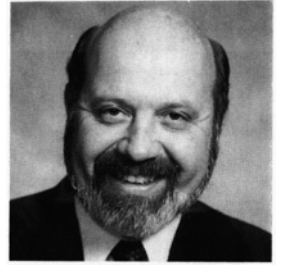

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Wayne J. Wcislo, CNMT
Chicago Osteopathic Medical Center
Chicago, IL

The last Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologist Section Midwinter Meeting is now history. I would like to address the decision the National Council made in discontinuing this meeting.

No longer holding the Midwinter meeting does not mean a weakening of the Technologist Section. When the Technologist Section was formed a need existed to provide our membership with two meetings a year. During the past several years in a review of registration, expenses, and reasons for low attendance, it was felt that the needs of the entire membership were not being addressed.

Just as corporations and hospitals are reorganizing, the Technologist Section reviewed the causes for members not attending this meeting. The main reason was partial or total elimination of travel from their hospital budgets. If one had to choose among conferences, the Annual June meeting had the advantage of providing not only Scientific Sessions but participation from exhibitors.

I congratulate everyone who was part of the group that addressed these concerns and brought the resolution to the National Council for a vote. Nuclear medicine has always been an area of change, and if we expect the Technologist Section to grow we must continue to change and meet the needs of our membership, not only today but tomorrow.

Just to highlight some of the areas in which the Section is working:

1. The Task Force on Nuclear Medicine Week is in the process of finalizing its plans for this year's National Nuclear Medicine Week. Posters, buttons, and information packages will be available well in advance to provide you with the necessary time for preparation.
2. The Institute of Medicine is preparing a study of Allied Health Professions. We have provided them with our Manpower Study and the DRG study, and will contribute any further information they may request.
3. We have informed the American Society of Allied Health Professions (ASAHP) that we are very interested in participating in their Leadership Project. This project will address issues such as independent practice, and marketing the Allied Health Professions.
4. During the past year we had to eliminate funding for the Teaching Improvement Project System (TIPS) program. Thanks to a grant from Mallinckrodt the funding has been reinstated and we can look forward to many excellent programs in the future.
5. Congratulations to Virginia Pappas, CAE. Last fall, after completing course work and an examination, Virginia earned recognition from the American Society of Association Executives by being designated a Certified Association Executive (CAE). This is the highest honor from her professional organization and she should be congratulated.