

Editor: Paresh Mahajan, MD

A Personal Invitation from the President - Davide Bova, MD



Davide Bova, MD

In a few weeks we shall meet again in Fort Wayne, IN for our traditional Spring Meeting, where the very essence of the Central Chapter comes alive. We will once again congregate to educate each other, share our sciences and our best practices, to celebrate our glorious past and its heroes and to peer into our future with trepidation, but also with anticipation.

Our anxieties are not unfounded; new tremendous challenges have emerged in recent months to affect our specialty, which are in additions to the ones I have already spoken about from these columns and that by now we are almost numb to. The now almost chronic shortage of Technetium is going to soon acutely worsen as the Netherlands reactor is going to close for repairs for the next six months. Unexpectedly, even the supply of iodine-131 has been affected by the reactor shutdowns, therefore affecting our ability to treat our patients.

There is renewed scrutiny into the potential ill-effects of radiation on our patient's health, both within the community and by the federal government. A recently published article in the radiological literature has raised concerns over excess cancer induction in the pediatric population utilizing Thallium as a bone imaging agent – at a time when we are looking for suitable alternatives to the (not so) universally available Technetium. It is of only few days ago the news that the FDA will implement measures to reduce radiation exposure to the population, citing particular concerns for CT, fluoroscopic and nuclear medicine techniques.

The financial situation is not any rosier. In addition to the continued efforts to decrease reimbursements for imaging studies, viewed by many as the fastest proliferating component of the health care expenditure, the lack of a clearly delineated path for a health care reform only generates uncertainty and an unsettling inability to identify permanent corrective measures. The Pay-4-Performance phenomenon, before only theorized, is starting to creep into our daily practice and will undoubtedly affect profoundly what we do in a not-so-distant future.

How do we react to all of these changes? As we always have: with inventiveness, hard work, and a paramount attention to the welfare of our patients. Where do we begin to adapt to these changes? We start by educating each other, then our referring clinicians along with the governing institutions. With that same spirit of collaboration we share among ourselves, with the scientific community at large as well as the industry.

If adaptation is the key to survival, our community is already proving to be the "fittest". Many of us have already manipulated our schedules to accommodate the decreased number of generators, we have already discovered "old" isotopes to answer the same clinical questions, we have already decreased the dose to our patients, even at the cost of prolonged imaging times, working overtime and on the weekends.

Our strength springs from our unity, from the effectiveness of our communication, to each other and to the end-users of our services, health care workers and patients alike.

Let's not forget that we also have powerful allies. Industries are reaching far away to look for new sources of radiotracers, our professional organizations are lobbying harder than ever to bring our issues to the attention of the governmental institutions and the public alike.

Let's not forget that we also have shiny examples to follow. Some of our mentors and leaders have pioneered innovation, rigorous research and exemplary patient care. We will be honoring one such leader, Alexander Gottschalk, at our Spring Meeting.

It is all too easy to feel disheartened when so many clouds are crowding over our horizon. But I would like to invite everybody to get out of our dark trenches for a few days to come to Fort Wayne, March 25-28. There we can discuss our problems and hopefully find our solutions. There we can find comfort in the fact that this remains a thriving and resilient specialty, especially during problematic times such as these. If we stay the course together, we will find ourselves stronger, wiser and more stable than before.

In this issue of the CCSNM Newsletter:

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Central Chapter Spring Meeting To Be Held in Fort Wayne

Imaging is Money: Keeping Focused and Staying on Top
March 26-28, 2010

Governance Meetings - March 25, 2010
Hilton Grand Wayne and Grand Wayne Convention Center
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Reservations: 260/420-1100

Registration is now open for the Central Chapter-Society of Nuclear Medicine's 2010 Annual Spring Meeting. The program titled, "Imaging is Money: Keeping Focused and Staying on Top" will be held March 26-28, 2010 at the Hilton Grand Wayne and Grand Wayne Convention Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The program has been submitted for approval for a minimum of 18 hours of CME and VOICE credit.

