

Technologist News

West Virginia Law Restricting NMTs Vetoed by Governor

Thanks to the eagle eye of tech Charles Mentz of Charleston, West Virginia, the Tech Section swung into action quickly in March to stop a West Virginia law that would have put many techs out of business in that state.

The regulation—Senate Bill No. 394—specified that individuals practicing nuclear medicine technology in the future must have completed a two-year course in radiologic technology in a school of radiologic technology approved by the Board of Medical Examiners in order to practice nuclear medicine technology. Although a “grandfather” clause existed in the bill, it was hardly lenient—requiring that NMTs with other training have lived in the state for at least five years.

On receiving a call from Charles Mentz of the Charleston Area Medical Center warning that the bill had passed the State Senate and was on its way to Governor Arch Moore’s desk for signature, President Vince Cherico of the Tech Section and President Alexander Gottschalk of the SNM immediately contacted the Governor’s office to point out the detrimental effect this bill would have on patient care in the state of West Virginia. Their efforts—and those of others in nuclear medicine in the state—resulted in the Governor vetoing the bill.

The text of Mr. Cherico’s

telegram to Governor Moore was: “Pursuant to Senate Bill 394 there is an oversight, i.e., insertion of the terms ‘radiologic technologist’ as the only qualified practitioner of nuclear medicine technology. Approved radiologic technology training and registration in this field does not qualify radiologic technologists to practice nuclear medicine technology. The field of nuclear medicine technology is a postgraduate field of medical technology whose practitioners are from several disciplines of medicine, e.g., medical technologists, registered nurses, radiologic technologists, and specifically trained nuclear medicine technologists. Passage of Senate Bill 394 without amendment would allow unqualified medical personnel to practice nuclear medicine technology, will lower your standards of patient care, and force your medical institutions to hire unqualified personnel to operate their facilities. I would like to offer the services of the Technologist Section of the Society of Nuclear Medicine to assist you or your staff in formulating a more comprehensive definition of nuclear medicine technology.”

This last-minute reprieve points out the importance of keeping the National Tech Section informed of any “sleepers” coming up in your local state legislature. Remember to call on the strengths of the National organization to help you if needed!

Unionization Defeated at Stanford

A secret ballot election held at Stanford University Hospital April 10-12 resulted in a defeat for unionization at that facility. This was one of the first such elections to be held in a nonprofit hospital in California following the signing of Public Law 93-360 by former President Nixon last July, in which nonprofit hospitals were required to comply starting August 25, 1974, with the specified rules and regulations governing collective bargaining.

Soon after the law went into effect, United Stanford Employees Union, AFL-CIO, filed a petition with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) requesting a representative election at Stanford University Hospital. At that time, United Stanford Employees Local 680 represented some 1,500 University employees, excluding the medical center. After about three months of formal hearings before the NLRB with five other labor organizations interested in unionizing Stanford University Hospital employees, a consent agreement was reached among the six labor organizations regarding the composition of the bargaining units. It was decided to divide the employees into five groups. Among them was the Allied Health Care Professionals Group, which included medical technologists, occupational and physical therapists, dieticians, and social workers. Nuclear medicine and radiologic technologists were included in another group, the Service, Technical, Patient Care, and Plant Clericals Group, which also included hospital housekeepers and elevator operators and which numbered about 1,000. The latter group voted down the unionization proposal

by a vote of 700 to 94. It was a unanimous defeat as the other four groups also voted down the proposal.

JAMES J. KELLNER
Stanford University Hospital
Stanford, Calif.

On to Philadelphia!

By now you should have made all the necessary arrangements to join your fellow technologists at the 22nd Annual Meeting, if not to make history, then at least to pay it a visit in the bicentennial city of Philadelphia!

As you already know, an excellent scientific program and some exciting social events await you. There will be 31 scientific papers presented by technologists and students (see pp. 95-107 for abstracts of these papers) and the teaching sessions will encompass administration, clinical procedures, education, instrumentation, quality control, and radioimmunoassay. The beautiful Hilton Hotel is the headquarters for the Section's Scientific Program, and all activities will be held there. Scientific and commercial exhibits as well as the SNM Scientific Program will be housed in the Philadelphia Civic Center, just a hop, skip, and a jump from the Hilton, so everything is easily accessible.

Work by day . . . party by night! Greet old friends and make new ones at the Ice-Breaker Cocktail Party in the Exhibit Hall at the Civic Center Monday evening. After sitting in on scientific sessions all day Tuesday, you'll want to loosen up a bit, so unwind at the Traditional Technologist Party at the Coliseum. Wednesday evening you're on your own to explore Philadelphia or to rest up for the Bicentennial Party at the Franklin Institute Thursday evening.

Quality Assurance Workshops Expand Across Country

As scintillation cameras become more sophisticated and their use increases across the country, routine quality assurance procedures become increasingly important to assure a consistent and acceptable level of performance. In the December 1974 issue of *JNMT* (page 130) we described a workshop designed to meet this demand. Because of growing interest in the workshop program, the editors of *JNMT* asked those involved in planning the program to write a detailed account of the subject. The result is the excellent article by Bucher, Van Tuinen, Moore, and Hendee on pages 87-90 of this issue.

