Daniel T. Guarasci, MS, CNMT, PharmD, a clinical assistant professor of nuclear medicine with the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo, was named the 2006 SNMTS Outstanding Educator on June 6 at the 53rd annual meeting of the SNM in San Diego, CA. He was praised for his dedication to teaching and for bringing his varied experience as a certified nuclear medicine technologist, a licensed pharmacist, and a licensed medical/health physicist to the clinical and classroom educational environments.

“Daniel Guarasci has a special talent that sets him apart from other educators,” said SNMTS President Valerie R. Cronin, CNMT. “He translates complex information into the understandable, whether he’s teaching nuclear medicine technology students or residents or pharmacy students. An excellent communicator, he positively influences nuclear medicine technology students, as evidenced by the large number of candidates who seek work experience under his supervision.”

“I am very happy to receive the SNMTS Outstanding Educator Award,” said Guarasci, who also serves as a clinical instructor for the Department of Medical Technology with the School of Health Related Professions at SUNY at Buffalo and as executive director and vice president of Central Radiopharmaceutical Services at SUNY.

“I have been involved in academia for 18 years in the nuclear medicine department at SUNY in Buffalo, and I have enjoyed the journey since day 1. It is quite gratifying to be recognized by the SNMTS, and I appreciate the support and acknowledgement,” he added.

Guarasci teaches courses in radiopharmacy, nuclear medicine instrumentation techniques, radiation safety and biology, and clinical nuclear medicine. He participates in his institution’s continuing education preceptorship training course for nuclear medicine technologists in PET and in basic science courses and didactic lectures for nuclear medicine residents. He previously served as assistant and junior medical physicist/health physicist in the nuclear medicine department at SUNY, as a certified nuclear medicine technologist at Millard Fillmore Hospital, and as a senior radiopharmaceutical technologist with Central Radiopharmaceutical Services, all in Buffalo.

Guarasci earned a doctorate in pharmacy, a master of science degree in radiation biology, and bachelor of science degrees in pharmacy and in nuclear medicine, all from SUNY at Buffalo. He is certified by the American Board of Science in Nuclear Medicine (ABSNM), the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties, and the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board. An SNMTS member since 1987, he is vice president of the ABSNM.

On receiving the award Guarasci said, “I want to thank several individuals for their support during my career, including Hani Nabi, chair of the nuclear medicine department at the University at Buffalo; Robert Ackerhalt, vice chair of nuclear medicine department at the University of Buffalo; and the numerous students who have come through our department at University at Buffalo—without you this award would not be possible.” Guarasci, who has co-authored several articles and numerous presentations, received $750 and a plaque in recognition of his achievements. The Education and Research Foundation for SNM provided funding for this award.
Guarasci Named SNMTS Outstanding Educator

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