Attendees are invited to the Central Chapter's Governance Meetings scheduled on Thursday, March 25th from 11 am to 6 pm.

In addition to an outstanding educational program, we are honored by have as guest speakers Doctor Michael Graham from the University of Iowa who is the current president of the SNM and Cybil Nielsen, from Jefferson Community & Technical College in Kentucky who is the current president of the SNM – Technologist Section.

Visit the CCSNM Website, www.ccsnm.org, to download a registration brochure or to register on line. An outline of the program for the two and a half day meeting follows.

Friday, March 26, 2010

7:30 am – 8:15 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall
8:15 am – 8:30 am	Welcome and Opening Remarks
8:30 am – 9:15 am	<i>James Quinn Memorial Lecture: SPECT/CT: Is It All You ExSPECTed?</i> Gary L. Dillehay, MD, Northwestern University
9:15 am – 10:15 am	<i>The Importance of Standardization</i> Michael Graham, MD, University of Iowa, <i>President - SNM</i>
10:15 am -10:45 am	Refreshment Break
10:45 am – 11:30 am	<i>An Overview of Preclinical Molecular Imaging as a Complement to Translational Research</i> David Coates, ARRT(N), CNMT, In Vivo HealthCare
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	<i>Proffered Papers I</i>
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	<i>Intraoperative Imaging of Radioisotopes</i> John Nathan Aarsvold, PhD. Emory University
2:30 pm – 3:45 pm	<i>Proffered Papers II</i>
4:15 pm – 5:00 pm	<i>Internal Radiation Therapy</i> Michael J. Hall MD, Radiology Inc.
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Student Dinner Sponsored by Medical Physics Consultants

Saturday, March 27, 2010

(See Separate Student Program at the end of this article)

7:30 am - 8:00 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast in the Exhibit Hall
8:00 am - 9:00 am	<i>PET/MRI in Use</i> John Nathan Aarsvold, PhD. Emory University
9:00 am - 9:45 am	<i>Cardiac 3D, 4D, 5D Imaging</i> Jovan Brankov, PhD, Illinois Institute of Technology

10:15 am - 11:00 am

Panel: How to Survive with a Tc-99m Shortage

Stanley Miller RPh BCNP,
Cardinal Health
James Ruschmeyer

Lutheran Hospital of Indiana
Radiological Incidents Throughout the World

Cybil J. Nielsen, MBA, CNMT,
Jefferson Community & Technical College - *President, SNMTS*
Business Luncheon

Pick Up Lunch
SNM Update and ERF Presentation
CCSNM Update

Presentation of Proffered Paper Awards
Installation of New Officers

Dedicated Breast Positron Emission Imaging

Spencer L. Bowen, University of California Davis

Radioiodine in Molecular Imaging and Therapy

LisaAnn Trembath, MSM, CNMT, NCT, Cellerar Inc

Radioimmunotherapy

Tod Speer, MD, Aspirus System
Cardiac Stress Pharmaceuticals

Kara Weatherman, Pharm.D., BCNP, Purdue University

11:00 am - 11:45 pm

11:45 am – 1:15 pm

11:45 am – 12:00 pm

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

12:30 pm – 12:50 pm

12:50 pm – 1:00 pm

1:00 pm – 1:15 pm

1:30 pm - 2:15 pm

2:15 pm - 3:00 pm

3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

4:15 pm - 5:15 pm

Sunday, March 28, 2010

7:30 pm - 8:00 am

8:00 am - 9:00 am

9:00 am - 10:00 am

10:15 am - 11:15 am

11:15 am - 12:15 pm

12:15 pm - 12:30 pm

Saturday Student Break Out Session - Students and Technologists are welcome. (In Honor of D. Bruce Sodee, MD)

