

New Officers for SNMMI and SNMMI-TS

During the 2020 SNMMI Annual Meeting, from July 11 to 14, both the SNMMI and SNMMI Technologist Section (SNMMI-TS) welcomed new officers. Elected at earlier meetings by the members of the 2 organizations, the new officers will serve in these positions through June 2021.

SNMMI President

Alan Packard, PhD, became the 2020–2021 SNMMI president, succeeding Vasken Dilsizian, MD. Packard is an associate professor of radiology at the Harvard Medical School (Boston, MA) and the director of radiopharmaceutical research and a senior research associate in nuclear medicine at Boston Children's Hospital. "This is a very exciting time for the field of nuclear medicine, and, as president of SNMMI, I look forward to working with my fellow members to build upon recent breakthroughs in the field, especially in the area of theranostics, and to demonstrating the value of nuclear medicine to those outside our field," he said.



Alan Packard, PhD

His overall goal for the coming year is to enhance the value of SNMMI membership. He will accomplish this by working to enhance the society's core member benefits—the SNMMI Annual Meeting, continuing education, and *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*—and by strengthening the society and nuclear medicine more broadly through the SNMMI Value Initiative, SNMMI's strategic vision for working with industry and other partners to demonstrate the crucial role of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging to the medical community, regulators, patients, and the public.

Packard has a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of New Hampshire (Durham) and a PhD in inorganic chemistry from Colorado State University (Fort Collins). His laboratory at Boston Children's Hospital is engaged in development of radiolabeled proteins for multiple applications, including cancer imaging and therapy, and ^{18}F -labeled small molecules for myocardial perfusion imaging. The focus of the cancer program is on developing ^{64}Cu - and ^{89}Zr -labeled antibodies to noninvasively evaluate disease status, as well as on developing antibodies labeled with therapeutic radionuclides, such as ^{177}Lu and ^{67}Cu .

Packard has authored more than 70 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on topics ranging from pediatric nuclear medicine and new procedures in nuclear medicine to the application of nanoparticles in medical imaging. He is a regular lecturer and invited speaker at conferences across the United States and around the world. He is a reviewer for a range of major journals and is on the advisory board for *Molecular and Cellular Therapies*.

A longtime SNMMI member, Packard has served on the society's Board of Directors. He is currently chair of the Education Committee and has chaired and served on many committees and task forces in past years. He is a member of the society's Radiopharmaceutical Science Council and Center for Molecular Imaging, Innovation, and Translation. He is also an active member of the American Chemical Society and the Society of Radiopharmaceutical Sciences.

"SNMMI's strength comes from its breadth of membership, with physicians, scientists, and technologists working together to advance nuclear medicine and molecular imaging in order to provide patients with the best possible care," Packard said, noting that the society will build on these strengths in the coming year.

SNMMI President-Elect

Richard L. Wahl, MD, assumed the office of 2020–2021 SNMMI president-elect. He is the Elizabeth E. Mallinckrodt Professor and head of radiology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis (MO), director of the university's Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, and a professor of radiation oncology. "Nuclear medicine is undergoing a renaissance as a precision medicine specialty, with new radiopharmaceuticals, theranostics, and instrumentation to elucidate biology and benefit patients," Wahl said. In his years in office, he plans to focus on access to and advocacy for nuclear medicine, on enhancing the diversity and number of professionals working in nuclear medicine, and on discovery and innovation.



Richard L. Wahl, MD

After graduating from Washington University School of Medicine and completing his residency there, Wahl interned at the University of California at San Diego School of Medicine. He returned to Washington University in 1979 for training in diagnostic radiology and nuclear medicine. He accepted his first faculty appointment at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) in 1983 and moved to Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD) in 2000, where he was the Henry N. Wagner Jr., MD, professor and director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine; vice chair for technology and new business development in the Russell H. Morgan Department of Radiology and Radiological Sciences; and professor of oncology. He accepted his current appointment at Washington University in 2014.