So far, eight workshops have been held, with additional ones planned for the rest of 1975 in

strategic locations across the country. Because of the growing interest in the programs, the Continuing Education Committee of the Technologist Section is considering adopting this program as part of the continuing education program of the Section. If adopted, the supervisory role over the program currently held by the authors of the article will be assumed by the Tech Section.

Any individual or group, including a local Tech Section or Chapter, interested in hosting a workshop should contact one of the authors of the article or the President of the National Tech Section. The authors of the article eagerly solicit comments and suggestions on the project from readers of *JNMT*. Let them know your ideas!

Continuing Education Assessment Examination Answers

The answers to the examination questions published in the *JNMT* (3: 12-18, 1975) appear below. The Continuing Education Committee of the Technologist Section is currently evaluating the answer sheets that were received. A summary of the results of the assessment program and plans for future such programs will be published in the September issue.

1. d	23. b	45. d	66. b	87. b
2. b	24. d	46. c	67. c	88. c
3. d	25. c	47. d	68. a	89. c
4. c	26. b	48. d	69. a	90. d
5. b	27. c	49. b	70. b	91. c
6. a	28. b	50. a	71. b	92. d
7. b	29. d	51. d	72. a	93. c
8. b	30. d	52. c	73. d	94. c
9. a	31. a	53. d	74. d	95. b
10. d	32. d	54. c	75. c	96. c
11. a	33. d	55. d	76. b	97. c
12. d	34. c	56. a	77. a	98. d
13. c	35. c	57. a	78. a	99. d
14. b	36. c	58. b	79. c	100. a
15. d	37. a	59. a	80. a	101. d
16. b	38. d	60. a	81. c	102. a
17. d	39. c,d	61. d	82. b	103. d
18. b	40. d	62. d	83. d	104. c
19. a	41. c	63. d	84. a	105. d
20. c	42. a	64. d	85. b	106. a
21. a	43. b	65. d	86. a	107. d
22. a	44. b			

Continuing Education Committee Studies PACE

Perhaps you have heard of the acronym PACE, which stands for Professional Acknowledgement for Continuing Education, a service of the American Society for Medical Technology (ASMT). You should be aware of some of the characteristics of this program and its potential benefits to you. The Continuing Education Committee of the Technologist Section is presently reviewing the operational characteristics of this program since they might potentially relate to our Section.

Continuing education has been recognized as an important, even vital, function of a nuclear medicine technologist. Naturally, as recognition of importance has grown, additional concerns have surfaced with respect to the role and function and, inevitably, the expected outcome of continuing education experiences. A total system in the area of continuing education, therefore, is becoming necessary if we as professionals are to adequately deal with the complexity and the fulfillment of our roles in the health care system. The PACE program, developed and initially offered by ASMT in January 1974 is a total system. In its simplest form, it is a valid recording system for individuals who participate in continuing education activities. However, as is common to recording systems, the importance and impact often extend beyond the record itself. The PACE program has produced an improvement in continuing education by way of a review board, consisting of members of the professions and consultants, which evaluates programs that seek to become PACE-approved. If a program receives approval, all participants are eligible to receive continuing education units (CEUs) depending on the number

of contact hours. Ten hours qualifies for one CEU.

By its very nature, PACE is ideally suited for adaptability to the specific needs of many allied health professions including nuclear medicine technologists: it is a voluntary program; it utilizes continuing education units (CEUs) college/university credits, and individual education units (IEUs); it is a system with national scope; and it is computerized.

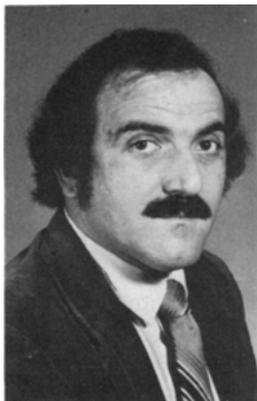
Of significant importance is the breadth of the recording units. Through the utilization of three kinds of units, participants can record virtually every type of continuing education activity. This assures both maximum flexibility in responding to existing educational offerings as well as future, as yet unidentified, requirements for recording continuing education activities. The system has both integrity and validity that is maintained through a sophisticated series of "checks and balances," including an audit system. The audit methodology employs both on-site visits and mail questionnaire samplings of program offerings.

Interestingly enough, the system can provide a means to address the issue of accountability, both from the standpoint of the profession through its activity in the area of continuing education and by the individual professional through his or her participation in continuing education activities. Experience has shown that there are a number of factors motivating individuals to participate in the PACE program. Some find that because of limited time and resources for continuing education, it is essential that their choice be the best possible, and they feel that the PACE program's approval system allows them the opportunity to

maximize their choice. Some have found that continuing education is becoming more important in their employment status either in the hiring aspect or in promotional impact. Some find that accreditation and licensing trends are leaning more to the requirement for some form of documentation relative to continuing education activities. Others feel certain that as peer review grows there will be more and more requirements for some form of documentation relative to an individual's activities in the continuing education arena.

