

## In Remembrance of Dr. Peter Lyons

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Dr.

Peter Lyons—who influenced the future and direction of nuclear energy research and development profoundly in this country. During his five-decade public service career, Dr. Lyons made significant contributions to nuclear science and policy in the United States (U.S.). He led the U.S. Office of Nuclear Energy as Assistant Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Energy from 2011 to 2015 and previously served as a Commissioner of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) from 2005 to 2009. Prior to his tenure at the NRC, Dr Lyons worked with the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) from 1969 to 1996. In 1997, after nearly three decades at LANL, Lyons joined the staff of Sen. Pete Domenici (R., N.M.) as a scientific advisor, where he crafted Domenici's "A New Nuclear Paradigm" speech, which set a foundation for the resurgence of nuclear power in the U.S.

One of many discussions between Bruce Hallbert and Dr. Lyons led to the formation of the Human Systems Simulation Laboratory (HSSL) (see Figure 1) at Idaho



National Laboratory (INL). It was originally inspired by a discussion regarding the desperate need for a reference physical facility in the United States—like at Halden, Norway—to develop and test advanced concepts for nuclear power plant operation and technology migration. Dr. Lyons was an ardent supporter of the HSSL. On his visits to the facility, just as it was with Secretary Moniz when Pete was serving in DOE-NE, the HSSL served not only as a point of interest during tours, but frequently where such dignitaries would stage or hold media interviews. The HSSL serves as a unique testbed today for integrating advanced concepts in human factors, human systems

interface research, advanced concepts of operation, online monitoring, diagnostics, and prognostics.

We are grateful for this amazing man's life, legacy, and friendship. Thank you, Pete. You will be missed.

– **Bruce P. Hallbert**

Director, Light Water Reactor Sustainability Program  
Technical Integration Office

*Figure 1. One of many discussions between Bruce Hallbert and Dr. Lyons led to the formation of the Human Systems Simulation Laboratory (HSSL) at Idaho National Laboratory (INL).*

