SCUREF | SOUTH CAROLINA UNIVERSITIES
RESEARCH & EDUCATION FOUNDATION
1204 WHISKEY ROAD, SUITE F, AIKEN, SC 29803-4322

Professional Biography

Mr. Robert Craig Williamson, COO, South Carolina Universities Research and Education Foundation

In 1982, Mr. Williamson assisted DOE's Office of Science in the development of the Magnetic Fusion Energy Graduate Fellowship Program, which was the first new nuclear-related graduate fellowship since the Atomic Energy Commission sponsored programs from 1956-1972. This program was a direct result of an employment survey conducted by Oak Ridge Associated Universities that determined the need for scientists and engineers in fusion energy science and technology. Mr. Williamson was a contributor to this one-of-a-kind workforce study in NSE.

During his employment at Oak Ridge Associated Universities (1980-1998) and at the Oak National Laboratory where he held a joint appointment, Mr. Williamson authored several NSE workforce studies and managed several educational programs including the Nuclear Science Engineering and Health Physics; Industrial Hygiene; Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management; and the Plasma Physics Science Fellowship Programs. His work also included being the principal writer in the winning proposal to manage the National Science Foundation's Graduate Fellowships.

Since taking a position at SCUREF in 2001, Mr. Williamson developed and managed several NSE programs directly related to the mission-oriented workforce needs of DOE. This work included the development and management of the Radiochemistry Education Award Program, and a series of Nuclear Forensics programs that included undergraduate research, graduate fellowship, junior faculty awards, and postgraduate programs. SCUREF was selected to provide the management portfolio for the Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee, and the Blue-Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future. At the present time, SCUREF manages the Nuclear Nonproliferation International Safeguards Graduate Fellowship Program and the Rickover Fellowship Program both sponsored by NNSA.

Mr. Williamson has a BA (Public Administration) and an MA (Political Science) from the University of Tennessee. He currently serves on the Editorial Board for the International Journal for Nuclear Security; is an active member of the International Atomic Energy Agency's International Nuclear Security Education Network; and has participated in numerous presentations and chaired several sessions at meetings hosted by the International Nuclear Materials Management, American Nuclear Society (ANS), and the Health Physics Society. He has served as Chair of ANS's Education and Scholarship Committees. He continues to serve on several external advisory boards at universities that offer programs in nuclear science and engineering, and he is the former Chair of the External Advisory Board for the Political Science Department at the University of Tennessee.