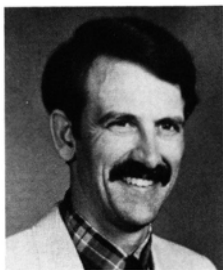


Message From The Acting President

I had not anticipated writing a President's message in the summer of 1988, rather, I had expected to serve under the guidance of my friend and colleague, Paul Cole, this



Author J. Hall, CNMT
Athens, Texas

year in preparation for my year as President of the Technologist Section. Due to Paul's untimely death, I will be serving you as the Acting President this year.

Paul had great expectations for his year as President and had communicated his plans with all of his committee chairmen. I assure you that I will make every effort to fulfill his wishes for the Section. All of Paul's committee appointments will remain intact, and we will strive to accomplish the goals he had set for the committees and the Section. The committee chairmen for this year are:

Academic Affairs

James K. Langan

Awards

Frances Neagley

Bylaws

Paul Hanson

Continuing Education

Ronni Markwell

Executive

Art Hall

Finance

James Wirrell

Government Relations

Sue Weiss

Kevin Brooks, Co-Chairman

Membership

Art Hall

Nominating

Marcia Boyd

Publications

Marcia Boyd

Scientific and Teaching

Dayton Rich

Socio-economic Affairs

Duffy Price

Task Force—Nuclear Medicine Week

Cardiff "Mickey" Williams

Task Force—Commercial

Technologists

Carol Bonanno

I have the strong support of our Deputy Executive Director, Virginia Pappas, the Council of Past Presidents, the Executive Committee and the committee chairmen. Through their experience and guidance, I believe we can successfully achieve Paul's desires for the Section.

It seems fitting to print the transcript of Paul's presentation at the Technologist Section business meeting in San Francisco when he took office as our combined "President's Message".

"The emphasis for the coming year will be on marketing. We all need to market nuclear medicine as a separate entity in the allied health professions and define our unique contribution to patient care. Attracting top notch people to our profession will be a major challenge over the next decade. We need to increase awareness of and improve the perception of nuclear medicine. Presently many areas of the country are experiencing shortages of qualified technologists. By demonstrating the rewards of our profession to the public, high schools, and colleges, we should be able to increase enrollments in our nuclear medicine technology training programs, which are currently operating at approximately 50% of their capacity. Part of the marketing strategy must include tactics that will help retain technologists who are currently working in the field. A national salary survey must be done and the results shared with all members. The last salary survey was done four years ago when there was an over supply of technologists in some areas. We should furnish our members with information that can be used to educate hospitals and administrators as to the proper level of staffing based on work load studies.

During the next year we will be working with members of the American Society of Allied Health Professions who are currently developing a marketing and recruitment campaign for all allied health professions. A recent press release from this organization stated that the coming shortage of allied health professionals will be greater than the nurs-

ing shortage. This organization has also been successful in getting the Title VII legislation amended to include funding for allied health programs although the legislation has not yet passed. We will also be working with members of the Association of Healthcare Radiology Administrators who are sponsoring a Manpower Summit for the purpose of preparing a position paper to present to Congress which may help get Federal funding for recruitment and training of nuclear medicine, radiography, sonography and radiation therapy technology programs.

Last year the National Council developed and prioritized a list of goals for the Technologist Section as part of a long range plan. I have asked the new committee chairmen to review the remaining goals that relate to their committees and report back to the National Council. In addition, I have asked the Academic Affairs Committee to act as a resource for institutions that wish to establish a training program; and to investigate a means by which students may obtain scholarships. I have asked the Continuing Education Committee to look into the feasibility of setting up a continuing education program in which a hospital or individual could subscribe. With this program, the Technologist Section would send the subscriber an audiovisual each month for which Technologist Section members could receive VOICE credit. The Government Relations Committee will work with the SNM and ACNP to prepare a response to the NRC's advanced notice of proposed rule making concerning training of NMTs. I have asked the Socio-Economic Affairs Committee to develop a model career ladder for nuclear medicine technologists that can be shared with our members. I have asked the Publications Committee to investigate a means of keeping our members informed on current events affecting our profession. This could be done in the form of a newsletter mailed between issues of the *JNMT* or articles in *Newsline*.

I look forward to working with all of you next year to accomplish these goals."