9:00 am – 9:45 am

D. Bruce Sodee, MD Lecture : Gated Blood Pool Imaging: Techniques, Pitfalls and Practical Applications

Robert H. Wagner, MD,
Loyola University

The Battle of the Minds
(Host James Ironside)

College Student Quiz Bowl Competition
In the Main Session:

Business Luncheon

The Battle of the Minds
(Host James Ironside)

College Student Quiz Bowl Competition
Announcement of the Quiz Bowl Winner

Facing the Future (Jobs/Resumes/ Interviews)

James Timpe M.S., RT. (N)(MR)
Advocate South Suburban Hospital
Ryan Harrell CNMT, Summit Radiology

Alexander Gottschalk to Receive CCSNM Gold Medal



Alexander Gottschalk, MD, professor of diagnostic radiology at Michigan State University has been selected to receive the Steven M. Pinsky MD Distinguished Service Award, or Gold Medal, by the Central Chapter, Society of Nuclear Medicine. The Award will be given to Doctor Gottschalk at the CCSNM's Annual Meeting on March 27th in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Alexander Gottschalk, MD The award is given in recognition of outstanding service to nuclear medicine and the Central Chapter in particular. In 2006, Doctor Gottschalk was awarded the coveted Benedict Cassen Prize by the Society of Nuclear Medicine. In the SNM's announcement, he was recognized for his work with the first clinically effective prototype Anger scintillation camera, performed the first dynamic camera studies of the brain and heart using 99mTc, and acquired the first dynamic camera renal studies. He was also the chair of the nuclear medicine working group on Prospective Investigation of Pulmonary Embolism Diagnosis II, which conducted definitive studies to determine the sensitivity, specificity, and negative predictive value of contrast-enhanced spiral CE for the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism.

Born in Chicago, Doctor Gottschalk received his bachelor degree from Harvard College and his medical degree from Washington University Medical School in St. Louis. He interned at the University of Illinois Research and Educational Hospitals and served his residency at the University of Chicago. Over the years he has held academic positions at the University of California at Berkeley, The University of Chicago, Yale University School of Medicine and Michigan State University.

Active in organized medicine in a number of fields, he was a trustee of the Society of Nuclear Medicine from 1969-73 and served as SNM President for 1974-75. He was also Editor-in-Chief of the Year Book of Nuclear Medicine from 1994-2003. Also active in the Central Chapter, Society of Nuclear Medicine, Doctor Gottschalk served as chapter president in 1971-72. He was Vice President of the Radiological Society of North America in 1977 and President of the Fleischner Society in 1989-90.

For his outstanding contributions and for his leadership, in addition to the Cassen Prize, Doctor Gottschalk received the Gold Medal of the Association of University Radiologists in 1987 and the Gold Medal of the Radiological Society of North America in 2004.

Fall Educational Symposium to be held in conjunction with the Missouri Valley Chapter

Come join us under the arch. The CCSNM's Fall Educational Symposium will be a joint meeting with the Missouri Valley Chapter, the third such joint meeting held over the last 15 years. The meeting will be held October 2-3, 2010 in St. Louis at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch, located in the shadow of the Gateway Arch along the riverfront.

The joint program committee is currently organizing the topics and speakers, but tentative plans for the day and one half meeting include a combination of plenary sessions and breakout sessions for nuclear medicine physicians, technologists and students. This will be the Missouri Valley annual meeting so it will also include presentations from the SNM and SNMTS.

Governance Day for the Central Chapter will be Friday, October 1st from 11:00 am to 9:30 pm. This will be a unique opportunity to enjoy top notch education in a venue that is relatively new to the Chapter. We look forward to seeing you there.



