

MESSAGE FROM THE P R E S I D E N T

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I want to begin my last message by thanking everyone for all the support and hard work you've given me while in office. Due to your hard work the Technologist Section has moved forward on important projects this year.

The Technologist Section held a successful two-day legislative network meeting in Dallas, TX. There was representation from each chapter. The section's representatives learned how to communicate with state and national legislatures.

After much discussion, the section decided it would not be to the advantage of the profession of nuclear medicine technology to pursue adding the nuclear medicine technologist to NAFTA. Currently the department of labor has no plans to add any other medical professions to the NAFTA bill. The primary reason is there is no perceived job shortage within the U.S.

Several other projects are in the works. In response to member needs, the new projects of the Continuing Education Committee are placing CE articles and quizzes on the World Wide Web and developing a Roadshow program. The Emission Tomography Roadshow was developed this year and will premiere at the SNM Annual Meeting in Denver. After Denver, the Roadshow will be available for presentation around the country. The Manpower Task Force, chaired by Francis Neagley, did a wonderful job finishing work on two surveys—the Manpower Data Survey and the Technologist Section Site Survey for Work Place Trend Analysis.

Restructuring the section and revising the by-laws have begun. Restructuring was started to allow the section to be more fiscally responsible and to respond to member needs in an efficient and timely manner.

The section prepared an issue paper in response to the PEW Commission's paper on the

future of health care in America. The section also has prepared an issue paper on the 16 recommendations from the National Commission on Allied Health. The paper will address the issues of the education of the multi-skilled health professional and of work place and government involvement in educating and training the health care professional.

The second Health Professions Network (HPN) meeting was held this year. The section has been one of the primary groups responsible for planning and facilitating these meetings.

Working with the HPN is a very

important move for the section to collaborate with other allied health professions to solve problems we have in common.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Martha Pickett for all her support. Shortly after you read this, Martha will be the new president of the Technologist Section. Everything accomplished this year was done with her help. Martha has worked as an administrative technologist, an educator and a program director. Her professional record means she comes into the presidency with an understanding of the roles of staff technologist as well as program director. As president, Martha will always take time for your concerns and suggestions. Martha's term of office promises to be challenging.

You too must meet the challenges of our changing health care environment. You will take on many and varied roles as the future unfolds. More of you must assume active roles in the Technologist Section. Your ideas and support are what make the organization work for you and your colleagues. Ultimately, your efforts will reap both personal and professional rewards.

Good luck in the year ahead. I look forward to continuing to work with you as my own professional roles evolve in the years ahead.