



Report from the Chapter President

I am sure that those of you who were able to attend the Central Chapter's 1999 Spring Meeting in Cleveland and the 46th Annual Meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine in Los Angeles will agree that many new and exciting opportunities are on the immediate horizon. Both meetings featured presentations on ¹⁸F₂FDG imaging in oncology, recent developments in therapeutic nuclear medicine including the use of radiolabeled monoclonal antibodies in the treatment of lymphoma, sentinel node lymphoscintigraphy for breast and melanoma patients, and recent improvements in cardiac nuclear medicine. The message that nuclear medi-

cine is in an excellent position to lead the medical community at large into the new millennium was stressed at both meetings. The future of medicine is molecular medicine, and nuclear medicine can lead the way. This means that, as healthcare professionals, we must continuously educate ourselves, » **p11**



Michael J. Blend, PhD, DO

Report from the Technologist Section President

Welcome to exciting times for nuclear medicine, for the Central Chapter, and for the Central Chapter Technologist Section (CC-TS). It is assumed that if you are reading this, you have read the above message from your chapter president. OK. Let's be sure. We'll pause here and review Dr. Blend's message... Everyone back? Good. See, we have much to contribute! We are needed. We can really help people in life-changing ways! Isn't that why we're here? But you know, as good and wonderful as our nuclear medicine physicians are, they are only able to be as good as the images we put in front of them on the

view boxes. Man! This is a huge, demanding responsibility, isn't it? And sometimes it's hard to be 100% committed, too. For example, you're approaching that second hour of overtime (ever have a Friday P.M. stat lung?). You want (need?) to leave. Making it to your reservation/obligation is going to be close. Let's see—you can save a few



Ridgely G. Conant, CNMT

» **p11**

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Editors' Desk



Sue Weiss, CNMT, FSNMTS

With this second edition of *Central Chapter in the News*, we have included a brief review of some of the new developments on view in the technical exhibits at the recent Society of Nuclear Medicine meeting in L.A. Remember that this is just one person's view of the exhibits (M.K.O'C) and with the limited time available, there are undoubtedly worthwhile new developments that were missed. The Central Chapter web site at www.ccsnm.org has been fully operational for many months. This site contains downloadable copies of the newsletter that can be printed out using Adobe Acrobat

(freeware). Despite all our pleading, we have received little feedback from you, the members, and would again encourage you to e-mail, phone, or write us on any aspect of either the newsletter, Central Chapter meetings, or roadshows. Are there educational articles we could place on the web site that would be of value to our members? Could technologists use the Web to obtain CME credits? Think about these possibilities and give us your feedback.

Editors: Michael O'Connor (mkoconnor@mayo.edu) and Susan Weiss (sweiss@mwu.edu)

CC-TS Nominating Committee & Bylaw Changes

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!!!! The CC-TS Nominating Committee would like to invite all members to submit names for the 2000-01 ballot. It has been with loyal volunteers that the Central Chapter has become the biggest chapter within the SNM and, with your continued participation, we can remain a leader. Please contact Lisa Hazen, committee chair, at (231) 487-4070 for an official nomination form or for additional information. The following positions are available with their time commitments

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| President-Elect | (3 years) |
| Secretary | (1 year) |
| Treasurer | (2 years) |
| National Council Delegate | (2 years) |
| Board of Governors | (3 years) |
| By-laws Committee | (1 year) 3 elected members |

Please be advised that Bylaw changes will appear on this year's ballot for the Technologist Section. You can check out the changes by visiting our web site at www.ccsnm.org or contact **Karen Martin** at (231) 487-4070 for a copy of the proposed changes.

Note of Thanks

Just a quick thank you for allowing me to serve as your TS president this past year. We made great strides as the Tech Section, but also as a Chapter. I couldn't have done it without the wonderful cooperation of Dr. Robert Wagner, my CC counterpart, and all the other wonderful people who helped me in every way. I hope that all of you feel you can hold your head up high as a member of the Central Chapter and I encourage everyone to get involved. It is a very rewarding experience. Thanks again.

Lisa Hazen, Immediate Past President

Corporate Corner

Who to contact? The following corporate representatives were on hand at the recent Spring meeting of the Central Chapter in Cleveland, OH.

ADAC Laboratories

Chris Martin: 800-729-2322 Voice mail 4597
cbmtex@worldnet.att.net

Capintec Inc.

Jason Smith: 800-631-3826
jsmith@capintec.com

Cytogen Corporation

Shane Brugler: 800-833-3533
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DuPont Life Sciences Enterprise

Matthew Callahan: 800-599-5744 ext 7929
Patrick McClain: 800-599-5744 ext 7114
Cynthia Watts: 800-599-5744 ext 7169

Eastern Isotopes

John Zehner: 877-334-3673
jz@easternisotopes.com

Mallinkrodt Inc.