SNM ERF and SNMTS Establish Sue Weiss Clinical Advancement Scholarship. By Teri Pinkham, Executive Director SNM Education and Research Foundation



Susan C. Weiss,
CNMT, FSNMTS

When Sue Weiss died of pancreatic cancer in July, 2009, we lost a talented and distinguished Nuclear Medicine Technologist and cherished friend. Her career in Nuclear Medicine spanned forty-four extraordinary years. To simply list the highlights of her career cannot do justice to the person that she was and the qualities of her life go well beyond her

professional Curriculum Vitae. The significance of her contributions to Pediatric Nuclear

Medicine and to the Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologist Section (SNMTS) is immeasurable.

In dedication to her wonderful life and in tribute to her many contributions to the Central Chapter, Nuclear Medicine and especially the SNM's Education and Research Foundation (ERF), the SNMTS has created the Sue Weiss Clinical Advancement Scholarship. The fund will provide individual \$500.00 tuition assistance grants to Nuclear Medicine Technologists to enroll in didactic educational programs to enhance their ability to multi-task in their technologist profession and advance their career paths.

SNMTS

Advancing Molecular Imaging and Therapy

Advancement Scholarship continued...

Jim Conway, MD is spearheading a fundraising campaign to support the Sue Weiss awards program. It is his intention to make this a permanently named fund as a tribute to Sue. In order to accomplish this goal, Dr. Conway and the ERF want to raise a minimum of \$100,000.00 this fiscal year. If this campaign is successful, the investments from the gifts made will also be used to directly support other future SMNTS grants, awards and scholarships in Sue's name.

The Central Chapter has committed \$3,000 to the Sue Weiss Scholarship Fund so far and the Central Chapter Technologist Section has contributed an additional \$2,000, bringing the total so far for the Chapter to \$5,000. They left open the option to contribute additional funds next year.

In his letter of thanks, Doctor Conway said, "I'm proud of the success we've had so far raising money for scholarships of which Sue would be so proud. I know she would have been touched by your generosity."

Sue's devotion to Nuclear Medicine was far reaching. Sue was the first woman to be elected as a SNMNTS president. In 1978, Sue was a founding member of the Nuclear Medicine Technologist Certification Board (NMTCB) and a strong proponent to establish Nuclear Medicine Technology as a recognized medical profession. She served the Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology (JNMT) for many years and was chosen as its editor from 1989 to 1994. Sue was the first woman and Nuclear Medicine Technologist to be elected as president of the Central Chapter of the SNM and she served on its Board of Directors for over 20 years. Sue served on the Joint Review Committee for Nuclear Medicine Technology (JRCNMT) for 8 years in the 1990's and participated as a Nuclear Medicine Technology training program reviewer for over 20 years. As such, she influenced the training of thousands of Nuclear Medicine Technologists. And for many years, Sue directed the program of the Associated Sciences Consortium of the Radiological Society of North America. The SNMNTS also selected Sue to represent Nuclear Medicine Technologists as their delegate to the Constitutional Convention of the National Commission for Health Certifying Agencies (NCHCA), a post that she served in from 1978 to 1984 and she became the Speaker of its General Assembly in 1981.

Sue was appointed to the Education and Research Foundation of the Society of Nuclear Medicine (ERF) in 1979, and was elected by the ERF Board of Directors to be the first technologist and woman to serve as its President from 1988 to 1990. She was subsequently appointed to be the ERF's Administrative Director in 1994 and then its Executive Director in 1999, a post that she served in for 10 years. Her heart was always with the ERF and her thousands of hours of volunteer work for the ERF was best defined by her as "a labor of love." For that, the SNMNTS and the ERF are quite simply, much more extraordinary as the result of her influence, passion and life-long dedication.

Sue Weiss will always be an influential part of Pediatric Nuclear Medicine's history and Nuclear Medicine Technology's emergence as a recognized medical profession. She was an inspiration to everyone with whom she came in contact. Countless technologists and physician trainees recount their good fortune in having had the opportunity to be professionally associated with her and to be the beneficiaries of her leadership.