One of the benefits of the program is that the participants receive annual printouts of their records. This serves two purposes. First, the transcript is intended to confirm for the participant the content and the correctness of information. Secondly, the transcript is intended to provide some motivation to an individual by graphically reinforcing activity or inactivity, as the case may be. Since the files are confidential, a provision has been made for official transcripts to be made available at the request of the participant and to appropriate parties (e.g., employers, state licensure boards, etc.). The PACE program has already received an overwhelming response from professional laboratorians and other associations who realize the benefit of having an accurate system verifying individual participation in continuing education activities. The possibility of our Section utilizing ASMT's PACE program is being investigated. We would appreciate your thoughts and comments relative to this activity. They may be directed to Louis Izzo, Continuing Education Committee Chairman, University of Vermont, Rowell Building, Burlington, Vt. 05401.

Message from the President



As my last message to the membership, I want to thank all of you who have worked so hard to make 1974-75 the success that it was. I have had the honor to serve you in a year in which many exciting things have taken place. Our seats on the Joint Review Committee are pretty well established and we have had ex-officio representation on this

committee over the past six months. I have been assured that by the time you read this we will have full representation on this committee. In addition, we have experienced some initial prog-

ress toward establishing a conjoint registry. The lines of communication have been opened again with the ARRT and the ASCP. Initially, we may be working separately with these organizations and hopefully the fruit of our labor will be a conjoint nuclear medicine registry that is acceptable to all. To those members who have advocated that the Technologist Section work toward the creation of its own registry, I would like to say that the membership had overwhelmingly indicated by their response to the registry questionnaire that we should continue to work for a conjoint registry. Your National Council Delegates at the Midwinter Meeting also indicated that we should continue in this regard.

The Society of Nuclear Medicine is looking into the possibility of engaging the services of a Washington representative who will assist the

New Programs Approved by AMA

Listed below is a list of the seven new educational programs in nuclear medicine technology that have been recently accredited by the Council on Medical Education of the AMA. For a list of the other courses accredited, see the December 1974 issue of *JNMT*, pages 134-137.

Emory University
1364 Clifton Rd. NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30322

R.C. Palmer, Ph.D.
Program Director

DeKalb General Hospital
2701 N. Decatur Rd.
Decatur, Ga. 30033

Jay S. Coffsky, M.D.
Program Director

St. Catherine's Hospital
608 N. Fifth St.
Garden City, Kans. 67846

P. Rodriguez, M.D.
Program Director

Harlem Hospital Center
136th St. & Lenox Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10037
Theodore R. Stent, M.D.
Program Director

St. Francis Hospital
6161 S. Yale
Tulsa, Okla. 74136

John E. Kauth, M.D.
Program Director

Self Memorial Hospital
100 Spring St.
Greenwood, S.C. 29646

William A. Klauber, M.D.
Program Director

Roanoke Memorial Hospital
Bellevue at Jefferson St.
Roanoke, Va. 24104

C.D. Smith, M.D.
Program Director

Message Center Number
215-382-3455

Don't forget to give this number to those who might have to call you in Philadelphia for quick, efficient handling of your messages from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. June 16th to 20th.

SNM and the Technologist Section in communicating with our national representatives. This is a service that is long overdue and absolutely vital to the effective operation of our Section and the Society. This representative will see that our membership is heard from and appropriate action made on behalf of nuclear medicine.

We have seen an increase in attendance at our Midwinter Meeting as well as an increase in the number of commercial exhibitors. We thank you all for your confidence in the Technologist Section as well as your valued input. The Technologist Section is committed to striving for bigger and better meetings that we can all benefit from. The ideas that have been suggested for the scientific programs and the meeting's management are too numerous to incorporate in one year. With this in mind, I am confident the

Section will continue to experience bigger and better meetings. Your Section is on the move and to keep it so your elected officers will continue to need your input. Do not let them down.

This year has been an exciting experience for me from which I have gained much. I trust the Technologist Section has gained also. I will be watching enthusiastically for the continued growth of an organization that I am proud to be identified with.

My special thanks to all committee chairpersons, National Council Delegates, members, and the National Office staff for their dedicated hard work. See you in St. Louis in 1976!

VINCENT V. CHERICO
*Peter Bent Brigham Hospital
Boston, Mass.*

Your National Council Delegates Work Hard!

Your National Council Delegates will be meeting in Philadelphia on June 16th to set policies for the Tech Section and make specific plans for the coming six months. This is your chance for input into the operation of the Section, and you are urged to contact your National Council Delegate with your ideas and



Vince Cherico and Finance Committee Chairman Larry Cavendish deliberate point in Houston.

suggestions. If you do not know who your delegate is, contact the National Office for information.