Pam Applegate: 800-634-1515 ext 34447
pam.applegate@mkg.com

Nuclear Fields

Mark Keijzers: 800-932-7203
mark@nuclearfields.com

Numed Inc.

Randy Littleton: 800-763-5134
rlittle@ibm.net

Nycomed Amersham

Joe Mueller: 800-242-8004
joe.mueller@us.nycomed-amersham.com

Siemens Medical Systems, Inc.

Kelly Leers: 847-304-7182
kelly.leers@nmg.sms.siemens.com

Syncor

Allison Medinger: 800-678-6779 ext 2561
medingera@syncor.com

Technology Imaging Services

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Kymberlie Stutz: 330-768-7800
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Partial list due to limited space

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A joint publication of the Central Chapter of the
Society of Nuclear Medicine
American College of Nuclear Physicians

Nuclear Medicine UPDATE

- Educate your attending staff, case managers, hospital administration, managed care groups, and third-party payers about nuclear medicine procedures while you market your department.
- Can be personalized exclusively for your institution.
- Published 6 times a year
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UPCOMING MEETINGS

IMPACT 2000: Cancer, Computers, & Cost/Benefits

Main Topics of the Conjoint Central Chapter/Missouri Valley
Fall Meeting September 18–19, 1999, Oak Brook, IL

Now is the time to begin making arrangements to attend the conjoint meeting with the Missouri Valley Chapter at the Chicago Marriott, Oak Brook, IL. The meeting dates are September 18–19, 1999, and hotel arrangements must be made before August 27 in order to guarantee a reduced room rate. Full descriptions of the meeting and its objectives are given on pages 5–8. For more information about this meeting, check online at www.ccsnm.org or contact the Executive Director, Renae Henkin, at (630) 686-6187.

E2K: Nuclear Endocrinology in the New Millennium

Main Topic of the Spring Meeting of the Central Chapter
April 13–16, 2000, Dearborn, MI

It's only 9 months away. Our first meeting of the next millennium focuses primarily on endocrinology and covers the full range of endocrine topics from thyroid cancer and its treatment to imaging with Octreoscan, NP-59, and I-131 MIBG. There are also sessions on pediatric endocrine imaging and the application of PET and coincidence imaging to endocrinology.

Nonendocrine topics include a full session devoted to coincidence imaging as well as reimbursement updates and a review of the SNM highlights. Back by popular demand, there will be corporate sessions to bring you up to date on the latest developments in instrumentation and radiopharmaceuticals. For more information about this meeting, check online at www.ccsnm.org or contact the Executive Director, Renae Henkin, at (630) 686-6187.

Allied Health Leadership Coalition

Report of the Conference held in Washington, Spring 1999.

Based on a recommendation by the National Commission on Allied Health, the Bureau of Health Professions (part of the US Public Health Service) and ASAHP (Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions) developed the Allied Health Coalition. Its purpose was to gather allied health professionals from all facets of allied health and discuss common problems and goals, and how these things can be accomplished in a unified manner (including lobbying efforts on both the state and national level). The coalition serves to bring allied health representatives together from many organizations. Most of these organizations are members of the three main "parent" organizations: ASAHP, NN2 (National Network of Health Career Programs in 2-year Colleges), and HPN (Health Professions Network). These three organizations, along with last year's coalition attendees developed 10 projects (or goals) that were felt to be pertinent to the growth and existence of allied health professions. These projects included defining "what allied health is" expanding educational opportunities for allied health professionals, developing, promoting, and marketing allied health awareness week; developing and maintaining of the allied health web site, etc.!

I recently attended the Allied Health Leadership Coalition in Washington, DC, in early April. What a great opportunity to meet all of these allied health profes-

sionals and sit down to talk and work with them! This was a busy meeting going from 7:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M. daily, with few breaks. The Coalition was made up of affiliates (or members) of the three main allied health organizations: ASAHP, NN2, and HPN. A total of 38 attendees (including educators and clinicians) from the three main organizations were in attendance. Lenna King (Greater New York Chapter) was the other nuclear medicine technologist in attendance.

We learned about how the "true" legislative process works, all about the federal budget, and how allied health is affected by things going on in the political arena in Washington. We also talked to various consultants, who gave us tips for talking to Congress and other politicians. All of the speakers were fantastic! One afternoon the coalition had the opportunity to talk to Chris Jennings, who is the chief policy advisor for President Clinton, Dan Mendelson, the associate director of OMB, and Mary Vienna, who is head of HCFA's clinical standards section.

Virginia Pappas from SNM arranged for all of the attendees to go to Capital Hill and meet their respective state/local Representatives and Senators. Unfortunately, since it was spring break, we didn't actually get to talk to the Congressperson himself; however, we had the chance to meet with their assistants and discuss the allied health issues that are of concern to us. Discussions focused on preserving

\$8,000,000 in appropriations for allied health care, specifically *Section 755 in Title VII of the Public Health Service Act*. I feel I contributed to making Michigan Senators and Representatives well aware of our concerns.