If you have any questions, or, if you want to learn more about this important project, please feel free to call me, as I have assumed Sue's position as Executive Director of the ERF at 301-861-9855 or communicate by email at tpink-ham.erf@gmail.com about the Sue Weiss SNMNTS awards program.

We encourage you to contribute to the Sue Weiss Fund.

Froelich and Bennet Elected to Board of Governors – Sajdak to become Secretary-Treasurer

In balloting that ended on March 5th, Jerry W. Froelich from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis and Kenneth G. (KG) Bennet from Elmhurst Memorial Hospital and University of Illinois at Chicago defeated two other candidates to serve on the Central Chapter's Board of Governors. Following the CCSNM Annual Spring Meeting, March 25-28 in Fort Wayne Indiana, Doctor Froelich will begin serving a full three-year term on the Board of Governors after completing a one-year interim term to fulfill the unexpired term of Rick V. Hay, MD who was elevated to Vice President and Program Committee Chair.

KG Bennet has been involved with the Central Chapter since he was a resident. He is currently a member of the Program Committee. Doctor Bennet will also start a three-year term in the Board of Governors following the CCSNM Annual Meeting.

In other action, Rebecca A. Sajdak, BA, CNMT, RT was selected to become the Secretary-Treasurer of the Chapter. A past president of the Central Chapter Technologist Section and a current member of the Board of Governors representing the Technologist Section, Ms. Sajdak will become only the second technologist to serve as an officer of the Chapter, the first being Sue Weiss who served through the officer chairs to become President in 2005. Secretary-Treasurer is a two year term with the second year also gaining the title of President-Elect.

Michael A. Wilson, MD from the University of Wisconsin in Madison will become Chapter President, replacing Davide Bova, MD from Loyola University Medical Center, who will be finishing his term after the CCSNM Spring Meeting. Doctor Wilson served two years as the Secretary-Treasurer.

Rick V. Hay, MD from Grand Rapids, Michigan will be completing his first year of a two year term as Vice President and will take on the addition duties of President-Elect.

A full listing of the Central Chapter Board of Governors can be found at www.ccsnm.org.

SNM

Advancing Molecular Imaging and Therapy

Technologist Section News

Editors: Edward Melvin, NMTCB, Mary Tichelaar-Goddard, CNMT and Teresa Taggart, CNMT

CCSNM-TS President's Message

Message from the CCSNM-TS President

**Nancy McDonald, BS, CNMT
President**

Central Chapter Technologist Section



Nancy McDonald, BS,
CNMT

The Jan/Feb issue of the newsletter is usually filled with many articles from TS-Presidents reminiscing the previous year and is usually written with great excitement and joy. Along with the excitement of many new advances in molecular medicine, new research funded programs, and the development of the Clinical Trials Network, the year 2010 comes with many opportunities and challenges. This past year has brought with it many difficulties in which we have never been faced, leaving us with many challenges to overcome.

Many events occurred last year both nationally and internationally that have had a significant impact on nuclear medicine. As we all know, North America's main source of ^{99}Mo supply comes from the reactor in Chalk River, Ontario and has been shut down since last May and is not expected to be working again until at least April. The reactor in the Netherlands that has been supplementing this source of ^{99}Mo will also shut down for six months of maintenance causing a greater concern for nuclear medicine departments to continue their work flow and patient care responsibilities. Nuclear medicine departments have been managing by flexing schedules and procedures. To adjust for the looming shortage, some institutions may be decreasing patient doses, scheduling patients according to when the radiopharmacy receives its greatest supply of ^{99}Mo , flexing technologist work schedules, increasing use of PET protocols for cardiac imaging and using Thallium to perform stress tests. We are hopeful this will be the year to move forward with our own domestic supply. This is a major initiative of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and a coalition of other professionals who are continually working with key advocates, urging Congress and to ensure a domestic supply of ^{99}Mo and develop isotope production facilities.