Your Delegates work hard! Some of the issues discussed by the group in Houston were reviewed in the news section of the March issue of *JNMT*. Some of these issues are still on the docket for the June meeting, and your suggestions are welcome.



It's serious business for (left to right) Glenn Isserstedt, Doug Wigton, Tony Mazzola, and Carol Diamanti.



The group listens intently . . . and ponders a point.

Photos courtesy of Jim Langan

Test Your Knowledge

1. Radioimmunoassay is an example of
 - a) a kinetic assay
 - b) saturation analysis
 - c) isotope dilution
 - d) none of the above
2. A patient has a thyroxine (T_4) level of 12.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$ (normal, 4–11 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$) and a T_3 resin uptake of 24% (normal, 24–35%). Which statement most likely describes the patient's thyroid status?
 - a) hyperthyroid
 - b) hypothyroid
 - c) euthyroid
 - d) euthyroid and taking oral contraceptives
3. In a normal radioimmunoassay, the antisera should bind what percentage of the total radioactivity added in the absence of "cold" ligand?
 - a) 100%
 - b) 50%
 - c) 10%
 - d) 5%
4. In the radioimmunoassay for digoxin using charcoal as the separating agent, why is it important to begin centrifugation 5 min after addition of the charcoal?
 - a) charcoal will absorb the antibody to digoxin
 - b) charcoal will dissolve in the buffer
 - c) charcoal will strip labeled antigen from the antibody
 - d) charcoal will displace antigen and bind to the antibody
5. Which of the following plots will be linear over the entire useful range of a radioimmunoassay?
 - a) percent of total radioactivity bound vs. concentration of standard
 - b) percent of total radioactivity bound vs. log concentration of standard
 - c) bound radioactivity over free radioactivity (B/F) vs. concentration of standard
 - d) logit percent trace binding vs. log concentration of standards
6. Which of the following may be expected to cause interference in the radioimmunoassay for digoxin (using ^{125}I label)?
 - a) hemolysis
 - b) digitoxin
 - c) salicylates (aspirin)
 - d) oral contraceptives
7. Which of the following best characterizes the type of competitive binding assay known as sequential saturation?
 - a) cold ligand is allowed to approach equilibrium with the binding agent before "hot" ligand is added
 - b) hot and cold ligands are mixed simultaneously with the binder
 - c) the binder and the separating agent approach equilibrium sequentially with a mixture of hot and cold ligand
 - d) the binder and the separating agent are added sequentially to a mixture of hot and cold ligand
8. What is the function of the nonspecific binding tube in a radioimmunoassay?
 - a) determines the percent of labeled antigen bound in the absence of unlabeled antigen
 - b) determines the radiochemical purity of the labeled antigen
 - c) determines the total amount of radioactivity added
 - d) determines the amount of radioactivity bound to serum or plasma proteins
9. In the radioassay (CPB) for vitamin B_{12} , why was ^{57}Co chosen as the labeling isotope?
 - a) cobalt reacts with vitamin B_{12} to produce a stable compound
 - b) cobalt binds easily to intrinsic factor
 - c) vitamin B_{12} is a cobalt-containing compound
 - d) cobalt compounds are not found in vivo and thus cannot interfere with the assay
10. Which of the following is the best test for the initial diagnosis of hypothyroidism?
 - a) T_4 by CPB
 - b) T_3 resin uptake
 - c) RIA T_3
 - d) none of the above

Submitted by:
 Thomas Persoon
 University of Iowa
 Iowa City, Iowa

ANSWERS: 1-b; 2-d; 3-b; 4-c; 5-d; 6-b (Note: gross hemolysis can interfere with iodinated digoxins using charcoal absorbents because hemoglobin will compete for charcoal binding sites. However, the degree of hemolysis required for interference is so high that it is seldom, once is seen.); 7-a; 8-b; 9-c; 10-a.

Chapter News

Central Chapter

The Central Chapter Continuing Education Program for Nuclear Medicine Technologists has now been presented in Chicago, Ann Arbor, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and Indianapolis. This highly successful program consists of a 2-day review of all phases of nuclear medicine technology. The faculty consists of physicians, physicists, and technologists from the Chapter. It is hoped that this will become an annual program for continuing education credit. The Chapter hopes that other chapters will attempt to carry out such projects to provide continuing education experiences for their members. Special thanks go to James Carlson, M.S., Central Chapter President, and Lois Moore, Central Chapter Technologist Section President for the establishment of this program.

Over 100 technologists attended the Spring Meeting, "GU System Hypertension—How Can Nuclear Medicine Help?" held March 8-9 at the Playboy Towers in Chicago. The technologists and physicians attended a combined plenary session, which included an introduction to the problem of hypertension, its causes, diagnosis, and treatment, given by Neil Kurtzman, M.D., of the University of Illinois Hospitals. The technologist program featured presentation of invited papers; panel discussions on such topics as RIA procedures, ^{131}Xe ventilation studies, radionuclide cystography, and administrative problems; and the annual business meeting, which was attended by 50 voting members and which included election of officers for 1975-76. The new officers, who will take over at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, are: President and National Council Delegate, Wil-

liam Setlack, Chicago; President-Elect, Susan Weiss, Chicago; Secretary, Lorraine Shuck, Minneapolis; and Treasurer, Dennis Waldron, Minneapolis.