Sharon Lafferty, CNMT

Work was begun on the 10 group projects. I have taken responsibility as team leader for the project on Allied Health Awareness. I am working with three other people on the project, and each of us comes from different backgrounds. Virginia Pappas is our group's mentor, so I'll be talking with her quite a bit now! The goal is to complete this project by mid-September, when we meet again to present our work and address other issues/concerns. My project involves allied health promotion and awareness, so be forewarned that you will be hearing a lot about this in the months to come! Our group is taking care of the allied health web site—www.alliedhealth.org—*check it out*. Please direct any suggestions or comments to me about the web site to sharon.mslinternet.com. I'll keep everyone posted about this exciting coalition as we approach September!

Sharon Lafferty, CNMT, RT(N)
SEMATA, Central Chapter
St. John Hospital, Detroit, Michigan

Job Posting: PET Laboratory Specialist—Mayo Clinic

Mayo Clinic currently has an opening for a PET Laboratory Specialist. The successful candidate is responsible for the daily production and quality control of routine PET radiopharmaceuticals. PET Laboratory Specialist assists in the synthesis of radiopharmaceuticals for clinical and research studies using automated chemistry modules and other laboratory equipment. Requires four-year degree in Nuclear Medicine Technology or Chemistry. Strong chemistry background with experience in analytical techniques, particularly HPLC. Qualified applicants should have experi-


ence working with radioactivity such as in a nuclear medicine environment. Must have the ability to follow precise protocols in a controlled environment. Candidate must be skilled in trouble shooting analytical/production laboratory equipment. As a leader in healthcare, Mayo Clinic offers an excellent salary and benefit package. A full range of tax-deferred annuities and mutual fund options, as well as a sick child care facility and a Mayo-sponsored activity program that includes discounted vacation travel plans and an employee fitness center, are also offered. For further information contact:

Julian Currie, Mayo Clinic
Human Resources Staffing Center, OE-1
200 1st Street SW
Rochester, MN 55905
Phone 800-562-7984
Fax 507-284-1445
E-mail currie.julian@mayo.edu
www.mayo.edu
Please refer to job posting #99-2800.SNM

Mayo Clinic is an affirmative action and equal opportunity educator and employer. Mayo Clinic uses optical scanning technology. Please use a 12 point font in your resume with minimal use of bullets, italics, underlining, and bolding.



IMPACT 2000



CANCER
COMPUTERS
COST/BENEFITS

September 18-19, 1999




Chicago Marriott Oak Brook
Oak Brook, Illinois



Conjoint Meeting of the
Central & Missouri Valley Chapters of the Society of Nuclear Medicine

Register online at www.ccsnm.org



PROGRAM

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this meeting, attendees should be able to:

- Explain the appropriateness for bone palliation therapy.
- Understand the relationship between radioimmunotherapy and overall lymphoma patient management.
- Understand and be able to apply techniques for the detection of multidrug resistance in tumors.
- Define technology assessment and recognize its significance in decision analysis as applied to nuclear medicine.
- Put the PC to use for nuclear medicine applications.
- Discuss 3D imaging applications in nuclear medicine.
- Employ effective indications for appropriate use of FDG imaging.
- Review the relationship between spiral CT scanning and perfusion lung imaging.
- Have the skills and knowledge to understand and apply evidence-based medicine in their practice.
- Apply medical decision making for cardiac patient testing based on cost-effective strategies.

DESCRIPTION

This meeting represents the combined efforts of the Missouri Valley and Central Chapters of the Society of Nuclear Medicine. The organizers, Charles C. Chen, MD; Carol Schutz-Ferino, CNMT; and Bennett S. Greenspan, MD, have designed a program providing for the educational needs of practicing physicians, nuclear medicine technologists, and scientists. The meeting will provide these groups with information on how evidence-based medicine is derived and translated to clinical practice. The appropriate selection of patients for nuclear cardiology studies based on cost-effective criteria and the capabilities of PCs for nuclear imaging will also be discussed.

The continuing interest in coincidence imaging, attenuation correction, and 3D imaging will be addressed as well. Nuclear oncology topics continue to generate interest, and this area will be dealt with in presentations on an overview of nuclear medicine's role in lymphoma therapy and PET in oncology. The importance of the detection of multidrug resistance in cancer and its detection via imaging is of significant current interest in oncology. New techniques in this area will be presented.

CREDIT

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with Essentials and Standards of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through a joint sponsorship of the Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) and the Central Chapter. The SNM is accredited by the ACCME to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

The Society of Nuclear Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 9 hours of category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician's Recognition award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity. VOICE and IDNS Technologist credit are in application for this meeting.

ACCOMMODATIONS

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Reservations can be made by directly calling the **Chicago Marriott Oak Brook at (800) 228-9290**.