We will continually be faced with challenges of a depressed economy and its effect on our institutions, nuclear medicine technologists and our patients. With Healthcare Reform and the changes it will impose, we are faced with questions of how it will change our healthcare system, what will it look like and what affects it may have on nuclear medicine reimbursement and our institutions. For more information on these issues and additional recommendations visit the SNM website www.snm.org. The website has up-to-date information on the ^{99}Mo shortage, the latest healthcare reform news, and current CMS rulings.

The Society of Nuclear Medicine Conjoint Mid-Winter Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico this past January, offered exceptional educational content. Technologists were introduced to the newest techniques in fusion imaging, with a focus on patients with epilepsy; gained knowledge about contrast media, what it is, and how it fits into nuclear medicine, and gained an understanding of the legislative and regulatory issues facing nuclear medicine, including USP 797, and Medicare Improvement Providers and Patients Act of 2008

(MIPPA). Technologists also learned about the new standardized protocol for performing gastric emptying and why it is important. If you were not able to attend this meeting, I hope to see you at the SNM 2010 Annual Meeting this June in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 5th -9th offering many new tracks and topics.

I can never end my report without urging you to ask your fellow technologists to become members of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and to get involved with the society that is fighting for your profession daily. How do you start? Become a member of a Central Chapter Committee or an officer. This opportunity provides members with great rewards and insight. Besides attending the fall and spring governance and education meetings, you have the opportunity to network with other professionals within the field. Currently, the Central Chapter of the SNM reimburses the Technologist President, President -Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer for attending the Chapter meetings and for attending the SNM Mid-Winter and Annual Governance Meetings of the Society of Nuclear Medicine. The Governance Meetings are always held the day before the regular education meetings begin. Whether you are on a committee or not, all members are invited to attend these governance meetings. We can only be stronger with your participation and encourage you to advocate for your profession!

Prioritizing for the Isotope Shortage

By Mary Tichelaar-Goddard, CNMT

Tech Section Editor

Presently the Nuclear Medicine field has been experiencing shortages in isotopes that can and will impact our ability to provide services. In anticipation of these shortages, most services are pre-evaluating patients to determine best use of scarcely available doses.

The first step is to prioritize all tests and place them in categories. This is a 3 category system: 1) High (to be seen in 0-10 days), 2) Medium (to be seen in 11-20 days) and 3) Low to be scheduled when availability is not greatly impacted or if cardiac, as a thallium.

The prioritizing requires that the ordering provider (i.e. physician, NP or PA) give as much information as possible. Not all facilities have immediate access to patient history and files. The prioritizing should be made by someone deemed appropriate by that facility or clinic. At our facility, the bulk of our exams are cardiac. We presently have three cardiology Nurse Practitioners that review patient charts and prioritize them based on clinical indicators. We are also calculating a ratio to determine if the patients that are scheduled for stress can be imaged using Thallium instead of Technetium products. The ratio we use is weight in pounds divided by height in inches and multiplied by 12. The resultant number should be less than 40 to image using thallium. Many or most computer software programs are able to gait Thallium and if unsure, contact your equipment manufacturer for capabilities and parameters.

Isotope Shortage continued...

Much of the information used to prioritize are: Risk Factors (Diabetes, Hypertension, Weight, Hyperlipidemia, Smoking, Age, Gender and Ethnicity) and to a lesser degree inactivity, alcohol use and stress. Additional notes might include: pacemakers/AICD, MI, Stents and Angioplasty, CABG and current symptoms. Providers should also be notified that if alternate testing is available without using the isotopes, they should consider using that technology.

Patients that are scheduled should also be notified of the shortage and if they will be unable to attend, they should contact the scheduler so that other patients can be prepped and placed in their vacated appointment.

While these criteria and prioritizing may not be faultless, they are a tool for distribution of scarce product. Remember, how you handle the patients and their providers could impact the future use and opinion of your Nuclear Medicine Department.