President Lois Moore reported on the Second Midwinter Meeting in Houston. The membership was also informed of the PACE program (see p. 55 in this issue) and a show of hands indicated that the members would be in favor of such a program. Initial plans were also made for the Fall Meeting to be held in Cleveland.

The Chapter has set up an employment clearing house to aid in matching technologists with hospitals that have available positions. All information will be cleared through the Secretary of the Chapter. A fee will be charged to participating hospitals to defray the cost of the service.

—Susan Weiss

Eastern Great Lakes Chapter

The Annual Spring Meeting was held at the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada, on May 15. The Ad Hoc Committee presented to the membership a proposed set of bylaws for their approval. Charles Henry, Acting National Council Delegate, reported on the Second Midwinter Meeting in Houston.

The Ontario Society of Radiological Technologists Convention will be held in Toronto May 8-10 at the downtown Holiday Inn.

News items for publication in the *JNMT* should be forwarded to Charles A. Henry, R.T. (ARRT) NM, Crouse-Irving Memorial Hospital, 736 Irving Ave., Syracuse, N.Y. 13210.

—Charles A. Henry

Greater New York Chapter

In the wake of decisions by New York and New Jersey late last year not to allow technol-

ogists to intravenously inject radiopharmaceuticals, the Chapter has been looking into a means of either modifying the existing law or pushing for passage of a new Technologists Practice Act in both states. The Chapter feels that there is no doubt that other states within the Chapter will act similarly, and the Chapter anticipates being of service to all technologists who might be affected.

The Chapter is funding the formation of state societies in all states in the Chapter's region. At present, state societies have been incorporated, or are about to be incorporated, in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. The funding is accomplished by a direct grant to the forming organizations. Presently, the Chapter boasts a treasury of more than \$3,000.

A management and registry review seminar was held last November in Hasbrouck Heights, N.J. Ninety physicians and technologists attended. The Spring Symposium in Nuclear Medicine was also held in Hasbrouck Heights, April 25-26. There were about 20 commercial exhibitors and between 350 and 400 technologists in attendance.

As the host Chapter for the 1975 Annual Meeting, it has formed several committees to handle local arrangements. Paul Hancock, Chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee, has done an outstanding job in planning a full and varied program for the technologists.

The chapter is actively seeking new avenues of service to its members, one of which may be the funding of individual research projects or educational projects within the Chapter. In addition, maximum effort is being made in securing new members, and to secure papers and articles for the *JNMT* and national meetings.

With 240 members, 25 applicants, and 40 additional members

expected to join the Chapter by June, the membership is growing at a fast pace.

—*Robert H. Schneider*

Hawaii Chapter

The Chapter has sponsored some very successful scientific meetings featuring guest speakers, including the Radioisotope Orientation Program, a one-day seminar conducted by John Boccio, technical associate for E.R. Squibb & Sons. This program was very well attended and included technologists from the outer islands.

A three-day seminar and workshop conducted with the aid of Mallinckrodt/Nuclear was held in April. A large part of the program was directed to technologists, but the program also included lectures for physicians.

The Chapter has been working toward establishing a library of nuclear medicine audiovisuals for use by technologists and physicians. Some of the other goals set by the Chapter include increasing its membership, encouraging all members to take registry examinations to become registered in nuclear medicine technology, and to set up study and review sessions prior to registry exams.

Officers for the coming year are: President, Katherine Schwenker; Vice President, Cory Teruya; Secretary, Georgia Manandick; Treasurer, Harry Teruya; and National Council Delegate, Alvin Leong, who is also the President-Elect.

—*Alvin Y.Q. Leong*

Mideastern Chapter

The Annual Meeting was held April 11-13 in Annapolis, Md. in conjunction with the Chapter physicians' meeting. A discussion of federal guidelines for radiation safety in nuclear medicine com-

menced the program and was presented in part by Donald Hamilton, Chairman of the License and Registration Committee of the Tech Section. Don brought the technologists up to date on current legislation affecting the nuclear medicine technologist. If any Chapter needs information on recent legislation or counseling on a proposed state law affecting nuclear medicine technologists, Don would be happy to be of assistance. He may be contacted at 325 Wessling Circle, Catonsville, Md. 21228, or at (301) 338-1100, extension 491.

Other topics of discussion at the meeting included computerized tomography, gated cardiac studies, and bone imaging. Approximately 250 technologists, physicians, and physicists registered for the meeting.

—*Charles Harrell*

Missouri Valley Chapter

Members of the Missouri Valley Chapter are pleased to announce the publication of their first newsletter under the direction of President Robert LaDue, Iowa City, Iowa. The newsletter was sent to members and non-members in hopes of stimulating more active interest and participation within the area. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter, contact Robert LaDue, Nuclear Medicine Department, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinic, Iowa City, Iowa 52242, or call (319) 356-2597.

