

Technologist News

The Spirit of St. Louis



A strong turnout by technologists, good reports on the scientific program, and even fine weather for June in St. Louis were high points of the 1983 Annual SNM Meeting.

Frances Neagley, CNMT, chairman of the Section's Scientific and Teaching Sessions Committee, summarizes it as a "good, strong clinical meeting." In addition to the scientific offerings, she says that the meeting saw a "better-defined relationship" emerge between the Technologist Section and the Society of Nu-

clear Medicine. "Technologists and physicians seem resolved to work closer together within their professional organization."

On the commercial side, the exhibit hall's miles of aisles (pictured above) saw heavy traffic throughout the meeting. Mobile cameras, cameras that can be upgraded for emission computed tomography utilization, adaptable computer/camera systems, and monoclonal antibody, cell-labeling kits were among the products attracting attention.

Best Papers, Exhibits

The Section's Awards Committee was busy during the meeting; one of their duties was to judge the papers and scientific exhibits presented or displayed at the Section's program during the 30th Annual Meeting.

The Committee has selected the following for excellence:

Scientific Papers

First—The Use of Drug Intervention as an Alternative to Exercise for Quantitative Assessment of Left Ventricular Function. K. Wilkins, G. Wisenberg, A. Zawadowski, K. Mitton, F. Prato, and L. Reese, St. Joseph's Hospital, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada.

Second—Tc-99m Tagged Red Blood Cells: Procedure for Evaluation of Hemangioma. M. Sheakley, L. Gordon, M. Ricciardone, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC.

Third—A Technique for Quantitative Analysis of Hepatobiliary Scans by Deconvolutional Analysis. C. Samosik-Mast, J.E. Juni, J.W. Keyes, Jr., W. Carter, and R. Bowers, University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor, MI.

Scientific Exhibits

First—The Technical Aspects of Diuretic Renogram in Children. N.A. Pandya, Children's Hospital National Medical Center, Washington, DC.

Second—Multiple-Gated, Equilibrium Cardiac Blood-Pool Imaging in the Coronary Care Unit: Technical Consideration in Patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction. M. Plankey, D. Errico, M. LaCroix, J. Meizlish, and H. Berger, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT.

Third—Radiopharmaceutical Kinetics and Organ Concentration in Nuclear Medicine. J. Hughes and the NMT Class of 1983, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH.

Journal Editor Paul E. Christian, CNMT (right), presented the JNMT's "Outstanding Paper" plaque during the Section's business meeting, June 9 in St. Louis.

"Trouble Shooting Nuclear Medicine Instrumentation Problems" was selected by the Journal's associate editors as the best paper published in 1982. The authors are Judy A. Hughes, CNMT, Michael D. Aden, CNMT, and Mariano Fernandez-Ulloa, MD, of the Eugene L. Saenger Radioisotope Laboratory, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH. Accepting the award on behalf of the authors was colleague George W. Alexander, Jr., CNMT (left).



Technologists Are Needed to Serve on NMT Educational Programs Review Committee

The Academic Affairs Committee is seeking applications from Technologist Section members who are interested in becoming program site visitors for the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (JRCNMT).

Site visitors are appointed by the JRCNMT to conduct visits to an educational program undergoing accreditation review. The purpose of the visit is to collect information related to the degree to which a program meets requirements for quality as mandated by the *Essentials*. A confidential written report is prepared by the site visit team and forwarded to the JRCNMT for action. The review committee evaluates the degree of the program's compliance with the *Essentials* by studying the site visitors report and other appropriate documentation.

Newly appointed site visitors can work with an experienced team, attend a JRC-training workshop, or both. Individuals then make an average of two site visits each year. Each site visit requires one to critique self-study materials and inspect program facilities. If possible, JRC assigns

site visitors geographically to minimize time and travel.

To be considered, one must hold a current certification or registration as an NMT and be active in the profession. To apply, contact Charlene F. Rencher, CNMT, Dept. of Nuclear Medicine, St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit, MI 48236. Interested individuals will be sent a curriculum vitae form and an informational packet. Along with the completed vitae form, a short essay must be written reflecting the applicant's philosophy of the student educational process as it relates to nuclear medicine technology. Candidates should also indicate availability of time, willingness and ability to serve, and availability to travel; a letter of employer support must be included.

Completed applications must be received by Dec. 15, 1983. Recommendations of applicant appointments by the Academic Affairs Committee are sent to the Technologist Section President who, with the approval of the Executive Committee, forwards the names of the approved appointees to the JRCNMT through its Executive Director.

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Message from the President

As the Technologist Section enters its thirteenth year, you have given me a high degree of responsibility and a great challenge by electing me to lead our organization. When I look back on the past and note the growth and accomplishments of the Section, I cannot help but feel proud of each of my predecessors. Every president has given much of his or her time and energy while in office, and as a result, each has added much to the success of the Technologist Section.

Growth of membership, participation, and accomplishments gained by people working together to advance their mutual interests are the building blocks of any association. We therefore should be especially proud of our Section's members. All that I can ask for in 1983-84 is that the many Section Committees continue to keep up the good work. They are the backbone of the Section and have been fundamental to the successful operation and growth of the Technologist Section each year.

