

Ralph Bennett is Director of Science and Technology Strategic Planning at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) where he has worked for over 16 years. He has helped lead the Department of Energy (DOE) efforts to develop Generation IV as well as to organize the Generation IV International Forum (GIF).

Beginning in early 2001, the Generation IV Technology Roadmap was a two year effort to evaluate the most promising advanced nuclear energy systems. Ralph served as co-chair of the effort, organizing and completing the Roadmap in December, 2002. For two years following the Roadmap, he was the National Technical Director of Systems Analysis for the integrated Generation IV program and Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative for the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy.

Beginning in 2000, the Generation IV International Forum has worked to define an international framework for collaboration on advanced nuclear energy systems. Dr. Bennett was a lead organizer of the Forum for the DOE, and helped develop its Charter and committee and working group structure. He currently serves as the GIF Technical Director and Chair of its Experts Group.

Dr. Bennett's earlier work as a principal investigator at the laboratory includes research in the areas of high-temperature gas-cooled reactor fluid flow and fuel performance, space reactors for power and propulsion, and radioisotope production methods. Prior to joining the laboratory, He held positions in industry for eight years, and was an assistant professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Dr. Bennett earned his doctorate in nuclear engineering at MIT in 1979 and a bachelor's in nuclear engineering at the University of Michigan in 1973