The Chapter's Fourth Semi-Annual Registry Review was held May 2-4 at the Holiday Inn, St. Louis, Mo. Once again, the review was well attended and was very helpful for those who took the May ARRT examination.

The Greater St. Louis Association of NMT's held its bi-monthly meeting at St. Mary's Hospital, Clayton, Mo. on March 4, 1975.

Dr. R.E. Coleman of the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology spoke to the group on myocardial infarct imaging. More than 60 technologists attended this meeting.

The Missouri Valley Chapter is honored to have been chosen as the host Chapter for the Third Annual Midwinter Meeting of the Technologist Section. The convention hotel will be the Chase-Park Plaza in St. Louis, site of the 1968 SNM Annual Meeting. Plans are already under way for what appears to be a most unique meeting.

—*Robert J. La Due*

New England Chapter

On April 26 the Chapter held its Annual Spring Symposium in Peabody, Mass., that included many interesting seminars. The program included flow and static imaging, radioimmunoassay, computer analysis, and quality control.

The Chapter's Membership Committee is actively seeking new members. Fliers and announcements are being sent to hospitals and technologists in the Chapter's region on a weekly basis in an effort to increase its membership.

The Chapter continues to put out a lively newsletter on a bi-monthly basis. The newsletter features letters from the Chairman, ways and means reports, educational news, a look at the literature, a test your knowledge quiz, proposed bylaws changes, profiles on technologists, classified ads, etc.

—*Cecile Gaigals*

Northern California Chapter

The workshop held in February in San Francisco featured a well-rounded program that included discussions of pancreas physiol-

ogy and imaging, tumor-scanning agents, gated imaging, and a panel talk on current problems in nuclear medicine laboratory administration.

Another workshop held March 13 in conjunction with the regularly scheduled Chapter meeting included two well-attended sessions on radioimmunoassay and quality control of the scintillation camera.

—Rose Ann Anderson

Prairie Provinces Chapter

At the Chapter meeting held in Regina on May 3 and 4, 1973, a new category of associate membership in the Chapter was formed. This membership is open to all nuclear medicine technologists, or other technologists working in the field of nuclear medicine, and presently payment of dues is not required. It is hoped that by organizing the technologists as a section of the Prairie Provinces Chapter they will take a greater interest, exchange ideas, and should be encouraged to become members of the Technologist Section of the Society of Nuclear Medicine.

The Technologist Section was organized in early 1974 by J. Bouz and William J. Steinburg, with Bill Steinburg (appointed National Council Delegate) acting as Chairperson for the Section. In April 1974, the Section sponsored its first organized continuing education program at the Highlander Motor Hotel, Calgary, Alberta. Some 30 technologists attended this excellently organized program.

The 1975 Annual Meeting will be held in Brandon, Manitoba, at which time efforts will be made to organize a more active Technologist Section. Currently there are approximately 50 technologist members on the meeting list and hopefully more will be encouraged to join the Section this year.

Anyone who is interested in becoming involved may contact William Steinburg, Radioisotope Dept. Misericordia Hospital, 16940 87th Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Bill Steinburg is also the *JNMT* Chapter News Representative for the Prairie Provinces. Please contact him about any news items concerning nuclear medicine technology. Let's go Prairie Provinces! Jump on the bandwagon and support your Chapter! Your input is vital.

—William E. Steinburg

Rocky Mountain Chapter

The Chapter's first meeting was held on January 18, 1975, at Penrose Hospital, Colorado Springs, Colo. At this meeting, a Chapter report with recommendations was formulated for presentation to the National Council Delegates in Houston in February by Doug Wigton, Chapter Delegate. Bylaws for the Chapter were also drawn up for presentation to the members.

The membership voted on and approved these bylaws at a meeting held at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital on March 20. A Nominations Committee was formed and it is now in the process of working on a slate of officers to be presented to and voted on by the membership.

The Rocky Mountain Nuclear Medicine Conference was held April 3–5. The meeting was cosponsored by the Rocky Mountain Chapters of the SNM, SNM Technologist Section, and the SNMT. The program featured distinguished guest speakers, whose presentations included such topics as EMI, thyroid, dose calibrators, RIA workshops, and 13 scientific papers presented by technologists. The Program Committee is certainly to be com-

mended for a well-organized and educational meeting.

—Doug Wigton

Southeastern Chapter

George Alexander, President-Elect, has replaced Frances Kontzen, who assumed the presidency of the Chapter last fall, as Editor of the Chapter newsletter. Anyone wishing to contribute to the newsletter should contact George at Cincinnati General Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio 45229. The success of the newsletter depends on the input of members and everyone is encouraged to pitch in.