Advances in Technology

Much has happened in the recent past in medicine in general, and in nuclear medicine specifically that I believe will affect both the future of the Technologist Section and the individual technologist. The rapid growth of high technology in medicine has required nuclear medicine technologists to expand their knowledge in areas that were just beginning to exist only a few years ago. Emission tomography, nuclear magnetic resonance, and

radiolabeling techniques are but a few of the career advancement opportunities that will be available to the nuclear medicine technologist in the near future.

The Technologist Section must provide the direction, resources, and continued commitment that will enable these new skills to be learned and practiced correctly and efficiently. To this end, areas that will receive increased attention during this year will be the Section's professional activities, including continuing education and professional responsibilities.

Furthermore, there is no doubt in my mind that the need for more nuclear medicine technologists is real and that we are currently experiencing a shortage of people entering our discipline. Accordingly, the Section has made it a priority to conduct a manpower survey and develop a manpower data base. Such data will benefit both new nuclear medicine technologists and technologists interested in relocating by providing information on where jobs are available and what salary ranges may be expected in different areas.

What We Will Do

The Section will continue to support and encourage educational programs that can lead to career advancement, and encourage professional growth and development in management and advanced imaging techniques. This emphasis, I believe, will also attract talented people into nuclear medicine.

I previously mentioned the Section's

support of continuing education. A primary effort will be to continue to improve and expand the Journal. It is the foremost source of education and new information for the student and technologist, the cornerstone of our organization. I am asking both the Continuing Education Committee and Publications Committee to investigate further expansion of their respective activities with regard to the Journal and to study how we can best continue to provide for the ever increasing educational needs of our members.

I hope that the Section will be able to continue to develop working relationships with allied, professional, regulatory, and educational organizations and agencies that will benefit the Section and its members more effectively. I have appointed a Special Committee on Public Relations to explore a nationwide effort to extend our boundaries and expand our public awareness.

Above all, the Section will continue to operate in a manner that will best serve our members in the years to come. To do this, the support that has been so evident in the past from our volunteers will have to continue. Thus I ask for increased participation by all our members in 1983-84. If you have any questions or concerns, please write or call me. I will certainly respond.

I look forward to your support and hope to see you next year at our Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida, in February.

Report from the NMTCB

In June 1983, the Board of Registry of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists agreed to cease testing in nuclear medicine technology. The Board administered its last exam in nuclear medicine technology this August. The NMTCB will carry out all current and future credentialing activities independently. The Board of Registry's name will now appear on the certificates and official stationery of the NMTCB. As part of the merger agreement, the Board of Registry will elect two directors to the NMTCB, a technologist and a physician, who meet the NMTCB's qualifications.

The NMTCB plans to offer to transfer the certification of all nuclear medicine certificants of the Board of Registry by December 1984. The method of transfer and an abbreviated application will be included in the Board of Registry's next annual re-registration billing. The NMTCB will then issue a redesigned certificate and an annual card to these certificants.

Current applicants to the Board of Registry who are eligible for nuclear medicine certification will be permitted to transfer their examination eligibility to the NMTCB. Persons who do not apply to transfer their eligibility by June 2, 1984, must fulfill the existing NMTCB eligibility requirements upon application.

I am pleased to announce that beginning in 1985 the NMTCB will administer two exams per year in nuclear medicine technology at the entry level. The Technologist Section has repeatedly recommended this to the NMTCB. Details pertaining to implementation of these exams will be forthcoming.

Our critical task survey was mailed to randomly selected members of the

Society of Nuclear Medicine's Instrumentation, Computer, Radiopharmaceutical Science, and Radioassay Councils, and of the American College of Nuclear Physicians. It was also mailed to recently certified technologists and technologists participating in the Technologist Section's continued competency project. In addition, technologists who attended the Section's 1983 meeting in San Francisco and the Society's 1983 meeting in St. Louis have also voluntarily completed the survey.

On behalf of the NMTCB I would like to thank everyone who participated in this project. American College Testing analyzed the results of this survey and they will be discussed at the Board meeting that will take place in Stone Mountain, GA, in October. Through validation of the task analysis and identification of the cognitive processes (i.e. comprehension, application, and analysis) involved in the performance of each task, the NMTCB with your help will be better able to define what is meant by competency over the full scope of practice. As a result of this survey the NMTCB exam can be written to reflect all those tasks critical to competent performance.

The nuclear medicine community continues to support the NMTCB: over 1,000 applications were received for the sixth annual certification exam. Thanks to our item writers and hard-working Board members, nuclear medicine technologists can take pride in their certification exam. "Certification by nuclear medicine technologists for nuclear medicine technologists" is truly a reality.

—Sheila Rosenfeld, CNMT, Chairman, NMTCB

The Academic Affairs Committee has the following projects underway:

- creating a series of computerized self-study modules for use in student programs and staff development
- designing the forums and workshops to be presented during the 1984 meetings
- recruiting authors for Journal articles on topics of interest to educators
- coordinating efforts to bring the career of nuclear medicine technology to the attention of the public
- redefining the scope of the JNMT-RT newsletter to serve its audience better.

