

Technologist News



The 26th Annual Meeting: Welcome to Atlanta

Tuesday, June 26, 1979, marks the beginning of the 26th Annual Meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and the start of the Technologist Section's program. And this year's program, says John J. Reilley, Scientific Program Chairman, will have something to appeal to all technologists.

The scientific program will start on Tuesday afternoon with the presentation of the scientific papers. But be sure to attend the opening ceremonies, which begin at 8:30 a.m. in the auditorium of Atlanta's Georgia World Congress Center. Both past achievements and future directions will be among the opening highlights as John G. McAfee, MD, receives the Paul C. Aebersold Award for outstanding achievement in basic science as applied to nuclear medicine, and "The Role of Nuclear Medicine in the Diagnosis and Management of Cardiovascular and Neuropsychiatric Disorders" is discussed and debated by a panel of experts.

Then on Tuesday afternoon, all technologists' scientific papers will be presented in three simultaneous sessions, so as not interfere with any of the scientific tracks.

Wednesday, therefore, really sets the pace for the program, says Mr. Reilley, with three scientific teaching tracks offered: cardiac, education, and quality assurance of radiopharmaceuticals. Each of these sessions, he adds, is geared to all technologists regardless of job classification.

Complete-in-One-Day Sessions

And note that this year's program features entire tracks to be presented within one single day. Technologists who are unable to stay for the entire meeting week can still come to Atlanta for a day and reap the benefits of their choice of complete-in-one-day scientific sessions and also earn maximum VOICE credit.

Thursday's sessions are newer modalities in clinical imaging; new uses of radionuclides in clinical nuclear medicine; and quality assurance of scintillation cameras; and a management track, which will be a limited-attendance track that will run for two days. Every participant in the management track will be required to attend both days of sessions.

Friday draws the meeting to a close with presentations on computer soft-

ware; advanced clinical; and the completion of the management track.

Although each of the tracks is of the highest quality, Mr. Reilley wants to draw particular attention to Friday's "Advanced Clinical—The Future Is Now."

This track is designed to help educate nuclear medicine technologists in areas which have or are becoming clinically useful, presented by some of the leading authorities in these areas.

For example, David E. Kuhl, MD, of UCLA will speak on positron tomography of the heart and brain, and Henry N. Wagner, Jr., MD, on advances in nuclear cardiology. Richard A. Holmes, MD, will discuss newer aspects of radioaerosols, and Mark Muilenburg will speak on correlation of thyroid gland procedures utilizing ultrasound and nuclear medicine. David N. Charkes, MD, concludes the track with a presentation on clinical implications of skeletal tracer kinetics.

In summary, Mr. Reilley says the program committee has strived to assure the utmost quality of the Atlanta meeting program; all that remains is to see you in Atlanta!

Paul H. Hubbard Named New Section Administrator

The newly created position within the National Office—Technologist Section Administrator/SNM Deputy Executive Director—was filled on March 29 when Paul H. Hubbard was selected from a field of five final candidates by the Section's Executive Committee and their choice was seconded by the Society's Executive Committee.

Mr. Hubbard comes to the Society with a broad background of high level responsibility that includes positions in association management, health-care organization consultancy, and government.

The dual responsibilities the position comprises and the challenges to be met, he says, were key factors in his decision to accept.

"The Section, for example, is in the process of evolving into an organization whose shape and whose services

to its members still need to be defined. The framework of the Section within the Society," Mr. Hubbard continues, "including the fact that technologists must join the Society in order to join the Section, the Section's close relationship with all the disciplines constituting nuclear medicine, and the growth of the nuclear medicine technology profession itself, all combine to offer me the opportunity to assist the Section—to preserve the Section's identity as a professional body, and to enhance that identity within the field of nuclear medicine."

In the association management field, Mr. Hubbard's most recent position was Executive Director of the Emergency Department Nurses Association from 1975-77. There he directed an 11,000-member specialty society and was very instrumental in the development and accreditation

of continuing education programs for the membership and the development of a voluntary criterion-referenced examination for all emergency nurses.

Most recently, he was Vice-President of Terry L. Schmidt Associates Inc., a government relations consulting firm for two years. In this capacity he represented SNM in its Washington, DC, government relations.

Since assuming the Section Administrator's position, Mr. Hubbard adds, one immediate goal has become obvious: to have the Section develop a plan of what it intends to accomplish during the next five years, and to relate this plan to the Section's budgeting process—so that members, officers, and National Office staff alike can participate both in formulating expectations and establishing programs.

