



ANS-SR TECHNICAL MEETING JULY 12, 2018

Location: Newberry Hall
117 Newberry St SW
Aiken, SC 29801
(803) 641-7087

Attendance: 44

Presenter: Professor Brian Powell, Clemson University

During the July 12, 2018 meeting of the Savannah River Section of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) three Benjamin Memorial Scholarship awards were awarded to Central Savannah River Area student to help defray college costs for the 2018-2019 academic year of study. The awards are provided in the memory of its long-time member, Dr. Richard (Dick) Benjamin (1925-2013), to students expressing academic and career interests in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields, and particularly those wishing to major in a field associated with nuclear science and technology.

This year's \$2,000 Scholarship winners are Natasha Flores of Aiken High School, Kathryn Foral of Evans High School, and Michael Ray of Aiken High School. The near-term plans of the three Scholarship winners are in keeping with the STEM core areas intended for support through the Benjamin Memorial awards. Ms. Flores will begin her study in Animal Science at Clemson University. Ms. Foral is beginning study in the School of Public Health at the University of Georgia. Mr. Ray will begin his studies in Engineering at Clemson University.

The Scholarship winners and their parents were recognized at the July 12, 2018 dinner meeting of the ANS Savannah River Section held at Newberry Hall in Aiken. Chip Lagdon, Chair of the ANS Savannah River Section, represented the Section and distributed the Scholarship certificates and checks to the students. He encouraged each of the recipients to work hard, graduate, but allow time to have fun when they could.

In addition to the Scholarship awards, Scholarship Chair Kevin O'Kula announced three additional students would be recognized through runner-up, or Benjamin Commendation awards. Students receiving the Commendation Award are Sarah Martinez (Academy of Richmond County) attending Georgia Southern University, Sydney Pepper (South Aiken High School) attending the University of South Carolina Honors College, and Steven Poore (Silver Bluff High School) attending Clemson University.

Following distribution of the Scholarship awards, guest speaker Professor Brian Powell, Robert Fjeld Professor of Nuclear Environmental Engineering and Science at Clemson University and Joint Appointee, Savannah River National Laboratory, presented his innovative work on how

radionuclides move in the environment. He and his staff are performing laboratory and field studies to develop new models for radionuclide subsurface transport including plutonium, neptunium, and technetium. This research is especially important for better understanding conditions near nuclear waste management sites in the U.S., the United Kingdom, and elsewhere.



2018-2019 Benjamin Scholarship Award Winners, parents, and ANS members (left to right): Chip Lagdon (ANS Savannah River Section Chair), Liesl De Sevilla and Pedro Flores (parents of Natasha Flores), Emily Foral and Jim Foral (parents of Kathryn Foral), Kevin O’Kula (ANS SR Scholarship Chair), Michael Ray, and Elaine Ray and Joel Ray (Michael’s parents). (ANS SR photo by Chuan Wu)