
Preface

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Biographical notes: Ricardo Carvalho de Barros obtained his BSc in Physics at the Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1981, his MSc in Nuclear Engineering at the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1985, his MSc in Mathematics at the University of Michigan, USA in 1989, and his PhD in Nuclear Engineering also at the University of Michigan in 1990. He was an ANS Mark Mills Award winner in 1991, and is now a Level 1 CNPq Researcher and FAPERJ Scientist of the State of Rio de Janeiro.

The *International Nuclear Atlantic Conference 2007* (INAC 2007) was held in Santos, Brazil, from 30 September to 5 October 2007 at the Mendes Convention Center. INAC 2007 was truly international in scope and participation as several countries were well represented by talented researchers in nuclear science and engineering. The conference was promoted by the Brazilian Association for Nuclear Energy (ABEN – www.aben.com.br), and we would like to express our deep recognition to all the sponsors.

INAC 2007 emphasised strategic areas in which progress is beneficial to further development as far as nuclear energy and energetic challenges for the 21st century are concerned.

This special issue comprises seven papers and offers a cross-section of the topics related to nuclear energy science and technology presented in Santos. I wish to thank the technical programme committees, the Editor-in-Chief, Professor Dr. André Maïsseu, and all the authors and speakers for making the INAC 2007 a great success.