Check-in time is 4:00 p.m. Check-out time is 1:00 p.m. The special hotel rate for SNM Central and Missouri Valley Chapter attendees is **\$109.00 single/double**. The final date for this special rate is **August 27, 1999**. Reservations made after this date are subject to availability. Hotel rooms are subject to applicable tax. Please contact the Chicago Marriott Oak Brook 48 hours prior to your arrival date if you need to cancel. Rooms will be held until 6:00 p.m. on your day of arrival.

Please use a credit card to guarantee your hotel room, especially if you anticipate a late arrival. Please indicate that you are attending the SNM Central and Missouri Valley Chapter meeting to take advantage of the \$109.00 single/double special rate.

Chicago Marriott Oak Brook
1401 W 22nd Street
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523
(800) 228-9290

TRANSPORTATION

AIRPORT SHUTTLE

Shuttle transportation from O'Hare International Airport to the Chicago Marriott Oak Brook will be provided by Midwest Transit System. We have scheduled hourly pickups on **Thursday and Friday** from **4:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight**. When ordering this service, you will receive a special coupon with your meeting confirmation. This coupon will list the pickup points at each terminal.

On Sunday, return shuttle service from the Marriott to O'Hare will be at 8:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:30 p.m.

The round-trip cost is \$30.00.

If you plan to fly in on Saturday, please call Renae Henkin at the Central Chapter office at (630) 686-6187 by September 1, 1999, to make special arrangements.

OAK BROOK

OAK BROOK CENTER

Oak Brook Shopping Center is located directly across from the Chicago Marriott Oak Brook. This open-air mall is one of the oldest and largest in the country. Oak Brook is home to many of the finest restaurants in the area. Make sure that you stop by the concierge to make your reservations, because most of the restaurants are very popular with local residents. If you want to catch a musical, the Drury Lane is a five-minute drive. It's worth the trip!

FACULTY

Marcia R. Boyd, CNMT, FSNMSTS

Shelby County Government
Memphis, TN

Richard I. Fisher, MD

Loyola University Medical Center
Maywood, IL

James R. Halama, PhD

Loyola University Medical Center
Maywood, IL

Lyn Mehlberg, CNMT

St. Luke's Medical Center
Milwaukee, WI

Michael K. O'Connor, PhD

Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN

Frank J. Papatheofanis, MD, PhD

UCSD Medical Center
San Diego, CA

Dennis D. Patton, MD

University of Arizona Medical Center
Tucson, AZ

David R. Piwnica-Worms, MD

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St. Louis, MO

Henry D. Royal, MD

Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology
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Leslee J. Shaw, PhD

Emory University Medical Center
Atlanta, GA

Mary Jo Struttman, CNMT

DuPont Pharmaceuticals Company
N. Billerica, MA

Ronald Szilagyi, CNMT

Loyola University Medical Center
Maywood, IL

Wynn A. Volkert, PhD

Harry S Truman VAMC
Columbia, MO

Jerold W. Wallis, MD

Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology
St. Louis, MO

Carter S. Young, DO

University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria
Peoria, IL

A. Michael Zimmer, PhD

Northwestern Memorial Hospital
Chicago, IL

FRIDAY

CENTRAL CHAPTER COMMITTEE MEETINGS

9:00–10:00 a.m.

Chapter/TS Leadership Forum

Lombard Room

10:00–11:00 a.m.

Chapter/TS Membership Committee

La Grange Room

11:00–12:30 p.m.

Program Committee

Wheaton Room

12:30–1:00 p.m.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:00–2:00 p.m.

TS Bylaws Committee

Wheaton Room

1:00–2:30 p.m.

Publications Committee

Lombard Room

1:00–1:30 p.m.

TS Nominating Committee

La Grange Room

1:30–2:00 p.m.

TS Finance Committee

La Grange Room

2:00–3:00 p.m.

Continuing Education Committee

Wheaton Room

2:30–3:00 p.m.

Nominating Committee

Lombard Room

2:30–3:00 p.m.

Constitution & Bylaws Committee

La Grange Room

3:00–4:30 p.m.

Finance Committee

Lombard Room

3:00–5:00 p.m.

TS Executive Committee

Wheaton Room

5:30–8:00 p.m.

Board of Governors Meeting/Dinner

Hinsdale Room

MISSOURI VALLEY COMMITTEE MEETING

6:30–11:00 p.m.