Wahl has been an active SNMMI member and currently serves as chair of the Research and Discovery domain for the society's Value Initiative. He has served on the editorial board of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine* for many years. Wahl is an elected member of the American Society for

Clinical Investigation, the American Association of Physicians, and the National Academy of Medicine and has received honors from multiple organizations. He holds 18 patents and has published more than 460 peer-reviewed scientific articles. He is the primary author of several textbooks, including *Principles and Practice of PET and PET/CT*. He maintains a strong interest in quantitative imaging and is on the coordinating committee of the Quantitative Imaging Biomarkers Alliance efforts of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) and has been a lead investigator in the Quantitative Imaging Network of the National Institutes of Health.

His awards include a U.S. Department of Energy Achievement Award; the de Hevesy, Tetalman, Berson, and Yalow awards and 2 Alavi-Mandel awards from SNMMI; and the Academy of Molecular Imaging's Distinguished Scientist Award. He has given many named lectures throughout the world, including the Eugene P. Pendergrass New Horizons Lecture at the RSNA annual meeting and the Marie Curie Lecture at the European Association of Nuclear Medicine annual meeting.

SNMMI Vice President-Elect

Munir Ghesani, MD, associate professor of radiology at Mount Sinai Hospital and chief of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging at Mount Sinai Health Enterprise (New York, NY), was named as SNMMI vice president-elect. He reported that his goals in this position include working to streamline approval of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging agents and technologies; advancing and promoting education, quality, value, and safety; and fostering the availability and clinical utilization of nuclear medicine. Among these goals he has targeted creation of a clear Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process, development of quality measures for reporting and appropriate use criteria, and establishment of a sustainable domestic isotope supply supplemented by uninterrupted international imports. Ghesani noted that collaborations are key for achieving these goals. "Throughout my various roles at SNMMI, I have seen the value of effective collaborations," he said. "By working together with physicians, technologists, scientists, government agencies, and other national and international societies, we have made great progress in advancing the field of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging."



Munir Ghesani, MD

Ghesani earned his medical degree from Gujarat University, NHL Medical College (Ahmedabad, India) in 1984. He completed a diagnostic radiology residency in 1988 at the KM School of Postgraduate Medicine and Research, followed by a diagnostic ultrasound fellowship in 1989 at LG

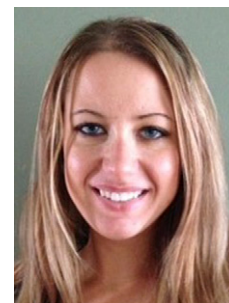
Hospital and KM School of Postgraduate Medicine and Research, also in Ahmedabad. In 1993, he completed an internal medicine residency at Jersey City Medical Center (NJ) and, in 1996, a nuclear medicine residency and fellowship at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center (New York, NY), where he also went on to radiology residency. He has held academic appointments in New York City at the New York University School of Medicine, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and Columbia University.

Within SNMMI, Ghesani has been an active member of the society's governance, with a strong focus on advocacy. He has served as chair of the SNMMI Government Relations Committee and the SNMMI/FDA Task Force, as well as Advocacy Domain chair for the SNMMI Value Initiative. He was a cochair of the SNMMI Membership Task Force and a member of the SNMMI Board of Directors. He has also held multiple leadership positions in the Greater New York Chapter of SNMMI, most recently as president.

In the larger nuclear medicine community, Ghesani has served as chair and director of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine and as president of the American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM). Earlier this year, he won the ACNM Personal Best Mentor of the Year award. He has published 88 peer-reviewed journal articles and a text, *Nuclear Medicine: A Case-Based Approach*.

SNMMI-TS President

Tina M. Buehner, MS, CNMT, NMTCB(CT)(RS), RT(N)(CT), was named 2020-2021 president of the SNMMI-TS. Buehner is a health physicist specialist at Rush University Medical Center (Chicago, IL). "As SNMMI-TS president, my goal is to promote clinical excellence by working closely with leadership to continue to develop, translate, and communicate standards for quality in clinical practice, as well as ensuring that technologists have pathways to obtain the skill set necessary to perform the tasks required of them," she said. "There is always room to enhance communications, educational offerings, advocacy, and research support. In the rapidly evolving field of nuclear medicine, I also firmly believe in sharing knowledge and working together with related societies and the international community to bring patients state-of-the-art imaging and precision therapies."



