

YPC luncheon. This year's awards will include both clinical and basic science categories.

A strong, enthusiastic core leadership has been assembled and our membership continues to grow. I am looking forward to an exciting year and, on behalf

of the YPC, look forward to working with all of you.

*Heather A. Jacene, MD  
Chair, SNM Young Professionals Committee*

## From the Computer and Instrumentation Council

**T**he year 2005 was busy for the SNM Computer and Instrumentation Council (CaIC), with much of the activity revolving around the Annual Meeting of the SNM, held last June in Toronto, Canada. Through the efforts of Tim Turkington, PhD, and David Cooke, MSEE, the council organized a categorical seminar on PET instrumentation that literally had standing room only. A continuing education session on PET/CT acceptance testing and quality control, along with an update on the Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE) initiative activities, was organized by George Zubal, PhD. As in the past, the CaIC sponsored the Young Investigator Symposium, with the award for the best presentation going to Brendan Vastenhouw of the Department of Nuclear Medicine, Image Sciences Institute, University Medical Center, Utrecht, The Netherlands, for his work: "Submillimeter Total-Body Mouse Imaging with U-SPECT I." At the Toronto meeting, the CaIC also inaugurated the Edward Hoffman Memorial award to honor Hoffman's outstanding scientific and service contributions to our field. The first recipient of the award was Simon Cherry, PhD, who gave an excellent talk and highlighted Hoffman's substantial influence on his own career.

The 2006 SNM Mid-Winter Meeting will be held in Tempe, AZ, on February 11–12, and the CaIC is organizing 2 of the sessions. The first will be "Clinical Implementation of Advanced Image Processing and Reconstruction Algorithms" and will feature presentations on commercially available software from both developers and users. Presentations in this session will include:

"Flash 3D, CT Attenuation Compensation and Scatter Correction," Hans Vija, PhD, Siemens Medical Solutions, Molecular Imaging.

"Wide-Beam Reconstruction Method for Shortening Scan Time of Gated Cardiac SPECT Perfusion Studies: A Preliminary Clinical Evaluation," Salvador Borges-Neto, MD, Duke University Medical Center, and Shuli Schwartz, UltraSPECT.

"Evolution: A Framework for Advanced SPECT Reconstruction with Compensation for Image Degrading Factors," Eric Frey, PhD, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions.

"Fast, High-Quality Cardiac SPECT Using Astonish Reconstruction," Richard Meyers, MD, Radiological Associates of Sacramento, and Ling Shao, Philips Medical Systems.

The second session will focus on the new realm of SPECT/CT and will feature presentations by clinical users of each of the products. The program will include:

"Initial Clinical Experience with Siemens Symbia SPECT-CT," by Manuel D. Cerqueira, MD, and Frank DiFlippo, PhD, Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

"Specifications and Applications of an Integrated SPECT/Low-Output CT System: The GE Hawkeye," James A. Patton, PhD, Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

"Initial Clinical Experience with the Philips Precedence SPECT/CT System," Jack A. Ziffer, MD, PhD, Miami Baptist Cardiac and Vascular Institute.

The material presented in these sessions shares the common characteristics of being new, exciting, and ready for prime-time routine implementation in the clinic.

The CaIC remains active in the Digital Imaging and Communication in Medicine (DICOM) and IHE arenas through the tireless efforts of Jerry Wallis, MD. These activities include providing standards for presenting nuclear cardiology results on PACs and for reliable connectivity between different DICOM-compliant systems. This work promises to have both immediate and long-range significance for the nuclear medicine community.

The future plans of the CaIC include the 2006 SNM Annual meeting in San Diego, CA, in June, where we will be offering another categorical seminar and 2 continuing education sessions. The council is also working with Fred Fahey, DSc, to explore the possibility of including an information technology component to the Annual Meeting. Finally, the CaIC is putting together a syllabus summarizing the relevant information on nuclear medicine instrumentation and software with which a qualified expert should be familiar.

*Mark T. Madsen, PhD  
President, SNM Computer and Instrumentation Council*