Executive Committee Dinner

La Grange Room

SATURDAY

7:00 a.m. **Registration**

7:45 a.m. **Welcome**

Henry D. Royal, MD, President—MVC

Michael J. Blend, PhD, DO, President—CC

Charles C. Chen, MD, Local Program Chair—CC

Carol Schutz-Ferino, Local Program Chair—CC

Bennett S. Greenspan, Local Program Chair—MVC

SESSION I—ONCOLOGY: DIAGNOSIS, THERAPY, OUTCOMES

Moderator—Michael J. Blend, PhD, DO

8:00 **Ralph G. Robinson, MD, Memorial Lecture**

Developing Radiolabeled Bombesin Analogues for Specific In Vivo Targeting of Cancers

Wynn A. Volkert, PhD

8:45 Radioimmunotherapy: Basics and Clinical Trials

A. Michael Zimmer, PhD

9:15 Integrating Radiolabeled Antibodies into Lymphoma Therapy: A Clinician's View

Richard I. Fisher, MD

10:00 **Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall**

10:15 Noninvasive Analysis of Gene Expression in Cancer: Identification of Multidrug Resistance with Scintigraphy

David R. Piwnica-Worms, MD

11:00 PET Applications in Nuclear Oncology

Carter S. Young, DO

11:45 Outcome and Technology Assessment for Nuclear Oncology

Frank J. Papatheofanis, MD, PhD

12:15 **MVC Business Luncheon
CC and CC-TS Business Luncheon**

1:30 **VISIT THE EXHIBIT HALL**

SESSION II—CURRENT COMPUTER AND IMAGING TECHNIQUES

Moderator—Henry D. Royal, MD

2:00 **Proffered Papers**

Moderator—William Erwin, MS

2:30 Nuclear Medicine Computing on the PC

Michael K. O'Connor, PhD

3:15 **Soda Break in the Exhibit Hall**

3:30 3D Displays in Nuclear Medicine

Jerold W. Wallis, MD

4:15 Coincidence Imaging

James R. Halama, PhD

4:45 Optimized Coincidence Imaging with Fluoro-18 FDG

Ronald Szilagy, CNMT

5:00 **Adjourn**

5:00 **MVC-TS Business Meeting**

SUNDAY

SESSION III—COST/BENEFITS AND OUTCOMES

Moderator—Bennett S. Greenspan, MD

8:30 **Proffered Papers**

Moderator—Charles C. Chen, MD

9:00 Roles of Spiral CT and Lung Perfusion Studies in the Diagnosis of Pulmonary Emboli

Henry D. Royal, MD

9:45 Who Defines Cost and Who Defines Effectiveness

Dennis D. Patton, MD

10:30 **Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall**

11:00 Incorporating Technologic Advances and Outcomes Data into Daily Clinical Practice: Optimal Application of Stress SPECT Imaging for the Evaluation of CAD: What Can Be Supported by Data?

Leslee J. Shaw, PhD

11:45 Disease Management

Mary Jo Struttman, CNMT

12:15 **Adjourn**

Track I

Track II

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this session, attendees should be able to:

- Develop an understanding of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and the Technologist Section's organization, structure, and function.
- Understand the requisites for leadership in the Society and the Technologist Section.
- Understand the requirements of organizing and running a successful educational or business meeting.

SESSION IV—EMERGING LEADERS CONFERENCE

Moderator—Nanci A. Burchell, CNMT

8:30 Emerging Leaders Conference—Part I

Lyn Mehlberg, CNMT

Marcia R. Boyd, CNMT, FSNMTS

10:30 **Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall**

Moderator—Carol Schutz-Ferino, CNMT

11:00 Emerging Leaders Conference—Part II

2:30 **Adjourn**

This program has been sponsored in part by educational grants from ADAC Laboratories, Coulter Pharmaceutical, DuPont Pharmaceuticals Co., and Nycomed, Amersham Imaging.

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3651 Red Bud Court
Downers Grove, IL 60515-1352

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(630) 686-6187

PHOTOCOPY AND PASS ON TO A FRIEND

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Institution _____
Title _____ SNM Membership # _____
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| | <u>Pre-Registration</u> | <u>On-Site Reg</u> | <u>Lunch/ Transportation</u> | <u>Cost</u> |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| MD, PhD, etc., SNM Member | \$ 90.00 | \$100.00 | \$ _____ | _____ |
| MD, PhD, etc., SNM Nonmember | \$ 115.00 | \$125.00 | \$ _____ | _____ |
| Residents | \$ 30.00 | \$ 35.00 | \$ _____ | _____ |
| Technologist, SNM Member | \$ 65.00 | \$ 75.00 | \$ _____ | _____ |
| Technologist, SNM Nonmember | \$ 80.00 | \$ 90.00 | \$ _____ | _____ |
| Students | \$ 10.00 | \$ 15.00 | \$ _____ | _____ |
| Business Luncheon (CCSNM and CCSNM-TS) | | | ___ @\$12.00 | \$ _____ |
| Roundtrip transportation between O'Hare/Marriott | | | ___ @\$30.00 | \$ _____ |
| Airline _____ Date of Arrival _____ Est. Time of Arrival _____ | | | | |

Make checks payable to: CCSNM

TOTAL COST \$ _____

Mail order form and payment to: CCSNM, 3651 Red Bud Court, Downers Grove, IL 60515-1352

If you have a disability that requires special accommodations, please check here and advise us of your needs at least 2 weeks in advance of the program.