26th Annual Meeting

Placement Service in Atlanta

For the third year, the Society of Nuclear Medicine's Annual Meeting Placement Service is accepting applications from employers and job seekers.

Applications for the following positions will be accepted: nuclear medicine physician, scientist, and technologist. Applications from employers with openings in these fields will also be accepted. The Placement Service is designed to bring prospective employees and employers together through personal interviews. The Service does not enter into employment negotiations, leaving all such matters to employers and employees.

It is expected that all employers using the SNM Place-

ment Service will be equal opportunity employers and wish to receive applications from qualified persons regardless of their age, national origin, race, religion, sex, or handicap.

The Annual Meeting Placement Service is open to SNM members for \$10, nonmembers for \$20, and to employers for \$30.

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Applications may be obtained from the Placement Bureau, which will be located in the Georgia World Congress Center, during the SNM Annual Meeting June 26-29, 1979 or by writing: Placement Service, Society of Nuclear Medicine, 475 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016.

Tech Party June 26

The event is the annual Technologist Party, the place is the Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, the theme is a "Georgia Country Bash," and this not-to-be missed evening begins at 6:30 on Tuesday June 26.

Mingle at the cash bar and enjoy some famed Southern hospitality. The buffet dinner will feature Southern delights; fried chicken and barbecue ribs are just a sample.

The party will be relaxed and informal says Barbara K. Horton, the Section's Local Arrangements Committee Chairperson, with the emphasis on blue jeans and casual shirts.

And, Ms. Horton adds, try to wear low-heeled shoes with hard soles; you might want to try clogging, a traditional dance of Georgia, especially after you've seen professional cloggers entertain.

A country rock band will also be on hand for all non-cloggers and they'll be playing until one in the morning!

Message from the President

SUSAN WEISS

The Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL



Throughout the past year we have been hearing and reading of the activities of many of the federal agencies and Congress itself that are concerned with radiation in its broadest sense. These activities are and should be of great concern to the practicing nuclear medicine technologist. Parts of all these activities could lead to—and indeed many have stated their purpose as—promulgation of regulations governing the use of radiation, which would directly affect the practice of nuclear medicine technology.

The Technologist Section has developed a strong legislative network with the capability of responding rapidly when a situation demands such response. There is still more to be done; however, the Section needs assurance from the Society that our views will be adequately represented. We are not autonomous and, therefore, must present our views to the Society for consideration when the Society makes public comment regarding socio-economic affairs. Section members represent almost 40% of the Society membership, yet we are mostly nonvoting members in the Society. Our input into the Society is through the president of the Section who sits on the Society's Executive Committee and Board of Trustees. Is this enough representation, particularly in such important areas as socio-economic affairs?

There are also other areas where a closer formal tie to the Society structure would be of great benefit to the Section. We have demonstrated our professionalism by establishing the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board; now is the time to demonstrate it within the Society. It behooves every individual member of the Section who is concerned about the future of nuclear medicine technology to voice his or her concerns

and participate in Society activities. The next couple of years will be a period for potential growth and challenge for both the Society and the Section. The changes occurring within the Society and the National Office present a unique opportunity for us and we should not let it pass us by.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find calls for nominations for Section officers—and for the NMTCB on page 68. Both the Section and the NMTCB need your continued support and participation to continue to grow. The 1979-80 Technologist Section's annual election has just taken place, and now is the time to begin planning for 1980-81. The Nominating Committee needs ample time to carry out its deliberations in order to present a final list of candidates at the Section's annual winter meeting. If you cannot run for office, perhaps you know technologists who would be ideal candidates: please nominate them.

This is my last message as president of the Section and I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve. It has been an enjoyable (mostly), challenging, and rewarding experience. Thank you to the officers, all committee chairmen, committee members, and friends, whose names are too numerous to list, for the support and encouragement I have received this year. To Dr. Conway, my boss, and the nuclear medicine staff at Children's, a sincere thank you for putting up with my frequent absences and "telephonitis."

Finally, along with the gavel of the president, I am happy to give George Alexander my full support during his term of office. I hope all of you will join me in helping to make his year a success.

Best Papers from JNMT and San Diego Are Named

Linda M. Thorson, Gilbert P. Becker, and Heinz W. Wahner have won the *JNMT*'s "Outstanding Paper Award" for 1978.