Mark Your Calendar for These Upcoming Meetings

CCSNM Annual Spring Meeting

March 26-28, 2010

Governance Meetings on the 25th
Hilton Grand Wayne and Grand Wayne Convention Center
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Registration Now Open on CCSNM Website

SNM Annual Meeting

June 5-9, 2010

Governance Meetings on the 3rd – 5th
Salt Lake City, Utah
Registration Now Open on snm.org

CCSNM Fall Educational Meeting

October 2-3, 2010

Governance Day on the 1st
Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch
St. Louis, Missouri

CCSNM 2010 Fall Road Shows

Dates TBD

Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana,
Michigan and Ohio

CCSNM 2011 Annual Spring Meeting

Tentative: March 25-27, 2011

Governance Day on the 24th
Doubletree Hotel Magnificent Mile
Chicago, Illinois

CCSNM 2011 Fall Educational Symposium

Tentative: October 15-16, 2011

Governance Day on the 14th
Grand Traverse Resort
Traverse City, Michigan

Timpe to Become CCSNMTS President-Elect, Urani to become Treasurer

In balloting that closed on March 5th, James Timpe, MS, RT (N)(MR) from Advocate South Suburban Hospital in Hazel Crest, Illinois was selected to become the President-Elect of the Central Chapter Technologist Section. Timpe is completing a two-year term as Treasurer of the Section. He replaces Aileen M Carey from Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago who will become President after the CCSNM Annual Meeting in Fort Wayne. Ms. Carey replaces Nancy McDonald, BS, CNMT, also from Northwestern, who will be fulfilling her term as President.

In other action, David A. Urani, MBA, CNMT, from Loyola University was elected to a two-year term as Treasurer of the Section. Paul J. Reaume, BS, ARRT, (R,N), CNMT, NCT, from Huron Valley Sinai Hospital-Detroit Medical Center, was selected to a three-year term representing the Technologist Section on the Central Chapter Board of Governors. Thomas Fechner, BS from Gundersen Clinic in LaCrosse, Wisconsin was elected to a four-year term on the Bylaws Committee.

Lisa Riehle, CNMT, from Northwestern will begin her second year of a two-year term as Technologist Section Secretary, and Lyn M. Mehlberg, BS, CNMT, FSNMTS will fill a one-year interim term representing the Central Chapter Technologist Section on the SNMTS National Council of Representatives.

A full listing of the Technologist Section Executive Council can be found at www.ccsnm.org.

Central Chapter News Looking for Writers/Editors

By Edward Melvin, Newsletter Editor



Edward Melvin, NMTCB

Do you have an article in mind, would you like to try your hand at writing one? Do you have a tip to share with your colleagues in the Central Chapter. The Central Chapter is large, from northern Minnesota to southern Ohio. This is a dynamic chapter with many dynamic members. The energy and ability our officers and committee members bring to the table is truly something good to behold.

There are four editors for the newsletter sharing responsibilities for producing three issues a year. Teresa Taggard, CNMT, Mary Tichelaar-Goddard, CNMT and myself are responsible for the Technologist side, Paresh Mahajan, MD watches over the physician side.

Those of us on the publication committee would like your thoughts and ideas. With your help News from throughout the chapter can be collected and presented to all.

If you would like to participate, please contact edward.melvin@osfhealthcare.org or mhedland@bacon-hedland.com.

Thank you.

Clinical Trials Network Rebecca A. Sajdak, BA, CNMT



Rebecca A. Sajdak,
BA, CNMT

I am delighted to write to everyone with news about the Clinical Trials Network (CTN) from the Society of Nuclear Medicine's (SNM) conjoint mid-winter meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Network, initiated in 2009 by the SNM, brought together researchers and industry representatives as well as government and regulatory officials to explore key issues affecting the integration of molecular imaging biomarkers into therapeutic clinical trials.

