speciality and equipment manufacturers hope for PET on every street corner, or at least on every other corner.

The use of these ultra-short radionuclides bring a new complexity to the compounding and dispensing of radiopharmaceuticals. In fact, the current posture of the FDA is that the PET activities do not constitute compounding and dispensing but rather are within the realm of drug manufacturing. Such implications of this regulatory position upon the traditional practices of nuclear medicine and nuclear pharmacy are enormous and deserve close monitoring. While such a position is subject to change, the regulatory manner and method under which PET facilities currently operate lack uniformity. The radiopharmaceutical issues surrounding the use of PET agents will be a major challenge to radiochemists, nuclear pharamcists, and nuclear medicine technologists for years to come. In this regard, the role of the automated synthesis modules that are used to prepare radiochemicals that are later determined of pharmaceutical quality is a central issue to the practice of clinical PET.

The Future

Radiopharmaceutical development has progressed from a random walk through shelves of reagents to an organized plan of drug design based upon demonstrated structural-activity relationships. Additionally, biotechnology has opened up vast new areas of potentially advantageous materials which lend themselves to possible radiodiagnostic and radiotherapeutic applications. The last decade has witnessed many dramatic changes in radiopharmaceutical chemistry that have impacted favorably the ability of nuclear medicine to perform new and clinically important noninvasive procedures. These procedures and their availability will surely demonstrate an even brighter future for nuclear medicine.

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TWENTY YEARS OF PROGRESS

It is a pleasure to be with friends and colleagues on the happy occasion of the Technologist Section's 20th anniversary. During the past 20 years, the Section has made phenomenal progress. A first concern for the profession was establishing nuclear medicine technology as a recognized profession. The section was involved in establishing education and certification standards and producing a scientific publication. Once the profession's specific concerns were addressed, the Section was ready to take its place among other health organizations in dealing with those issues common to all health-care providers.

None of this was possible without the committed membership and the dedicated leadership the Section has been fortunate to have. If the next 20 years are anything like the first twenty, the membership is in for a whale of a time.

I wish you continued success and growth.

Barbara K. Horton, CNMT
Atlanta, Georgia

A PHYSICIAN'S VIEW OF THE TECHNOLOGIST SECTION

Over the past 20 years, the Technologist Section has continued to perform an important service to the Society and its members in the political and socio-economic arena. Many issues such as credentialing, licensure, and allied health funding have been addressed and expert opinion has been provided to the Society and to the government through the auspices of the Technologist Section. This unified direction has been very effective in achieving a positive approach to problems. The education of technologists in management techniques and administrative skills through Section-sponsored activities has aided in the smooth running of nuclear medicine departments everywhere.

In an article commemorating the Section's 15th Anniversary, I stated that nuclear medicine technologists have always been characterized by a desire to participate in the research and development that leads to advances in the practice of nuclear medicine. This view still holds true. Through its scientific program and exhibits at meetings as well as through the publication of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology,* the

Technologist Section Distinguished Honorees

The Section wishes to acknowledge the following individuals for their outstanding contributions to the Technologist Section, The Society of Nuclear Medicine:

James J. Conway, MD
Margaret Glos, CAE
Thomas P. Haynie, MD
Henry N. Wagner, Jr., MD
Gary Woods
Rosalyn S. Yalow, PhD
Barbara K. Horton, CNMT