In her address to the membership at the recent Chapter meeting, Frances Kontzen expressed a desire for each state within the Chapter to organize on a local level, in an effort to give individual states a stronger voice in formulating rules and regulations that govern the nuclear medicine profession. She will be happy to assist in any way possible, so contact her at the V.A. Hospital, Nuclear Medicine Service, 700 S. 19th St., Birmingham, Ala. 35233.

—Frances Kontzen

Southern California Chapter

Proposed legislation for nuclear medicine technologists has been rejected by the State Legislature as written and a stricter proposal is in the making. The Northern California and Southern California Legislative Affairs Committee met on May 1 with Dr. Hirsch Handmaker, the Socio-Economic Committee Chairman-designate from Northern California, to rewrite this critical piece of legislation.

On May 21 a scientific meeting-dinner was held in Anaheim and was devoted to the presentation of technologists' papers. Speakers included Naomi Bell, Craig Bryant, Mike Christiansen,

H. Hattori, Richard Reas, Jerry Secrest, Joan Viscione, and Chelle Young.

The day prior to the conjoint North-South Meeting to be held in Los Angeles, October 25-26 at the Marriott Hotel, a technologist meeting will be conducted. Co-chairmen Lewis Presgrove (Southern California) and Paul Tegan (Northern California) have planned four workshops to run simultaneously in the morning; the afternoon will be devoted to papers to be presented by technologists of both Chapters. A cocktail party will follow the day's activities.

The efforts of the Continuing Education Committee have been fruitful. Sixteen weeks of lectures on "Basic Concepts of Diagnostic Ultrasound," a Continuing Education Series sponsored by the Chapter, was presented by William F. Smapple, Instructor, Radiological Sciences, UCLA. Topics of discussion included echoencephalography, obstetrics and gynecology, technique and machine operation, and computer applications. The lectures were highly informative and well organized.

A Scintigraphy Film Printout Workshop was held in March and was well received. The workshop covered film density ranges, types of equipment available, and the options in selecting these.

—Danielle Gueorev

Southwestern Chapter

The Annual Chapter Meeting was held March 21-23 in Galveston, Texas. The scientific program was excellent, as were the local arrangements.

U.S. Savings bonds were awarded to the technologists with the best scientific exhibits. The winners of the bonds were: First prize, Walter Durham, Arlene Clubb, William K. Otte, Jr., Galveston, Texas, "Tumor and Abscess Imaging with Indium-111 Chloride," and second prize, Judith Williams, Houston, Texas, "Human Growth Hormone."

During the business meeting, new officers were elected: Kathy Dooley, Houston, Texas, President; Mary Reager, Houston, Texas, President-Elect; and Shirley Ledbetter, Shreveport, La., Secretary/Treasurer.

The Chapter is pleased to announce the affiliation of two new local Sections: the Ark-La-Techs of Shreveport, La., and the Northeastern Oklahoma Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologists. The number of local Sections affiliated with the Southwestern Chapter now stands at seven.

The local Sections are very active this year, with several symposiums being held: *April 4-5*: The North Texas Technologist Section sponsored a Quality Assurance Workshop for Scintillation Cameras. *May 16-18*: The North Texas Technologist Sec-

tion sponsored a Brain Workshop. *August 9*: The San Antonio Technologist Section will sponsor a symposium entitled "New Concepts in Nuclear Medicine." A registry review will follow on August 10 for nuclear medicine technology students and technologists who wish to participate. Anyone interested in attending should contact: Mary Ann Hawkins, Nuclear Medicine Dept., Santa Rosa Hospital, San Antonio, Texas. *October 18-19*: The Houston Area Technologists will sponsor a 1½ day symposium, the details of which are not yet finalized.

A School for Medical Technology has been established under the auspices of Houston Community College offering a two-year Associate degree program. College credit can be received for previous work in nuclear medicine. For further information contact: Kathy Dooley, Program Coordinator, Health Careers Division, 1205 Holman Ave., Houston, Texas 77004.

The Southwestern Chapter Technologist Newsletter will now be published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. Anyone wishing to submit news (and we have to have news to have a newsletter!) should contact: Ann Logan, News Editor, 6655 Travis, Houston, Texas 77025.

—Kathy Dooley

NRC Changes Labeling Requirements of Radiopharmaceutical Shipments

By August 4th technetium generator manufacturers and distributors will be required by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to meet new labeling procedures of their ^{99}Mo - $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ generators that will change the calibration date of the shipment.

NRC points out that the calibration date presently on most

generators is four to seven days beyond the date of receipt by the users. As a result, the quantity of radioactive material received by the user may be more than four times the nominal activity indicated on the generator label, which NRC regards as contrary to its regulation and good radiological safety practice.

NRC has concluded that the following labeling procedures for technetium generators are consistent with NRC regulatory requirements: the calibration time of the generators, defined as the time at which the actual activity of the generator is equal to the activity indicated on the label, should be no more than 48 hours beyond the time of shipment.

