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## ACRS Names Four New Members

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has appointed four new members to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) for four-year terms effective June 12, 2016.

The new members are:

- Dr. Margaret Sze-Tai Chu:
- Dr. Walter Kirchner
- Dr. Jose March-Leuba
- Mr. Matthew Sunseri

The ACRS, a group of experienced technical experts, advises the Commission, independently from the NRC staff, on safety issues related to the licensing and operation of nuclear power plants as well as issues of health physics and radiation protection.

Chu is a consultant to international and domestic clients on nuclear waste management, nuclear fuel cycle analysis, nonproliferation technologies and nuclear materials management. She is the second woman to serve on the committee, and this marks the first time two women have served on the committee simultaneously.

She has more than 30 years of experience working on issues related to the nuclear fuel cycle, with an emphasis on risk assessment and performance assessment as applied to nuclear waste management. Chu was director of the Department of Energy's Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management from 2002 to 2005. Before that, she had a long career with Sandia National Laboratory that included directing the lab's Nuclear Waste Management Center and as senior manager of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant program at Sandia.

Chu holds a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Purdue University and a doctorate in physical chemistry from the University of Minnesota. She serves on the DOE Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee and the National Academies Nuclear and Radiation Studies Board.

Kirchner retired in June 2015 from the Argonne National Laboratory. While there he served as an institutional liaison manager following, analyzing, and advising Argonne's leaders on science and

technology policy and programmatic developments in the Department of Energy, other federal agencies and Congress. He began his career as a reactor operator/engineering officer on the N.S. Savannah before joining the staff at Los Alamos National Laboratory. During his 29 years at Los Alamos, he held division and group leader line management positions in construction project management, defense programs, nuclear reactor design and safety projects, and applied energy research and development activities. Kirchner's technical expertise is in nuclear reactor design, thermal-hydraulics and nuclear reactor safety.

Kirchner holds a Bachelor of Science degree in marine engineering from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, and a M.S. and Ph.D. in nuclear engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

March-Leuba is the principal of MRU, which specializes on measurements, regulatory and uncertainty analysis, and an Associate Professor in the nuclear engineering department of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He began his career at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, where he did research into noise analysis and dynamic modeling, and ran tests to determine the stability of commercial boiling water reactors. He also developed and installed instrumentation in Russian facilities to monitor the down-blending of highly enriched uranium. During his 37-year career as a nuclear engineer, March-Leuba developed expertise in reactor thermal hydraulics and dynamics, reactor instrumentation and control and protection systems, software development and testing, and instrumentation development for international safeguards.

March-Leuba has a Master of Science in industrial engineering from the Universidad Politécnica de Valencia in Spain, as well as an M.S. and Ph.D. in nuclear engineering from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Sunseri is an independent nuclear industry consultant with more than 35 years of experience in the safe operation of large commercial reactors. Prior to starting his own executive consulting practice, he was president and chief executive officer of Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation. Sunseri has a wide range of experience in the operation, maintenance, engineering, oversight and security of the nation's commercial nuclear power fleet. He started his career as a nuclear engineer assigned to the construction, licensing, startup and operation of the Comanche Peak nuclear power plant.

Sunseri earned his Bachelor of Science degree in nuclear engineering from Texas A&M University and is a graduate of the Advanced General Management Program at Northwestern University and the Directors Institute at Emory University.

The other members of the ACRS include:

- Dennis C. Bley, chairman, president of Buttonwood Consulting, Inc., Oakton, Va.
- Michael L. Corradini, vice chairman, a professor in the Engineering Physics Department at the University of Wisconsin, Madison
- Peter Riccardella, member-at-large, authority on the structural integrity of nuclear power plant components

- Ronald Ballinger, professor of nuclear science, materials science and engineering and head of the H.H. Uhlig Corrosion Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Charles H. Brown, Jr., senior advisor for electrical systems for BMT Syntek Technologies, Inc., Arlington, Va.
- Dana A. Powers, retired senior scientist for Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M.
- Harold Ray, retired chief executive vice president of Southern California Edison Company, Rosemead, Calif.
- Joy L. Rempe, retired laboratory fellow and group leader at the Idaho National Laboratory, Idaho Falls, Idaho
- Gordon R. Skillman, independent consultant in nuclear power plant design and registered professional engineer in Pennsylvania and Virginia
- John W. Stetkar, principal of Stetkar and Associates, Lake Forest, Calif.

All biographies are available on the NRC [website](#).