

# Message From The President

**B**y the time you receive this issue of the *JNMT*, National Council will have met in Phoenix. This was the first meeting without an accompanying Technologist Section educational program. Your representative on the National Council is the Chapter National Council Delegate. This is the individual who can keep you informed of Section business and activities. For example, at a couple of the Chapter meetings I have attended, the delegate has displayed the National Council Agenda Book so that all the members can review the business that has transpired at the national meetings. Furthermore, most National Council Delegates also provide informative reports in their Chapter newsletters. Since the majority of the delegates are funded by the Chapter to attend one or both of the National Council meetings, you, as a Chapter member, have a real investment in your representative. The delegates expend a lot of time and effort working for their chapters, and they welcome your input. Do not hesitate to communicate your problems, concerns, and comments to your delegate.

## ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The Tech Section hosted a meeting of the various imaging societies at the RSNA meeting in December. There was good interaction among the groups as we discussed areas of mutual concern and ways of sharing information. In attendance were: American Healthcare Radiology Administrators, American Society of Radiologic Technologists, Association of Educators in Radiological Sciences, Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers, and Society of Radiologic Engineers. The groups developed an informal clearing house for information of interest to all and planned to meet again next year.

I represented the Technologist Section at the American Society of Allied Health Professionals (ASAHP) in November. It was a good opportunity to meet and interact with members of other allied health professional organizations. More importantly, we identified items such as

marketing, recruitment, and the need for coordinated programs in legislation and education as areas in which the various organizations could work together within ASAHP.

## COMMITTEES

The Government Relations Committee, chaired by Sue Weiss, continues to be extremely busy this year. The Committee, through an ad hoc working group, has commented on the NRC notice of proposed rulemaking to establish basic quality assurance (QA) criteria for teletherapy, brachytherapy, and any application, diagnostic or therapeutic, of any radionuclide of iodine (*Federal Register* October 2, 1987). The committee's comments argue that additional QA requirements are not needed since the rate of misadministrations is so low. In addition, the committee provided the NRC with general recommendations on how misadministrations of iodine-131 sodium iodide can be reduced. Statements have also been submitted to the NRC in opposition to the NRC's advance notice of proposed rulemaking (*Federal Register* October 2, 1987) seeking comments on a set of broad questions related to the necessity for the NRC to impose comprehensive QA requirements and a standard of care for the medical use of by-product material. Of particular interest to the nuclear medicine technologist is the section on training requirements.

Both the Government Relations and Socio-Economic Affairs Committees were involved in a third area in which comments have been submitted to OSHA's advanced notice of proposed rulemaking relating to reducing occupational risk to the Hepatitis B Virus and Human Immunodeficiency Virus and the subject of recapping of syringes (*Federal Register*, Vol. 52, No. 228). Sue surveyed the National Council to determine how nuclear medicine departments were handling the problem of recapping or not recapping radioactive syringes and received a number of innovative ideas. The importance of strong communication networks cannot be over emphasized



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when the Technologist Section must respond to issues such as these that can have a tremendous impact on the technology. If you are interested in more detailed information regarding our responses, please contact Sue or the SNM office.

Don Bernier has agreed to serve as the Technologist Section member to the NMTCB Advisory Committee, following Maria Nagel's resignation to serve as JRC Director. Jim Wirrell will continue to serve as our representative to the CAHEA Panel of Consultants. Paul Cole, Chairman of the Membership Committee, reminds everyone that there is a new membership campaign in effect for 1988. We lost some members last year and hope to reinstate them this year while soliciting new members. There are awards for recruiting new members. All members who recruit at least one new member will be entered in a drawing to receive a free SNM membership. All members who recruit three or more new members will be entered in a drawing to receive a free registration for the 36th Annual Meeting to be held in St. Louis in 1989. All members who recruit 10 or more new members will be entered in a drawing to receive a free roundtrip airline ticket from anywhere in the United States to the 36th Annual Meeting in St. Louis in 1989. Various awards are also available through the Chapters.

Paul, as President-elect, is working on



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Committee composition for next year. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact Paul, your National

Council Delegate, or Chapter President.  
A special congratulations to Virginia Pappas, CAE for her 10 years with the

SNM! Those in the Section's leadership roles know just how vital and invaluable she has been to the organization.