

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**O**n Tuesday June 9, 1992, our nuclear medicine peers—national and international—will gather in the “City of Angels” to participate in the annual exchange of views, ideas, and knowledge that make our profession the unique discipline that it is. The meeting format appears flexible enough to allow for excellent continuing education presentations as well as ample time for visits to the commercial and scientific exhibits. The Technologist Section’s Scientific and Teaching Committee under the expert leadership of Kathy Thomas has arranged a four-day five-track educational extravaganza that is guaranteed to whet the appetite of the most discriminating scientific tastes.

Los Angeles has been my home for the past sixteen years, and I can attest to the fact that there will be a vast variety of exciting cultural and social activities for all, including families and guests.

Reflecting on the past year, I can safely say that it was a vital year for the Technologist Section in many ways. Educational, professional, political, and socioeconomic issues have had their effects on the practice of nuclear medicine and nuclear medicine technology. We were able to maintain our direction as mandated by our five-year strategic plan which contains goals, objectives, and action plans aimed at strengthening the credibility of the nuclear medicine technology profession with the patients and the public. Clearly we were able to interact on many levels with other professional organizations in our efforts to continue developing areas of mutual interests. We have also made strides in enhancing our relations with the international organizations.

Of increasing importance is the active role taken by the Technologist Section in effectively educating the general public and legislators to enhance their understanding of the discipline. One highlight of the past year’s activities that bears mentioning is the appointment of the Public Education and Professional Enhancement Committee, which convened for the first time at the mid-winter meeting in Dallas, Texas. The enthusiasm exhibited and the innovative ideas put forth by the members present was enough to assure me that this strategic venture will be a success. The members have made it their commitment to increase the general public’s awareness and knowledge of nuclear medicine as an important diagnostic and therapeutic medical modality. The committee formulated and submitted proposals and received National Council approval of its goals and objectives, among which is the production of a second video aimed at heightening public awareness. The video is slated



**Cardiff "Mickey" Williams, CNMT**  
Los Angeles, California

for presentation at the annual meeting in Los Angeles.

1992 will also see a change in the time and the scope of how we celebrate Nuclear Medicine Week (NMW). October 4–10, 1992 is the official celebration week and this will be observed world-wide. Cynthia Wharton and the NMW subcommittee have worked hard and collaborated with Du Pont Merck to produce our annual poster, which for the first time will be accompanied by an international version for use outside of the United States.

The future of nuclear medicine technology remains very promising, however it will not be without its challenges. Increased public awareness, effective recruitment and retention of technologists, improved government relations activities, and the maintenance of an even balance between our scientific endeavors and socioeconomic activities will continue to be in the forefront of our commitments.

The level of professionalism among our peers has increased significantly which has directly contributed to the strengthening of our identity within the medical and allied health professions. It was indeed gratifying to see the high level of participation by the Section’s leadership and members, whose initiative, competency, and generosity have undoubtedly contributed to the successful productive year we have had.

This will be my last message as President of the Technologist Section. I would like to take this opportunity to thank with all my heart, the administration of The Hospital of the Good Samaritan, Los Angeles, especially Ms Barbara Fordyce, vice-president of professional services, Mr. Jim Schoeck, assistant vice-president, and Dr. Leonard Swanson, medical director of nuclear medicine, all of whom encouraged and supported me during my term of office.

My thanks also to Virginia Pappas and the staff of the national office who afforded me their full cooperation and guided me unselfishly through a hectic and satisfying term. To the members of the various committees that worked towards the Section’s success, I say thank you for a job well done. A personal message of appreciation goes to Art Hall who served as my mentor and advisor throughout the year. Last and by no means least, my thanks to *you*, the membership, for affording me the privilege and honor of serving you as Section President. As I hand over the gavel to Paul Hansen, I wish him every success in his term and I ask that you give him the same support you gave me during this very challenging venture.