Lessons from the Rickover summer experience for high school students

D.M. SVELNYS, Rickover Naval Academy, C.J. LISTER, Argonne National Laboratory, S.M. FISCHER, DePaul University and Argonne National Laboratory — For the last two years we have organized a one week summer school at Argonne National Laboratory for high school students from the Rickover Naval Academy, which is a magnet school in Chicago. The school has many facets; “hands-on” experiments, visits to facilities in the laboratory, science lectures, discussion of scientific careers, and report writing. The school is aimed at showing students the possibilities of science careers at all levels, and linking the science they learn in class to cutting edge research topics. We are still learning from the students how to best achieve these goals. I will discuss the development of the school course content and the feedback we have had for the various course elements. We are growing the school to encompass courses in Chemistry and Biology this year, and have a goal of increasing the number of schools participating in the out-years. This research was supported by the DOE Office of Nuclear Physics under contract DE-AC02-06CH11357.

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