



Yoho receives NNSA Fellowship

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Michael Yoho, a doctoral candidate at the University of Texas at Austin and graduate research assistant in the Actinide Analytical Chemistry Group (C-AAC), has been awarded the Nuclear Nonproliferation International Safeguards (NNIS) Graduate Fellowship, sponsored by the NNSA Office of Nonproliferation and International Security's Next Generation Safeguards Initiative (NA-241).

Yoho's achievements

Yoho was one of four students selected nationwide for the NNIS fellowship, which provides an annual stipend for three years. The Fellowship program requires a practicum assignment at a national laboratory, which he will fulfill working with C-AAC mentor Donovan Porterfield. During his practicum, Yoho will explore integrating gamma spectroscopy coincidence and anticoincidence methodology into the current radiochemical methods used in nuclear nonproliferation and forensics measurements, as well as defense programs missions, at the new TA-55 facility for analytical chemistry (RLUOB). He will also apply Industrial Engineering and quality assurance principles to develop radiometric assay procedures to reduce analytical turnaround times, floor space requirements, and nuclear material sample sizes.

Yoho received a Bachelor of Science degree with high honors in mechanical engineering from the University of Texas, earning recognition as a Cockrell School of Engineering Scholar. In 2013, he was awarded the University's Charles E. Smith, Jr. Endowed Presidential Scholarship and the William Powers, Jr. Fellowship for his graduate work. Yoho was a United States Army Sergeant and Infantry Team Leader (2004-09), serving as assistant commander for over 200 combat operations patrolling Baghdad and the Syrian border.

About the Fellowship Program

The NNIS Fellowship program is designed to meet NNSA's needs for appropriately trained personnel in research and development in areas pertinent to nuclear nonproliferation and international safeguards. The fellowship aims to build collaboration between the leading nuclear technology programs and the universities studying the policy aspects of nuclear nonproliferation. The fellowship's primary emphasis is to produce doctoral graduates who are familiar with both the technical and policy aspects of nonproliferation and international safeguards.