Future Meetings

At the time of going to press, significant plans have already been made for our Spring meetings in years 2000 and 2001.

Spring Meeting 2000

Location : Dearborn, MI

Dates : April 13th-16th

Program Chairs:

Kastytis Karvelis, MD
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KARVELIS@rad.hfh.edu

Jeanne Mocerri, CNMT
jeannem@rad.hfh.edu

Topics:

E2K - Nuclear Endocrinology
in the New Millenium
- Radionuclide Therapy
- Bone densitometry

Spring Meeting 2001

Location : Chicago, IL

Dates : April 13th-16th

Program Chairs:

Jesus A. Bianco, MD
(608) 263-5306
jabianco@facstaff.wisc.edu

Lisa Hazen, CNMT
(231) 487-4070
lmh@freeway.net

Topics:

New Vistas in Nuclear
Medicine
- PET in Oncology
- Cardiac Nuclear medicine
- Radioimmunotherapy
- Reconstruction Algorithms

SNM Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, June 1999 TECH TRENDS

Michael K. O'Connor, Ph.D., Mayo Clinic

As with all recent annual meetings, there are so many new developments on display that it becomes impossible in a few short days to become fully acquainted with all the latest and greatest. Hence, this brief review represents what I saw at the meeting that intrigued me, and if there were other aspects of the meeting that people felt were particularly noteworthy, please feel free to send in a brief report of what you saw and what impressed you. Remember, only a small fraction of the Central Chapter members make it to the annual meeting each year and despite the Internet, information on new developments can often take a long time to percolate down to the technologist working in a small community hospital.

An area of particular interest these days is imaging of positron emitting isotopes with conventional gamma cameras. While clinicians have worked to determine the limits of current technology, the manufacturers have worked to improve that technology, making it difficult to determine the ultimate capability of coincidence imaging.

One area where conventional gamma cameras have suffered in the detection of high-energy radiation has been in the stopping power of the sodium iodide crystal. A conventional 3/8" crystal will only stop about 15% of events. For coincidence, both detectors must stop the event pair, making the detector rate for coincidence 0.15×0.15 , or only 2%. I am aware of two companies working on ways of modifying a sodium iodide crystal to permit the use of a thicker crystal without the consequential loss of both intrinsic and energy resolution. These modifications would permit use of a 1" crystal that would have comparable performance to a standard 3/8" crystal for Tc-99m studies.

For 511 keV imaging, such a crystal would stop 35% of events and have a coincidence detection rate of $0.35 \times 0.35 = 13\%$, or more than 6 times that of a conventional gamma camera. This type of development coupled with increases in detector electronics should further narrow the performance gap between dedicated PET systems and dual/triple head gamma cameras operated in coincidence mode.

One of the most interesting concepts on display at the meeting was a combined SPECT system and a low-end CT scanner. This is an interesting device that addresses two immediate needs—attenuation correction and co-registration of function and anatomy—and is

likely to have additional applications in areas such as dosimetry and CT-guided biopsy.

This concept is not new and one can find work in this area going back to the early 1990s from Bruce Hasagawa and his colleagues at UCSF (*JNM* 1992;33:1881-7 and *Med. Phys.* 1991;18:1002-15). Complementary work to this is being done on a combined PET/CT system by Dave Townsend and his colleagues at the University of Pittsburgh (*Med. Phys.* 1998;25:2046-53).

The obvious application for such combined devices is for attenuation correction. Since the sodium iodide detectors and CT system are displaced axially from each other, the acquisition of the CT image does not adversely affect the performance of the gamma camera, either in SPECT or coincidence mode. In addition, it eliminates problems with replacement of transmission sources and should provide a far higher quality transmission map due to the higher photon flux.

With the continued development of tumor imaging agents (both single-photon and positron), it is becoming more and more important to be able to accurately co-register anatomical data to the functional SPECT or PET images. While this has been done very successfully in the brain, it has never worked well in the body due to the possible changes in the position of the abdominal organs between the SPECT study and the CT or MR scan. Hence, accurate co-registration of both anatomy and function requires the simultaneous acquisition of both types of data. In this respect, these combined systems probably represent the first generation of what may eventually be fully integrated nuclear / CT systems.

An interesting consequence of this development for nuclear medicine technologists is the fact that many states require an operator to have an RT certification or pass a state examination in order to be able to operate a device containing an x-ray tube! That is something to think about. While these two technical concepts are still some ways away from clinical use, for me, they were some of the more interesting ones shown at this meeting since they offer a glimpse of what the future might bring.

Time and space prohibit a full review of the many other interesting technical developments shown at the meeting. So, my apologies to those companies with new developments that I did not get to see—*maybe next year!*

Spring Meeting—Cleveland, April 1999



Attendees catch up on the latest developments in radiopharmaceuticals and instrumentation



Opening session of the 1999 Spring Meeting



Dr. Michael Blend (incoming president) presenting Dr. Wagner (outgoing president) with a plaque in token of appreciation of his work for the Central Chapter.