Tina M. Buehner, MS, CNMT, NMTCB(CT)(RS), RT(N)(CT)

Buehner has almost 20 years of experience as a nuclear medicine technologist. She completed her AAS in nuclear medicine technology at Triton College (River Grove, IL), followed by a bachelor's degree in health arts and a master's degree in health services administration at the University of St. Francis (Joliet, IL). She is currently in the health

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We remember Gerd fondly for his scientific accomplishments, his vision, leadership, and mentorship—and as a person dedicated to the betterment of all who had the pleasure of knowing him professionally and socially. It is with great admiration for his contributions to nuclear medicine and PET and for the legacy he leaves in the form of advances in the field, that we remember Gerd

and cherish his memory together with the nuclear medicine community.

Joel Karp, PhD

David Mankoff, MD, PhD

*Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA*

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sciences PhD program at Rush University and is working through Loyola University Medical Center (Chicago) on a research project evaluating ^{18}F -fluciclovine in gynecologic cancers. She previously worked as manager of the nuclear medicine/nuclear cardiology at Loyola University Health System's Gottlieb Memorial Hospital (Melrose Park, IL) for 5 years and as a staff technologist and clinical educator at Northwestern Memorial Hospital (Chicago) for 14 years before taking her current position.

Currently a director-at-large on the SNMMI Board of Directors, Buehner has also served as a delegate in the SNMMI House of Delegates since 2011, on the SNMMI-TS National Council of Representatives since 2011, and on the SNMMI-TS Awards, Grants, and Scholarships Committee since 2010. She is active within the Central Chapter of SNMMI and served as chair of the Membership and Programs committees, on the technologist Educator's Task Force, and as technologist chapter president from 2014 to 2016. Outside of SNMMI, she has served on the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) since 2015 and was the SNMMI-TS representative to the Associated Sciences Committee for the RSNA in 2016 and 2017.

Buehner was named a fellow of SNMMI-TS in 2015. She was accepted to and completed the SNM/IBA Leadership Academy in 2010. She won the Northwestern Memorial Hospital's Employee Excellence Award in 2010 and the SNM Paul Cole Scholarship in 2001.

SNMMI-TS President-Elect

Dusty M. York, MAEd, CNMT, PET, ARRT(N)(CT), associate professor and clinical coordinator of the nuclear medicine program at Chattanooga State Community College (TN), was elected as the 2020–2021 SNMMI-TS president-elect. “As a nuclear medicine and molecular imaging educator, I am committed to promoting the field and am excited to represent the members of the SNMMI-TS as president-elect,” noted York. “I would like the SNMMI-TS to be

the first place technologists look for continuing education, patient resources, and advocacy support. In this ever-changing world, we will continue to make every effort to meet our members' needs.”

York studied nuclear medicine at the Medical College of Georgia (Augusta) and later earned a master's degree in education from Tusculum College (Greenville, TN). She began her career as a staff technologist at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga and has been in her current position at Chattanooga State Community College since 2003.

An active member of the SNMMI-TS, York currently serves on the SNMMI Board of Directors, House of Delegates, and Committee on Women in Nuclear Medicine, as well as the Technologist Section Executive Board, Educators Committee, Grants and Awards Committee, and Professional Development and Education Fund. In the past she has served on and chaired multiple committees across the organization, including the Nuclear Medicine Week Task Force, the Continuing Education Committee, the International Outreach Task Force, and the local Organization Task Force, among others.

York was named the SNMMI-TS Outstanding Educator of the Year in 2017 and was a 2014 graduate of the SNMMI-TS Leadership Academy. Most recently, she was named among Augusta University's Alumni of the Year. She has been a site visitor for the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology since 2005 and has served on various review boards and exam committees. She has also contributed to several books and speaks both locally and nationally on nuclear medicine and molecular imaging.



**Dusty M. York,
MAEd, CNMT, PET,
ARRT(N)(CT)**