Their paper, titled "Subtraction Technique in the Diagnosis of Abdominal Abscesses," was published in the March 1978 issue of the *Journal*.

The authors are with the Mayo Clinic and Mayo Foundation, Rochester, MN. They will be presented with a plaque in honor of their achievement by *JNMT* Editor Patricia Weigand during the SNM 26th Annual Meeting.

Victor J. Wedel, Gerald E. Green, and Raymond E. Thomas of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, IA, are the winners of both the Best Scientific Paper and the Best Scientific Exhibit awards for their presentations during the Sixth Annual Winter Meeting of the Technologist Section, held in San Diego, Feb. 9-11.

Their paper and exhibit were titled "Exercise Radionuclide Ventriculograms: Methods for Elimination of Motion."

The authors will receive a \$100 award for their paper, as well as plaques for both paper and exhibit, from Elizabeth Joyce, chairman of the Section's Awards Committee, during the SNM 26th Annual Meeting.

Please note the NMTCB's new address. All requests for examination applications and recognition of previous certification as well as any other correspondence should be sent to:

**Barbara K. Horton, NMTCB,
PO Box 1034, Stone Mountain,
GA 30086.**

Section Discusses Bill to Regulate Users of Ionizing Radiation

Technologist Section President Susan Weiss and President-Elect George A. Alexander, Jr., were in Washington on April 16 to discuss S. 500—legislation proposed again by Senator Jennings Randolph (Democrat of West Virginia) that would regulate the users of ionizing radiation, including nuclear medicine technologists.

They had a cordial and productive Capitol Hill meeting with staff members of the two Senate Committees that will be reviewing the bill—Richard Grundy of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and Thomas H. Altmeyer, counsel to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources. According to Ms. Weiss, the Section's objections to S. 500, both philosophic and specific, formed the basis of discussion.

First and foremost, they conveyed the message that nuclear medicine technology is a recognized, identifiable allied health entity. The meeting provided Ms. Weiss and Mr. Alexander with an excellent opportunity to demonstrate what nuclear medicine technology is and thus, that it is not

a subspecialty of radiologic technology. They also pointed out that nuclear medicine per se is already well regulated by such federal agencies as the Food and Drug Administration and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

They also pointed to the fact that individuals within nuclear medicine technology have the opportunity to test their competency through a criterion-referenced examination, given annually by the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB). They then cited the NMTCB as an example of what the profession has voluntarily accomplished—that is, without federal regulation.

Written Response Follows

Mr. Grundy and Mr. Altmeyer indicated their willingness to receive the Section's written comments on the bill during the meeting, too. Basically, these comments will reiterate the points made on April 16.

For example, the Section's statement will suggest that the term "radiologic technology," which is currently

used throughout S. 500, be replaced by "medical radiation technology."

And an alternative that could be considered for legislative action that was suggested by the Senate staff members—to "grandfather" those individuals who at the time of passage of national health legislation are practicing nuclear medicine technology—will also be questioned in the Section's response. Ms. Weiss and Mr. Alexander initially conveyed the Section's opposition to that approach, because all individuals subsequently trained in nuclear medicine technology (if such an approach became law) would have to adhere to legislative requirements promulgated in the future.

They emphasized that existing regulations from the NRC, FDA, and EPA were more than adequate to assure the competency and quality of services provided by nuclear medicine technology. Furthermore, they stated that the NMTCB, a nonfederal voluntary effort, provides an opportunity for those practicing NMT to demonstrate their competency on a periodic basis.

Call for Nominees

The nominating process for the officers of the Technologist Section for 1980-81 has begun.

National Council delegates must submit in writing the names of candidates, including a copy of their c.v., to Susan Weiss, Div. of Nuclear Medicine, The Children's Memorial Hospital, 2300 Children's Plaza, Chicago, IL 60614, by Nov. 1, 1979.

Every candidate should also write a personal statement to accompany his or her c.v. Length: 250 words for candidates for President-Elect; 100 words for all other candidates.

Government Relations Comm. Responds to Radiation Report

The Technologist Section's Government Relations Committee conducted a survey used to suggest recommendations for occupational dose reduction. This information, in turn, was submitted to the Society of Nuclear Medicine's Government Relations Committee for its use in formulating the SNM response to the "Libassi Report."

The Libassi Report—officially titled the Interagency Task Force Report on Ionizing Radiation, but now known to most by the name of the HEW General Counsel, Peter F. Libassi, who coordinated it—is a monumental (800+ pages) comprehensive review of the current knowledge of radiation, its health effects, and recommendations for

reducing unnecessary exposure.

