is passionate about developing his team and identifying process improvements and business strategy modifications that deliver efficient and effective results.

NICK BRYANT

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Nick Bryant is an IT Engineer Analyst at Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant. He has been in this current position since 2010. During his career at Farley, he has supported installation of several site and fleet projects including Fleet Monitoring and Diagnostic sensors, IT Infrastructure into the plant, and Data Historian, to name a few. Nick also helps support the site infrastructure, wired and wireless, along with various innovation efforts and site projects as those continue to go into a digital realm.

CHRISTOPHER NIFFENEGGER

SECRETARY

Chris Niffenegger began his career in Nuclear Power in 1990 as an Instrument and Control (I&C) technician at the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant. Chris transitioned from working in the plant to becoming an I&C simulator technician performing hardware modifications, calibration of instrumentation, and installation of panels in the simulator. Chris became an I&C instructor before landing his dream job working in Information Technology. Becoming an SME for cyber security and for Software Quality Assurance (SQA), Chris then transitioned to the IT Manager of Operations and Technology at River Bend Station in Louisiana

BEN AZDELL

FINANCIAL CHAIR

For the last 15 years, Ben has been a part of Ameren – Callaway's Engineering team. Starting as an I&C / Electrical Design Engineer, Ben quickly became familiar with the operation of many different Plant Systems. Ben currently works on the Engineering Fix-It-Now team, supporting a variety of Digital, I&C, & Electrical Engineering projects. Ben is the Qualification Standard Owner for the Digital Design Engineering qualification and supports many Digital modifications and Cyber Security group activities at Callaway.

CATHY PRZYJEMSKI

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Cathy has worked for NITSL since 2015 and is responsible for the daily operations, conference and financial needs. She also works with vendors to secure sponsorships and participation in the annual conference and maintains website updates. Cathy holds a BS in Business Management with a Marketing Option from Penn State University and an ABS in Business Administration from Penn State.

Standing Committees

Below you will find information on each subcommittee, the Chair and the Co-Chair.

NOTE: Monthly meetings are for utility members only. If you have any questions on this, please reach out to the respectable chair and/or co-chair. Click on their name to send them an email.

Infrastructure & Applications

The (I&A) Infrastructure & Applications Standing Committee encourages everyone to participate in our monthly meetings for industry and NITSL updates. We have technology topics presented by various nuclear companies to stay aware of new upcoming technologies, industry standards and use cases. Our current 2023 -2024 initiatives are presentations on Emerging Technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI/ML), Digital Transformation, Cloud first apps (PaS vs SaS), End to end Data & Controls (Digital Worker) and Remote Worker.

If you would like to join I&A or attend our monthly meetings please email (Chair) Thomas Brooks and (Co-Chair) Morgan Keeler

Thomas Brooks

Thomas began his career with Southern Company Services in 2015. He supports Southern Nuclear employees as a Technology Planning Analyst by providing consulting that includes technology needs assessments, potential solutions and automation opportunities.

Morgan Keeler

Morgan began his nuclear career with Exelon in 2011 as a Deskside Support contractor at Braidwood Generating Station in Illinois. He was hired in-house in 2013 and took increasing roles of responsibility within the site IT support team and then transitioning to a role within Constellation's IDEA team.

Digital Controls

The Digital Controls Subcommittee serves as a centralized platform for Nuclear Plant Systems. The group focuses heavily on the power of benchmarking between industry utilities, incorporating and sharing lessons learned from Operating Experience and System modifications, presenting advancements in technology that could be used across various digital systems at nuclear sites, as well as providing the opportunity for peer-to-peer collaboration to stimulate individual contributor and utility development.

We are setting a high priority on finding effective ways to expand the digital controls group by introducing other departments and stakeholders with knowledge of digital controls/systems.

Having more insight on DC meetings and at NITSL conferences from other types of contributors will present a pathway to be a more effective group.

Brittany Streeter

Brittany joined Exelon in 2016 spending six years in Real Time Systems, focusing primarily on the Plant Security Computer Systems in the Northeast. Brittany moved to Constellations Nuclear Security Technologies group as a Sr. Security Specialist in 2022 and currently serves as a Sr. Cyber Security Analyst

Charles Melton

I am a Southern Nuclear Fleet I&C Engineer with 10+ years of experience in Cyber Security and Digital Design. I report to the corporate office in Birmingham, Alabama and support all three SNC sites with digital modifications.

Software Quality Assurance

Members of the NITSL SQA Subcommittee understand the power of connecting with industry peers and leveraging their expertise. That's why our primary focus is on increasing engagement within our committee and fostering collaboration with fellow committees.

To kickstart our initiatives, we are embarking on an extensive information gathering exercise. This involves delving into the unique SQA programs of each utility. By understanding what these programs look like, we can identify best practices, common challenges, and innovative approaches that drive excellence in SQA.

We're also committed to updating the NITSL guidance to ensure it remains relevant and aligned with industry standards. In Phase 1 of this initiative, we will be reviewing and exploring other industry groups' standards such as ASME, IEEE, INPO, EPRI, and more. By collaborating with these organizations, we can enhance our guidance and provide valuable insights to the NITSL community.

Lastly, we are exploring the world of Measurement and Test Equipment (M&TE) to understand where SQA fits in. This examination will shed light on the intersection between SQA and M&TE, allowing us to optimize our practices, drive efficiency, and deliver superior quality across the board.

By becoming a member of the NITSL SQA Subcommittee, you'll have a unique opportunity to actively contribute to these initiatives, collaborate with industry experts, share your experiences, influence the development of industry standards, and expand your professional network.

Lacey Mowery

is the SQA Program Manager at APS's Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. She has over 10 years' experience in the IT field including Cyber Security, software application development and administration, project management, and process improvement.

Morgan LeSage

Cyber Security

The Cyber Security Standing Committee slogan is "A little security today prevents a lot of work tomorrow", and that is the direction we are trying to head.

With our 2023-2024 initiatives, we are hoping to take some best practices across the industry today, as well as develop some additional guidance, in areas of Accounts and Passwords Best Practices, Compensatory Measures for Monitoring Systems, Cyber Security Specialized Training, and Supply Chain/Whs Cyber Requirements-including E11.6 Testing Guideline, to provide exemplary and consistent guidance for application of controls for all of our NITSL members to utilize.

Kurt Hofmann

started as a Design Engineer in 2011 and later into Cyber Security. He started as a Contractor on the Comanche Peak Cyber Security Project Team, then in 2020 rolled to an in-house position. Currently classified as a Cyber Security Specialist in the Cyber Security Program Team

Robert Koch

I began at TVA in Nuclear Cyber Security in 2014 at the corporate office supporting TVA's Nuclear Fleet as a Cyber Security Specialist. I transferred out to Watts Bar Nuclear Plant soon after to serve that site specifically, but still a part of the same Nuclear Cyber Security team. In 2020, I assumed my current position as Manager of Nuclear Cyber Security.

2023 Conference Photos

NITSL is appreciative of the conference vendor sponsors !

Call for Papers

NITSL will be sending out a Call for Papers in a couple of weeks. We are seeking members to share topics of interest to the NITSL community that they'd be willing to present on for General Sessions!

Be on the lookout for this request!

The NITSL Newsletter goal is to keep members involved and informed.

Feel free to provide feedback or comments at any time!