



Reed College Reactor Infrastructure Support

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Collaborators: N/A

Program: NEUP

ABSTRACT:

Reed College is home to a 250 kW reactor, which was licensed for an additional 20 years in April 2013. Reed College is the only undergraduate, liberal arts college that is home to a research reactor. This uniqueness does not impact the success of the reactor-training program, which has an unprecedented success in training reactor operators. At the beginning of each academic year, 75 to 120 Reed students attend a seminar and sign-up to participate in the reactor-training program. The students do this knowing that they will receive no credit towards graduation for the training. The students and faculty view the reactor as a way to include experimental design in their education and broaden their life experiences. These students do not typically go on to become nuclear engineers or health physicists, but they do go on to become individuals who are politically active, shape communities' futures, and change societies' perceptions regarding nuclear reactors and radiation science. Moreover, among the Reed Reactor alums are reactor operations managers/supervisors, licensing engineers, health physicists, and radiochemists.

Reed College is requesting funding to improve reliability and to enhance the research capabilities of the Reactor program.