The report was released on February 27 and the public was invited to respond to it within 30 days.

Utilizing the Section's legislative network, the Section's Government Relations Committee, chaired by Barbara K. Horton, was able to respond quickly and contact approximately 100 nuclear medicine departments across the country to compile data on current occupational dose levels.

"It was the first time that we were able to use our legislative network in such a short time span," Ms. Horton says, "and it demonstrates the network's importance in providing prompt Section responses to relevant federal proposals."

A subcommittee of the Continuing Education Committee—created especially to analyze two aspects of the VOICE program—has concluded its two-month efforts. The subcommittee examined the computer programming involved in the production of VOICE transcripts and the format of data submitted for input.

Any possible modifications in the VOICE computer program, the subcommittee decided, will not be made until the Society has investigated the purchase of an in-house computer.

But the problem of inaccurate and illegible VOICE numbers and their effects on the VOICE program was examined—and the subcommittee presented several proposals towards a solution to the Executive Committee during a March 22 meeting held in the National Office. Possible solutions ranged from the highly sophisticated—using plastic credit cards with snap-out carbon forms to guarantee VOICE number accuracy—to the more practical—appointing chapter credit coordinators to be responsible for checking all VOICE names and numbers on PAR registration sheets. The Executive Committee chose to implement the latter proposal.

As of July 1, no prior approval for PAR programs will be necessary. Instead, course directors should complete the new PAR application forms, available at the Annual Meeting in Atlanta, and submit the application form/registration sheet (now the PAR registration sheet is on the reverse side of the application form) to the new credit coordinators. The chapter credit coordinators, in addition to checking the accuracy of names and VOICE numbers, will make any necessary corrections and prepare data for key-punch entry. Illegible and incomplete registration sheets will be returned to the appropriate course director.

PAR credit processing, therefore, will no longer be conducted on the national level. The National Office staff time that was spent double-checking numbers will be eliminated and the overall VOICE program costs will be reduced.

The PAR chapter credit coordinators named to date are:

Central: *Richard Nuccio*, Nuclear Medicine Dept., St. Mary's Hospital, 2323 N. Lake Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53211. **Greater New York:** *Maria DaCosta*, Nuclear Medicine Dept., Mt. Sinai Hospital, 1 Gustave Levy Place, New York, NY 10029. **Mideastern:** *Harish Vaidya*, 2852 Aquarius Ave., Silver Springs, MD 20906. **New England:** *Wayne Cotnoir*, Nuclear Medicine Dept., St. Joseph's Hospital, 21 Peace St., Providence, RI 02907. **Eastern Great Lakes:** *Mary Ann Szewczyk*, Nuclear Medicine Dept., Upstate Medical Center, 750 East Adams St., Syracuse, NY 13210. **Hawaii:** *Saundra Ashley*, Nuclear Medicine Dept., Wahiawa General Hospital, 128 Lehua St., Wahiawa, HI 96786. **Missouri Valley:** *Maria*

THE VOICE BOX

Sheila Rosenfeld
Chairman

Continuing Education Committee

Nagel, 1323 South 93rd Ave., Omaha, NE 68124. **Northern California:** *Aleen O'Brien*, Nuclear Medicine Dept., Hillcrest Hospital, PO Box 261, Petaluma, CA 94952. **Pacific Northwest:** *Sue Ammerman*, 5525 1/2 University Way, NE, Seattle WA 98105. **Rocky Mountain:** *Trudy Battsion*, Nuclear Medicine Dept., LDS Hospital, 325 Eighth Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84143. **Southern California:** *Frances Neagley*, 5035 Piroette Dr., San Diego, CA 92105. **Pittsburgh:** *Lancey Brunetto*, RD 3, Box 164AA, Indiana, PA 15701. **Southeastern:** *Pat*

Reece, North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Division of Nuclear Medicine, 300 South Hawthorne Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27103. **Southwestern:** *Jennifer Fisher*, Nuclear Medicine Dept., Plano General Hospital, 3901 W. 15th St., Plano, TX 75075.

There will be an important one-hour education session for all credit coordinators on Tuesday, June 26, during the 26th Annual Meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, in Room 310 of the Georgia World Congress Center, to begin at 11:30 a.m. This will be the one opportunity for all coordinators to receive detailed instructions on PAR credit processing for their chapter activities.

