U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL LOCAL SECTIONS
MERITORIOUS AWARD CRITERIA
Updated September 26, 2012

PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

1. Reward Sections for being meritorious.
2. Inspire Sections to grow in membership, to host worthwhile meetings, and manage their business well.
3. Share ideas with other sections

An award will be granted to each section type (Large, Small, and International) for each of the following categories:

- Best Membership
- Best Meetings and Programs
- Best Public Information and Education
- Best Section Management
- Best Overall (wins all four categories)

BASIS FOR JUDGING

- Large Sections have membership of 250 or greater.
- Small Sections have memberships less than 250.
- International sections are not located in the United States.

1. MEMBERSHIP
   This category recognizes the efforts of local sections to obtain new members and retain the old members. The judging criteria includes:
   
   i. Membership drive methods and efforts.
   ii. Number of members involved in drive.
   iii. Percent new members.
   iv. Percent renewals.

2. MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS
   The purpose of this award is to recognize Local Sections for providing activities that meet the needs of their members. The judging criteria includes:
   
   i. Number of programs
   ii. Variety in topics, types of programs, and locations of meetings
   iii. Percent of members attending during the year
3. **PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**
The public information award recognizes the intensity of the effort by the Local Section to inform the public (who are not in the nuclear field) about nuclear energy. The judging criteria includes:

   i. Number and variety of projects  
   ii. Percent of membership involved  
   iii. Effort and effectiveness  
   iv. Publicity received and audience reached  
   v. The use of new media for public information

4. **SECTION MANAGEMENT**
This category recognizes the overall excellence in the Section’s conduct of its own affairs. The judging criteria includes:

   i. Active standing committees  
   ii. Percent of Section members on committees  
   iii. Sponsoring topical meetings and seminars for the Society and its divisions  
   iv. Nomination for ANS offices, committees and awards  
   v. Newsletters for members (not meeting notices)  
   vi. Contributions to ANS scholarships, NEED, or Center  
   vii. Student Section support  
   viii. Local K-12 support (teacher and students)  
   ix. The use of new media for section management  
   x. Fulfilling ANS bylaws and rules

5. **OVERALL MERITORIOUS SECTION**
The Meritorious Award recognizes the Section that excels in all four of the above areas. The award may only be given to one section.