

Excerpt from ANS News Nov/Dec 2008

### **Three New Student Sections Formed**

**Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University** created an ANS student section after restarting nuclear engineering courses and a nuclear engineering research program in 2007, following the close of the university's nuclear engineering program and research reactor in the 1980s. The new program, which is administered by the Mechanical Engineering Department, has an enrollment of more than 100 undergraduate and graduate students, including offcampus graduate students enrolled in distance learning.

Students of all majors can enroll in the university's undergraduate nuclear engineering certificate program. A nuclear engineering minor is also under development. For graduate students, a similar certificate is available, and master's and doctoral degrees are under development. Students are able to participate in research projects through university partnerships with industry companies. The Virginia Tech Student Section intends to recruit speakers from these companies for weekly meetings and to arrange field trips to industry facilities. Further involvement in the ANS local section, the ANS Student Conference, ANS national meetings, and community service projects and outreach complete the section's long-term goals.

For more information on the Virginia Tech Nuclear Engineering Program, please visit <http://www.me.vt.edu/news/2009-02-17.pdf>.