In addition to this credit processing change, the CE Committee has elected to combine CEU and VUE program approval applications. This is simply a matter of convenience for course directors, because as of July 1, both VUE and CEU programs will be reviewed by the Continuing Education Review Board (CERB). The VUE application has been revised to incorporate all CEU requirements (educational objectives, evaluations, faculty description, course monitors' reports, and critiques) except the five-hour time element. VUE's are programs that meet all CEU criteria but are not necessarily five hours long. Program applications will be available at the VOICE booth at the Annual Meeting in June. Members are urged to use only these new forms after July 1. Course directors will send the required forms to the CERB Chairman, Wanda M. Hibbard. Ms. Hibbard will, in turn, correct any numerical inaccuracies on the registration sheet and return unacceptable sheets to the course director for proper completion.

In this manner, the application processing for VUE and CEU programs becomes identical. Ms. Hibbard, after completing the verification of numbers, forwards the properly prepared data to the National Office.

All VOICE members are strongly urged to attend the VOICE information meeting to be held Tuesday, June 26, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., in Room 310 of the Congress Center.

Finally, if you have questions or comments, please contact me at the VA Medical Center, John Cochran Division-115 JC, Nuclear Medicine Service, St. Louis, MO 63125; phone (314) 652-4100, ext. 215 or 529.

It has become apparent to me as Membership Committee Chairperson that many of our members need more information in order to better understand both the organization of the Technologist Section of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and the membership application process itself. Many persons are under the mistaken impression that technologists may belong *only to the Technologist Section*. As stated in the Bylaws of the Society, and the Technologist Section, membership in the Technologist Section is open to any member of the Society of Nuclear Medicine; in other words, a technologist *must belong to both SNM and the Technologist Section*.

Regular membership categories in the Society are: Full members—physicians or scientists with an advanced degree, i.e., a master's degree or higher; Associate Members—scientists or technologists with a baccalaureate or equivalent qualifications; Technologist Members—technologists or technicians with credentials indicating professional interest in the technology concerned with the diagnostic, therapeutic, or investigational uses of radio-nuclides; and Affiliate Members—persons with an active interest in the Society who are not qualified for other categories of membership.

Regular membership categories of the Technologist Section are: Members—those who can provide evidence of training or experience in nuclear medicine technology; and Student Affiliates—persons enrolled in a training program in nuclear medicine technology and certified as students by the director of training for that institution. (Note: student affiliates must pay \$5.00 for application processing plus the annual dues for the Technologist Section and receive the *JNMT*. A student is *not* eligible to join SNM until after graduation.)

As stated in Article IV of our Bylaws unpaid dues become delinquent on March 1 of each year. The rights and privileges of membership, including voting, holding of office and committee membership, reduced fees for the annual SNM convention, and receipt of *JNMT*, are suspended unless payment is made within the calendar year. After expiration of the calendar year, reinstatement can be accomplished only by reapplication of membership.

Some of you have asked why the long approval process for application of membership is necessary. This process has recently been shortened considerably. Now, application is granted solely by the Membership Committee, whereas in the past, application had to be approved at the midwinter and annual meetings by the Board of Trustees and the National Council.

How Does the Membership Application Process Work?

George A. Alexander, Jr.
President-Elect
Technologist Section

The Membership Committee has reviewed the application process with the National Office and effective immediately, the following will be initiated.

☐ The membership application and instruction have been revised. From now on, the status requested on the application will be separated for SNM, Technologist Section, and Councils. (Note again that you must be a member of SNM to be a member of the Technologist Section and that two separate approval processes will occur.) There is a fairly high incidence rate of improperly completed appli-

cation forms. An example: if you were applying for the student affiliate category in the Technologist Section, the form is incomplete if you do not state your graduation date. Please be certain that applicants fill out this form accurately and completely. *Do not send dues with the application form.*

☐ Upon receipt at the National Office, the application form is dated. Within five working days, a personalized acknowledgment letter from the Membership chairman is sent to every applicant. If additional information is needed, requests are made immediately (the application may not be processed until this information is provided). ☐ Copies of the application for the Technologist Section are sent to the technologist president of every regional chapter and to the membership chairmen of SNM and the Section for approval.

☐ Upon approval, a "welcome to membership letter" is sent to the applicant from the presidents of SNM and the Section. This letter states that the applicant will be receiving a dues statement and that membership is not accomplished until payment of dues.

