

The Role of ASNT in Supporting NDT Education and Research in the US

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The speaker will present some aspects of NDT education and research in the US. To maintain impartiality, the presentation will provide historical and statistical data based on research related recognition and award programs offered by ASNT throughout the past decade. The presentation will discuss top recipient universities for each award and concentration areas of their research and engineering education. ASNT supports several programs to promote NDT engineering and research across the US. Among them are financial awards, such as the Fellowship Awards, Faculty Grants, Engineering Undergraduate Award and Student Travel Grants. Non-financial awards include Outstanding paper awards, Research Innovation Award, Sustained Excellence Awards, and the Ward Rummel Engineering Excellence Award. These programs have grown in recent years and continue to grow. In parallel, ASNT as well as other organizations are beginning to emphasize the role and responsibilities of the NDT Engineer. This will help drive future trends for new applications of NDT in the field. In fact, some technologies, like Additive Manufacturing, are being implemented prematurely in some cases, due to a competitive environment in manufacturing. These advancements are taking place faster than NDT can meet the demand. Other frontiers of NDT are driven not by academia but by industry, such as NASA with its futuristic plans for manufacturing in space, the automotive industry with their unending need for faster and cheaper mass production operations, and integration of robotics and artificial intelligence for large volume inspections of infrastructure.