In addition, the Committee will complete the Laboratory Manual this fall.—Charlene F. Rencher, CNMT, Chairman

During the coming year, the Socio-Economic Affairs Committee will be busy with the following:

- continuing to work with the U.S. Dept. of Labor to develop model job descriptions for nuclear medicine technologists
- undertaking a feasibility study to consider establishment of a legal network that would assist members by providing information about liability in the performance of their duties
- assessing the present delivery of placement services now offered by the Technologist Section and the chapters to determine if a better model could be developed.—James J. Wirrell, CNMT, Chairman

With the increase in continuing education awareness, the responsibilities of the Continuing Education Committee have grown accordingly. We have, for example, created four subcommittees for the following areas: CE articles, audio-visuals, new projects, and VOICE.

At the National Council meeting in June, delegates were asked to list the services of the Technologist Section in order of their importance. The Journal ranked first, immediately followed by CE articles. We will be increasing the number of CE articles in the Journal starting in March 1984 and we'll rely on the results of the recent JNMT readers' survey for topics.—Susan Brown, CNMT, Chairman

Membership Report

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 Chairman, Membership Committee
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Why did you join the Technologist Section? Was it to receive Section services, such as the Journal? Was it to become involved in the professional organization for nuclear medicine technologists; to share the camaraderie of fellow technologists; to allow us to speak with one voice on national issues?

Whatever your reasons, you were probably asked to join by another member who thought highly of you, nuclear medicine technology, and the Section. Membership, continuing and new, involves everyone. Talk to a nonmember and explain why you joined the Section. Let's strive to have each individual member actively promote our professional organization.

Congratulations Due

Because of the efforts of many members, 648 people joined the Section from June 14, 1982, through May 31, 1983. Individuals who recruited ten or more new members are: William D. Barnes, CNMT, Marcia Boyd, CNMT, and Sue Lance, CNMT. They will have their dues waived for 1984.

Those members who recruited from three to nine new members are: Donald Bernier, CNMT, Elizabeth Blackburn, CNMT, George Borkowsky, CNMT, Catherine B. Bujnowski, CNMT, Lee A. Cooney, CNMT, Donald R. Germann, Yogendra S. Goel, Elaine Hickman, CNMT, Teri L. Jernigan, CNMT, John C. Knox, CNMT, G.T. Krishnamurthy, Maxwell D. Lai, Miriam Miller, CNMT, Judy Myerly, CNMT, Maria Nagel, CNMT, Bhailal Patel, CNMT, Jack E. Peterson, John G. Radtke, CNMT, Benjamin Reed, CNMT, Sheila Rosenfeld,

CNMT, Susan L. Schlegel, CNMT, Susan L. Shafer, Donald R. Spiegelhoff, Frank G. Steffel, CNMT, Werner Wesley Waldron, James J. Wirrell, CNMT, Gloria Yowell, CNMT, and Giovanna D. Zangwill.

Chapters are also to be congratulated. The Central and Southeastern Chapters met and surpassed their goal for last year. The number recruited by chapters are listed below. Chapters receive \$200 for reaching their goal or a fraction of \$200, based on the percent of goal achieved.

Chapter	Goal	Total New Membership
		6/14/82-5/31/83
Central	100	149
Eastern Canada	25	0
Eastern Great Lakes	25	14
Greater New York	100	80
Hawaii	25	0
Mideastern	75	46
Missouri Valley	75	59
New England	75	31
Northern California	75	31
Pacific Northwest	25	19
Pittsburgh	25	15
Rocky Mountain	25	13
Southeastern	100	117
Southern California	100	37
Southwestern	75	37

A milestone was reached in St. Louis. Because of the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Finance, a new financial arrangement between the Society and Section was proposed and approved by the National Council and Board of Trustees. The Section will now receive monies it generates instead of a subsidy from the Society. On the membership side, all dues that Section members pay

to belong to the Society will be returned to the Section. This means we have an incentive to recruit and retain members.

Drive to Continue

An active membership recruitment program will continue this year. The Membership Committee will maintain the incentive program for chapters and individuals. The program is effective from June 1, 1983, through June 1, 1984.

Features of the incentive program are that individuals who recruit ten new members will have dues waived for 1985; that individuals who recruit three or more new members will have their names published in the Journal; and that each chapter reaching its goal will receive \$200 or a prorated portion.

Last year's contact people from each chapter are asked to remain as membership recruitment people this year. Chapter Presidents were also asked to determine their chapter's interest in participating in membership projects this year. Student membership packets were distributed through NMT program directors and nonmembers who attended the Annual SNM meeting in St. Louis were asked to join the Society and Section.

If any member needs membership applications, updated membership lists, or mailing labels, contact Tony Emmanuel or Virginia Pappas in the national office; (212)889-0717.

I thank the members of the Section for electing me to serve you. I look forward to a rewarding year as Membership Chairman and hope you will call or write me if you have any comments, ideas, or complaints.