☐ The computerized dues (including those for VOICE) are generated. This invoice contains several components of billing, i.e., SNM and Section dues. In addition, there are prevailing dues for regional chapters, and, if applicable, to the regional technologist chapters. Regional chapters may also elect to receive additional dues *not* invoiced by SNM. Upon receipt of dues, your membership is in effect.

Special note should be made that the review-of-credentials process takes time because of the slowness of mail, regional chapters' review, etc. To avoid any other delay, it is imperative that you immediately notify the National Office of a change of work or home address.

This process should take no more than eight weeks unless special correspondence is required. In the event of a membership application problem, please contact your Membership Chairman or the membership department at the National Office.

The first months of 1979 were very successful for the NMTCB. Members of the board developed the 1979 examination and we revised the task analysis.

The 1979 examination contains 225 test items. Twenty-five percent of the examination is made up of new items. Critical to maintaining a current, clinically applicable examination is the congruency of examination emphasis and the frequency of procedures being performed. Current trends in procedure frequency and types of instrumentation must be reflected in emphasis within the examination subcategories.

The task analysis, which identifies the skills necessary for job performance, is found in this issue of the *JNMT* on pages 102-107. It is the crucial link in the process to assure a job-related, competency-based examination. There are numerous methodologies that can be used for a task analysis and the NMTCB chose to use a general approach rather than a highly detailed approach. A companion document identifying the specific knowledge for each one of the tasks is now being developed and will also be published. This task analysis provides the content base upon which the examination was developed. It is the first time that this quantity of information regarding a nuclear medicine technology certification examination has been shared openly. Input and comments are welcome from anyone regarding the task analysis. This further serves to strengthen the process as the task analysis is constantly evaluated and revised.

The formation of an Advisory Council has moved forward as Stanley J. Goldsmith, MD, from the American College of Nuclear Physicians (ACNP), became the first chairman. The chairman of the Council is a Board member in order to assure Council input to the Board. The Advisory Council provides a mechanism whereby all organizations interested in NMT certification can directly participate. A consumer member is also being sought for the Council.

Formal endorsement of the NMTCB, already received from the Society of Nuclear Medicine and the Technologist Section, has now been received from the ACNP. The following resolution was adopted at the February ACNP meeting. "Be it resolved, that the ACNP recognizes the certification of Nuclear Medicine Technologists by the NMTCB as a means of determining competency to practice Nuclear Medicine Technology." This type of support is important as the NMTCB continues to achieve recognition and acceptance.

The NMTCB: Openness in the Certification Process and Opportunities to Participate

Mark I. Muilenburg
Chairman
NMTCB

Whenever a new certification board is initiated, hospital administrators and personnel directors must be made aware of its goals, objectives, and credibility. A contact person in the American Hospital Association has been named to provide interested administrators and directors with verification of information regarding the NMTCB: Barbara Bloom (312) 280-6433.

Nominations for election to the NMTCB are now being sought by National Council delegates of the Technologist Section. Anyone interested should contact his or her Chapter Delegate for additional in-

formation. Delegates must receive nominations by August 31, 1979. Here is another opportunity to participate in the certification process.

The Society of Nuclear Medicine 26th Annual Meeting in Atlanta will provide more opportunities to work and learn with the NMTCB. There will be an Item Writers' Workshop on Monday, June 25, from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the Lancaster E Room of the Hyatt Regency Hotel. It is open to anyone interested in learning how to write test items and more specifically, the methodology used for the NMTCB examination. This will also provide an excellent opportunity for NMT educators to learn more about the NMTCB certification process. If interested, please contact the NMTCB office by June 20 so that sufficient materials may be prepared.

A general NMTCB Information Session will be held on Thursday, June 28, from 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. in Room 310 of the convention center. Anyone seeking information or desiring to provide input to the NMTCB should attend.

Applications for recognition of previous certification are continuing to come in steadily. May I remind you that the final cut-off date is September, 1980; recognition of previous certification is only available for certificates granted by the other two boards before Sept. 15, 1978. NMTCB certificates are now being issued quarterly for recognition of previous certification.

With publication of the task analysis, initiation of the Advisory Council, call for Board nominations, Item Writers' Workshop, and general Information Session, it is apparent that the NMTCB certification process is open for review and input from the entire profession of nuclear medicine.

Everyone should feel that we as nuclear medicine technologists can participate with pride in the certification and identity provided by the NMTCB.