Dr. Bruce Sodee (*second from the right*) with some of the Spring Meeting exhibitors.

CORPORATE SPONSORS

1999 Spring Meeting, Cleveland, OH

The following companies supported this meeting with restricted and unrestricted grants:

ADAC Laboratories

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President's Report

«p1 our referring physicians, and our patients on the valuable role that nuclear medicine can play in healthcare. Our 1999 Fall Meeting this September 18–19 to be held in Oak Brook, Illinois, will continue to emphasize and educate us in the role we can play in the future of medicine. An excellent selection of speakers and topics has been planned. **PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THIS EXCITING MEETING.**

As your new president, I have had the pleasure of working with our new and very energetic executive director, Ms. Renae Henkin. With the other new officers, Drs. J. Bianco and Michael O'Connor, and the officers of the Technologists Section, we have been very busy organizing and restructuring many of the activities of the chapter. Renae and her husband, Dr. Bob Henkin, have completely reorganized the accounting system for the chapter. I am happy to inform you that the chapter is financially healthy.

The officers have also been busy updat-

ing and revising the bylaws of the chapter. A guide for local program chairpersons has been prepared to help volunteer program chairs effectively host future meetings.

Several years ago, the chapter established an ad hoc corporate committee in order to establish a clear and continuous line of communication between the chapter and its supporting vendors. This committee met with the chapter officers during our recent fall and spring meetings. These discussions have proved to be particularly valuable in terms of feedback and for continuing to maintain good relations with our vendors. The proposal to organize a system of financing educational activities of the chapter by vendors is still being developed. Ms. Bonnie Majerus of Picker International and Dr. Michael Blend of the chapter are the two members heading up this effort.

Dr. Robert Wagner has created, and continues to maintain, an excellent Internet home page for the Central Chapter

(www.ccsnm.org) that contains all the up-to-date information you need to know. Important dates for upcoming chapter activities and abstracts of recently conducted meetings can be found on this site. You can register for upcoming meetings and read the current chapter newsletter on line. **Visit our site and e-mail your officers if you have ideas you wish to share.**

One of the shared goals of Mr. Ridgely Conant, new president of the Technologist Section, and myself is to encourage a closer working relationship between the chapter and its Technologists Section. We are co-professionals working together in a rather hostile economic environment. We cannot afford to merely coexist but must work as true partners for our common good. The Technologist Section has excellent leadership under the direction of Ridgely Conant, Jennifer Nelson, Dan Mapes, and Derek Fuerbringer. We have already made some great progress in this direction.

Technologist Section President's Report

«p1 minutes with just a couple of adjustments... **WAIT!** I'm sorry. What am I doing? Nobody reading this would take shortcuts! Shortcuts degrade the resolving capability of our imaging systems. We know that if we use our imaging system less than ideally, it will not be able to "see" that small pathology it could have seen. If the system doesn't show it, our physician surely can't read it!

Even if none of us would take shortcuts, I'm sure we all have had some days at work that weren't the greatest. Right? Well, there's something comforting about "rubbing elbows" with your colleagues once or twice a year. We all experience similar difficulties and have similar professional problems. Sometimes we aren't sure about things. Maybe sharing thoughts, experiences, and ideas and talking would help! And besides, some of the new, cutting-edge procedures are technically complex, difficult, and demanding. Help us. Please heed Dr. Blend's invitation. Come join us at our meetings. There is strength, support, comfort, suggestions, and camaraderie there.

In the last *Central Chapter in the News*, Lisa mentioned that you would soon receive your ballots. For those who may not yet be aware, the election results follow.

President-Elect—Jennifer Nelson
Secretary—Dan Mapes

Bylaws Committee Members—

Lisa Hazen, Karen Martin,
Mary Yeomans, and Sharon Lafferty.

Dr. Blend has given a wonderful discussion of the Central Chapter 1999 Spring Meeting. So, other than totally agreeing with how great and exciting the technical and clinical presentations were, I will not further repeat his praises and conclusions.

However, there are some CC-TS business items about which you should know. Antiquated budgeting policies and some practices of unknown origin had been addressed for a few years. The results of great effort, much perseverance, and a little pain on the parts of Presidents Trembath, Mehlberg, and Hazen were finally realized. Through their work, the sincere interest and support of Drs. Wagner and Blend, and the cooperation of the Central Chapter, a number of budgeting decisions were made and financial activities completed. The resulting agreements and approved policies have placed the CC-TS in an excellent financial situation. Thank you LisaAnn, Lyn, Lisa, Dr. Wagner, and Dr. Blend.

All of the CC-TS committees reported progress in their duties and a lot of hard and really good work was readily apparent. As Lisa has previously reported, the CC-TS Bylaws Committee is tackling a big job, and doing it well. Nice meeting, Karen. Thank you, Lisa, Mary, Sharon, and Steve.