This year the clinical trials network program was designed to help address all components associated with performance of clinical trials. The goals of clinical trial research are to develop and bring new medicines to market and make them available to patients with minimal delays. This is achieved by standardization and harmonization throughout the world. Many technologists involved in molecular imaging do research, but may have never been formally trained in all aspects of participation in clinical trials. The CTN offered a marvelous breakout session for technologists, organized and spearheaded by LisaAnn Trembath (Central Chapter). Presentations covered the importance of standard operating procedures for clinical trials, quality control specific to research, source documentation, and the importance of following very stringent protocols during clinical research.

This is an exciting branch of molecular imaging where new terminology is entering into the technologists' already extensive vocabulary. Technologists already are familiar with and operate under the supervision of many regulatory agencies and were introduced to a whole new category of research terminology such as the ICH (International Conference on Harmonisation), GCP's (Good Clinical Practices) which provide insight into how to perform great research, and CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) which give detailed directions for clinical trials.

One immensely impressive part of the meeting was to hear personally from all the different parties who play a part in research and delve into it, from their own perspectives. Superb presentations were provided from core labs that collect the research data, sponsors that represent drug companies, regulatory bodies (FDA) that give the final approval of research, technologists who perform the collection of the data, and physicians who are the investigators. It was an enlightening view of reality to see how much work goes into bringing products to market. It takes numerous parties to be particularly aware of all the moving parts during research and clinical trials to achieve the highest quality and success. There is a great need for technologists to know that they are responsible for the initial data collection in imaging and are the first link in the chain. All participants must excel at both accuracy and precision, the key tools to great research.

The SNM website will be offering webinars and continuing education so technologists can become the best they can be. So stay tuned into www.snm.org for all of the resources you will need to become a great research technologist.

2010 Fall Road Shows to feature "Surviving the Shortage"

The Central Chapter Continuing Education Committee chaired by Cynae Derosé and co-chaired by Antonella Guardiola of Northwestern Memorial Hospital is scheduling a series of six Road Shows in 2010 with the title of Surviving the Shortage. The Road Shows will be held in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. The topics and learning objectives are as follows:

Course Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this program, attendees should be able to:

- Discuss marketing strategies for your Nuclear Medicine Department
- Identify efficiencies of SPECT/CT
- Describe the basic principles and benefits of F-18 Bone Imaging
- Discuss the basic principles of USP 797

Individual Learning Objectives

8:00 -9:00 am- **Marketing Your Nuclear Medicine Department**

At the conclusion of this session, attendees should be able to:

- Identify departmental challenges of Nuclear Medicine
- Identify concepts to strengthen the Nuclear Medicine Department
- Discuss marketing strategies

9:00 -10:00 am- **SPECT/CT Efficiency**

At the conclusion of this session, attendees should be able to:

- Identify departmental benefits of SPECT/CT
- Discuss methodologies by which SPECT/CT is utilized to increase productivity
- Identify how to increase image quality with SPECT/CT

10:00 -11:00am- **F-18 Bone Imaging**

At the conclusion of this session, attendees should be able to:

- Describe the concept and basic principles of F-18 bone imaging
- Identify the benefits of F-18 bone imaging
- Discuss reimbursement for F-18 bone imaging

11:00 -12:00 pm- **USP 797**

At the conclusion of this session, attendees should be able to:

- Discuss the basic principles of USP 797
- Discuss departmental strategies for USP 797
- Identify and discuss aseptic techniques

Watch your emails and the CCSNM Website for updated information.

CCSNM
475 S. Frontage Road, Ste. 101
Burr Ridge, IL 60527-6282
Web Site: www.CCSNM.org

*Plan to attend the
2010 Joint Meeting of the
Central Chapter and
Missouri Valley Chapter
Society of Nuclear Medicine*

October 2-3, 2010

Hyatt Regency at the Arch
St. Louis, MO

*Plan to attend the
2010 CCSNM Spring Meeting*

March 26-28, 2010

Hilton Grand Wayne and Grand
Wayne Convention Center
Fort Wayne, IN