

Woodruff Nuclear & Radiological Engineering and Medical Physics
Programs Seminar

"History and Relevance of the Russian Health Studies
Program"

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U.S. Department of Energy (Office of International Health Studies)

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Manufacturing Research Center (MARC, Room 114)
(813 Ferst Drive – Corner of Hemphill Avenue/Ferst Drive)

11:00am to 12:00 Noon

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Abstract

The Russian Health Studies Program was developed to assess worker and public health risks from radiation exposure resulting from nuclear weapons production activities in the former Soviet Union. The goals and objectives are to: Better understand the relationship between health effects and chronic, low-to-medium dose radiation exposures; Estimate radiation-induced cancer risks from exposure to gamma, neutron, and alpha radiation; and Provide information to national and international organizations engaged in determining and validating radiation protection standards/practices. Presently, DOE supports radiation dose reconstruction studies, epidemiologic studies, molecular and radiobiological studies, and a tissue repository. All research is focused on workers at Mayak Production Association, Russia's first nuclear weapons production facility, and on residents in communities surrounding the facility. In Fiscal Year 2007, researchers published over 25 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals. The history and present status of the program will be reviewed.

Biosketch

Barrett Fountos is currently a program manager with the U.S. Department of Energy in the office of health, safety and security.