In Los Angeles at the 46th Annual Meeting, there was also much to applaud. The presentations were very good, the list of discussion topics was complete, and topics were appropriate and state-of-the-art.

The National Council, under the superb leadership of Lynn Roy last year, demonstrated its value and effectiveness in the business and political arenas. The information on reimbursement, especially regarding outpatient care, was very welcome, interesting, and informative.

Also, the Strategic Plan looks very good and will be a great cooperative effort with the Central Chapter. And, of course, licensure issues, legislative trends, and **our futures** were agenda items about which much valuable effort, information, and benefits were evident.

Finally, it must be emphatically underscored that we are truly blessed with our Executive Director, Renae Henkin. She's great and energetic. Dr. Blend is right, again.

In closing, be proud of your profession. Be proud of your professional organization. Reap its rewards. Take advantage of its benefits. It is secure. It is viable. It is valuable. It is vital. Make it even better. Be a part of assuring your future. Contribute. Come join us. *See you in Oak Brook.* When you get to Oak Brook, you're invited to attend open committee meetings to observe how your professional organization is working for you.

National Council Delegate Report—July 1999

Lyn Mehlberg, BS, CNMT

I hope you all are enjoying this beautiful summer. While we all like to spend our free time on fun activities each summer, this is the time for your leadership at the national level as well as the chapter level to gear up for the upcoming year. The end of the Annual SNM Meeting in June each year is the beginning of a new term for the national organization, while the end of the Spring Meeting of the Central Chapter officially designates the new term for the chapter. This is the time when the new officers and committee chairs must prepare for their office by reviewing the goals and objectives for that office or committee, set an action plan to pursue those activities, and initiate those activities with the other leadership. The success of the entire year can depend upon the structure and preparation prior to the first meeting. This is the critical time for you, the membership, to contact your leadership with your concerns and needs, so we can initiate a solution or plan in this term.

In this report you will find highlights from the Annual SNM Meeting held in June 1999 in Los Angeles, California, as well as an update of chapter related activities since my last report.

Strategic Plan

The SNM at the House of Delegates Meeting approved the new SNM Strategic Plan. This plan took several years to be finalized. We can expect this plan to be initiated throughout the next few months.

The SNM-TS is currently beginning a new phase in our own planning process. We have currently accomplished the majority of the objectives and goals in our current plan. The SNM-TS leadership is beginning to set up a schedule for a new planning ses-

sion. The National Council and Executive Board will meet several days prior to the Mid-winter Meeting in February to brainstorm for the new plan. Once this brainstorming session takes place, the Strategic Planning Committee will wordsmith the plan and bring it to the Annual Meeting in June for recommendations from the National Council.

National Licensure

The SNM-TS is a founding member of the Alliance for Quality Medical Imaging, a consortium of imaging specialty societies that are united in their effort to achieve passage of national legislation of the Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Quality Assurance Act of 1999. This proposed legislation will help ensure that the nation's medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy procedures are performed by qualified, competent personnel. It is hoped that this initiative will find congressional sponsors and will be brought to Congress this summer.

Chapter Presidents Committee

Over the past several years, it was recognized that the chapter presidents needed a forum to share problems, successes, and access to updated information. What started several years ago as a Chapter Presidents Meeting held at the Annual SNM Meeting has grown into a full committee. This committee, chaired by Rick Tetrault from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, will accomplish many goals, including setting up a mechanism to bring information from the SNM-TS to the chapters and from the chapters to the SNM-TS. Rick and his committee have already initiated a list server for the chapter presidents. This group has also begun a column in the *Uptake*, the SNM-TS newsletter, called *Chapter Chat*. In this regu-

lar column you will find information regarding the Central Chapter.

National Membership Pilot Program

The pilot program did very well in the New England Chapter and will be rolled out in the Southern California Chapter this summer and fall. More information will be printed in upcoming newsletters.

Congratulations, LisaAnn Trembath

LisaAnn is a past president of the Central Chapter Technologist Section. She has recently taken a position with DuPont Pharmaceuticals as a Clinical Specialist and moved to the San Francisco Bay area. The CC-TS would like to thank her for her dedication to the CC-TS. LisaAnn has really set a legacy with her leadership, business, and mentoring skills that will be evident for years to come. Thank you, LisaAnn.

SNM and SNM Technologist Section

What a truly wonderful organization we have. I would like to assure you that this organization is made up of some of the most dedicated, intelligent, and competent professionals in our field. It is an honor and pleasure to have the opportunity to work with these individuals in serving you, the membership, of the only professional organization dedicated to nuclear medicine.

On a Personal Note

I'd like to thank everyone for their support and warm wishes during my recent illness. I had been on a medical leave of absence from January through May. I am recovering nicely from my surgeries and am now able to resume my dedication to this organization. It is great to be back.