

ways to more efficiently process membership renewals, e-mail address changes, and other record requests using the new technology.

At SNM headquarters, we will continue our efforts to utilize technology to its fullest to bring our members the most accessible and beneficial features. We also invite you to take advantage of the online learning tools we offer and

engage with the community through social networking sites so that you can stay on the cutting edge of the field and bring nuclear medicine and molecular imaging to the next level of excellence.

*Virginia Pappas, CAE  
SNM Chief Executive Officer*

## From the SNM Molecular Imaging Center of Excellence

**A**s the SNM Bench to Bedside campaign approaches its fifth year, the activities of the Molecular Imaging Center of Excellence (MICoE) are broadening, and plans begun in summer 2006 are bearing fruit. Some of our notable accomplishments in the past year include:

- A comprehensive and very well received survey of PET tracers in use recently completed by the Future Tracers Task Force. This database will be a valuable resource as we push for approval of the many promising radiopharmaceuticals now under investigation.
- Since the launch of the MolecularImagingCenter.com Web site in June 2007, usage has more than quadrupled. The section of the site dedicated to patients and advocates is the most visited, and we have recently added 9 patient fact sheets to that section. Resources for optical and other imaging modalities are being added to the site every week.
- Our Preclinical Imaging Task Force has developed resource materials for a new microsite to address the needs of laboratory professionals and researchers in small animal imaging.
- The MICoE Education Task Force has worked tirelessly to press for changes to the nuclear medicine curriculum that will cover up-and-coming PET tracers as well as non-nuclear molecular imaging agents and instrumentation. We have accumulated a substantial repository of educational resources, posted on our Web site, for programs to pursue molecular imaging topics. We are also developing a scientist's curriculum for graduate study.
- At the 2009 SNM Annual Meeting we sponsored 2 of the most highly attended categorical sessions and 9 continuing education sessions. Molecular imaging is becoming a prevailing theme in every scientific track at the meeting. Two major research grants, funded by the Education and Research Foundation of SNM, and 3 abstract awards, funded by MICoE, were supported to

recognize and support the work of promising young researchers.

- A new webinar series has been taking molecular imaging to physicians, scientists, technologists, and laboratory professionals through interactive educational sessions over the Internet.
- SNM membership categories are being updated and expanded to bring parity to scientists-in-training and lab professionals. A major membership drive is expanding the diversity of SNM membership into molecular imaging modalities that were not imagined when the society was incorporated 58 y ago.
- The MICoE hosted a very well-received symposium on multimodality cardiovascular molecular imaging last May on the National Institutes of Health campus. More than 200 attendees gave the scientific program an outstanding evaluation. An SNM supplement dedicated to this meeting will be published later this year. This year we will host a Molecular Neuroimaging Symposium in the same venue on May 6 and 7. We envision that these symposia will become an annual event.



**Henry VanBrocklin, PhD**

The MICoE was charged with guiding the SNM through the transition from a nuclear medicine society to an organization that welcomed all disciplines involved in the many facets of molecular imaging. SNM now counts optical physicists and nanobiologists among its members, and we believe that the appeal of a strong society that unites all molecular imaging disciplines will grow in the coming years.

*Henry VanBrocklin, PhD  
President MICoE*