No News is Bad News! Contact Your Chapter News Representatives to Get Activities Reported in the JNMT

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Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting, San Diego, June 12, 1974

The Technologist Section held its Annual Business Meeting on June 12, 1974, at the Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, Calif. Chairman Leo Lopez called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

The President of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, Wil Nelp, in his welcoming message congratulated the Technologist Section for developing a strong organization and fine leadership. He said that the Section is the major voice for technology affairs in nuclear medicine in the country today.

Dr. Oscar B. Hunter, Jr., Chairman of the Joint Review Committee on Education Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology, in his address said he hoped that the Technologist Section would assume its proper role in technologist training. He introduced Dr. Warren Ball, Secretary of the Joint Review Committee, who outlined a possible change in the organizational structure of bodies that govern educational programs.

President Lopez then called for the following reports:

Secretary-Historian Report

James Langan moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as circulated in the *Newsletter* of April 1974. This was seconded and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Surplus — October 1, 1973	\$ 7,710.24
Excess income over expenses	<u>19,545.61</u>
Total liabilities and surplus	\$27,255.85

Jacqueline Long presented the proposed budget to the membership and moved that it be approved. This was seconded and approved unanimously.

Membership Report

Total Membership 1,948

Vincent Cherico reported that the Section has 629 new members which represents an increase of 33% over the previous year.

Executive Director's Report

Margaret Glos congratulated the membership for the job that has been done to make the Technologist Section the totally viable group that it is today. She said the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology* has been both a scientific and financial success.

The effects of the recent explosion in the National Office were reviewed by Ms. Glos. All of

the Section's records are intact and the only casualty will be a slight delay in publishing the June issue of the *JNMT*. The Society has moved into new quarters at 475 Park Avenue South in New York City.

Nominating Committee

Floyd Potes reported that 23% of the membership voted in this year's election.

Mr. Potes introduced the newly elected officers of the Technologist Section. They are:

Nominating Committee

Ronald Andrews
Donald Hamilton
Mary Maxwell
L. David Wells

Membership Committee

Larry Cavendish
Jacqueline Long

Treasurer

Carol I. Diamanti
Secretary-Historian
Mark I. Muilenburg
President-Elect
Glenn A. Isserstedt

Awards Committee

Camille Boyce announced that the awards this year have been increased by \$500.00 to a total of \$1,500.00. The winning papers and exhibits will be announced in the September issue of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology*. An award for the best student paper and a membership award will be established this year.

Jerry Tempe of Mallinckrodt/Nuclear presented a check for \$1,000 to President Lopez to support the awards.

Scientific Program Committee

Richard Pollack said that the Midwinter Meeting was both a scientific and financial success with over 400 attendees.

There were 45 scientific abstracts submitted for this meeting and 25 were accepted. Thirty-four exhibits were submitted and thirty were accepted, the highest number to date.

Continuing Education and Publications Committee

Glenn Isserstedt stated that the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology* has demonstrated itself to be a significantly important and viable document to the field of nuclear medicine technology.

Bylaws Committee

The recommended changes in the bylaws were reviewed item by item by James Grolton. Mr. Grolton then moved that the recommended changes of the Bylaws Committee be accepted. This was seconded and approved unanimously.

President's Report

In his report, President Lopez stated that one of the accomplishments of his administration was the establishment of a Midwinter Meeting thereby giving the technologists two national meetings a year. He praised the activities of the Continuing Education and Publications Committee for the work it has done in maintaining and improving the quality of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology*.

He said that the Joint Review Committee will meet on June 15, 1974, and indications are that the Technologist Section will be asked to be a sponsor of the Committee.

President Lopez expressed his appreciation to the National Council Delegates, Officers of the Section and the personnel in the National Office for their support during his term of office.

Mr. Floyd Potes presented President Lopez with a gavel in appreciation for his services to the membership during the past year.

New Business

President-Elect Cherico addressed the membership. He asked that the membership participate in the activities of the Section by input through their National Council Delegates. In this way the National Council will truly represent the views of the membership.

The following goals and areas of special interest were outlined by Mr. Cherico for his term as President of the Technologist Section:

1. To continue negotiations to establish a conjoint registry, but at the same time explore the possibility of establishing our own Registry Board. The Council of Past Presidents, chaired by Mr. Lopez, has been charged with this task.
2. To bid for representation on the Joint Review Committee.
3. To watch the activities of special interest groups within the Society of Nuclear Medicine to be sure that their goals do not infringe upon the right of a practicing nuclear medicine technologist.
4. To investigate the possibilities of establishing low cost insurance for the membership.

The following committee HEADS have been appointed by President-Elect Cherico for the upcoming year:

Scientific Program	James Sims
Publications	L. David Wells
Continuing Education	Louis Izzo
Bylaws	Robert Schneider
Awards	Kathy Dooley
Registry Research	Leonard Lopez
Legislative	Donald Hamilton
Finance	Lawrence Cavendish

Midwinter Meeting

The Second Annual Midwinter Meeting will be held in Houston, Texas, February 7-9, 1975.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. by President Lopez.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES K. LANGAN, R.T.
Secretary-Historian