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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Weapon Intern Program Graduates from SRS Grow Knowledge and Experience

AIKEN, S.C. (Oct. 15, 2020) – The Savannah River Site’s Taylor Gomillion and Jacob Schaufler completed a fellowship program that accelerates the learning process and transfers decades of knowledge and experience in all phases of the nuclear weapon lifecycle from experienced weaponeers to the new generation of stockpile stewards. The two graduated from the Sandia National Laboratory Weapon Intern Program (WIP), with Gomillion receiving the Distinguished Graduate Award.

Gomillion, Schaufler, and WIP participants from other organizations completed more than 1,200 academic hours, 600 professional development hours, 120 leadership development hours, and four research projects working with active Nuclear Security Enterprise (NSE) programs. Participants traveled to nuclear security sites to hear from weapon system experts, tour operations, and network.

Gomillion, a Reservoir Assurance Engineer, said, “Learning firsthand from experts at other sites and the interaction among the weapons interns, who are also experts in some aspect of nuclear weapons, made the class such an informative experience.”

Schaufler, a Reservoir Systems Engineer, agreed saying, “A large benefit of the program is being able to hear different perspectives from people throughout the NSE. The travel was important because not only did we learn what other sites do, but we also saw the work they do in action. You walk away from the program with a dependable network of people.”



Taylor Gomillion



Jacob Schaufler

At the program's conclusion, Gomillion received the Distinguished Graduate Award, which recognizes a participant for outstanding achievement in WIP academic curriculum.

Speaking about the award, Gomillion said, "I was honored and surprised to receive it at graduation. I'm proud that Jacob and I could represent SRS well."

"WIP is one of the efforts by the NSE to grow and maintain a knowledgeable workforce in support of the nuclear weapon mission, and SRS now has eight graduates," said David Carroll, Reservoir Engineering Manager and WIP Coordinator for SRS. "I congratulate Taylor and Jacob on completing the program and look forward to seeing how their experiences are integrated into their work."

Established by Congress in 2000, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) is a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for enhancing national security through the military application of nuclear science. The mission of the NNSA Savannah River Field Office (SRFO) is to provide operations, programs, and project oversight and contract administration for NNSA field activities at the Savannah River Site, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, a Fluor-led company with Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, is responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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