Over 900 scientific papers, posters, and exhibits representing the latest developments in nuclear medicine will be presented at the 36th Annual Meeting of The Society of Nuclear Medicine to be held at the Alfonso J. Cervantes Convention Center in St. Louis, Missouri from June 13-16.

Describing some of the trends in abstract submissions for the Meeting, Peter T. Kirchner, MD, director of nuclear medicine, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, the Scientific Program Chairman, said, "We maintained the high levels of submissions that we've had for heart and brain studies, but also we had a substantial increase in oncology/hematology and dramatic increases in radiochemistry, and computers and data analysis."

Michael J. Welch, PhD, professor of radiation chemistry in radiology at the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology at Washington University Medical Center, the General Program Chairman, said, "[this year] the Scientific Program Committee, recognizing that the attendees have differing interests, decided to run the continuing education sessions vertically rather than horizontally" in the schedule "to enable people to attend continuing education sessions at all times" during the meeting.

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The Gateway Arch is the nation's tallest and most elegant memorial. Symbolic of St. Louis as the gateway to the West, Eero Saarinen's soaring arch rose a generation age.

(Courtesy of the St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission.)
(continued from page 572)
Publications Committee. Many of the continuing education sessions, he added, will also be made available in both slide-audiotape and video format. "We always strive to provide programs in A-V format that meet the educational and informational needs of the membership. Generally, if the presentation lends itself to meet these needs and if the presenters are willing to release the copyrights and provide their slides for copying, then we try to use the information for the Audiovisual programs." Dr. Chilton noted that over the past several years video format has become increasingly popular. The programs that are taped will be available sometime in the early fall, he said.

Opening Day

While categorical seminars will be held Monday June 12, the meeting will be formally opened by SNM President Barbara Y. Croft, PhD, on Tuesday June 13, during the plenary session. Author J. Hall, CNMT, President of the Technologist Section, SNM, will recognize Paul Cole, CNMT, as a distinguished honoree of the Technologist Section and will award him the presidential plaque and gavel postumously. Dr. Kirchner will also address the attendees, highlighting some key features of the meeting and describing some of the directions nuclear medicine research is taking.

Gopal Subramanian, PhD, professor of radiology, division of radiological sciences, State University of New York, Health Science Center, Syracuse, will present the Tenth Annual Georg Charles de Hevesy Nuclear Medicine Pioneer Award to John G. McAfee, MD, professor of radiology, director of the division of radiological sciences, SUNY Health Science Center, Syracuse (see pp. 577-578). Dr. McAfee will present The Sixth Annual SNM Lectureship. His topic is "The Recent Expansion in the Development of New Practical Diagnostic Radiopharmaceuticals." The grand opening of the exposition follows the plenary session. Later that day at the SNM business meeting, several other awards will be bestowed. Thomas F. Budinger, MD, director of research medicine and radiation biophysics division, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, Berkeley, California will receive the Paul C. Abersold Award for Outstanding Achievement in Basic Science Applied to Nuclear Medicine (see pp. 576, 578). The Berson-Yalow Award will be given to a team led by Robert C. Stadalnik, MD, professor of radiology, division of nuclear medicine, University of California Davis, Medical Center in Sacramento. At press time, the Education and Research Foundation had not named the recipient of the Ninth Tetalman Memorial Award.

The Program

The program includes scientific papers and continuing education courses on topics such as nuclear cardiology, pediatric nuclear medicine, neurology, hematology, oncology, radiopharmaceuticals, PET and SPECT applications, and computers and instrumentation. Two workshops are scheduled this year, "Basic Scientists Requirements for the Nuclear Medicine of the Future" and "Image Display and Processing in Nuclear Medicine: Applications of the Macintosh II Microcomputer."

A four-day nuclear medicine review course will outline selected topics for American Board of Nuclear Medicine examination candidates as well as practicing nuclear medicine physicians, scientists, and technologists. Six categorical seminars will be held Monday, June 12: "Receptor Binding Radiotracers: Can Changes in Receptor Concentration Be Measured in Vivo?"; "Computers for the Computer Shy"; "Basic Concepts and Clinical Application of PET and SPECT Functional Brain Imaging"; "Nuclear Magnetic Resonance In Vivo Spectroscopy"; "Cardiovascu-


Some 370 poster presentations and 56 scientific exhibits will be displayed throughout the Meeting along with exhibits from over 100 manufacturers of nuclear medicine equipment and radiopharmaceuticals. Representatives from these companies will be available to discuss their products with attendees in detail.

A complete technologist program featuring lectures, workshops, scientific papers, and exhibits is scheduled Tuesday June 14 through Friday June 17 as well. Seminars on Management and Congressional Key Contact Training will take place Monday and Tuesday, June 12 and 13, respectively, and a Recruitment Workshop will be held all day Thursday, June 15. Continuing education and scientific topics to be presented include instrumentation, correlative imaging, magnetic resonance imaging, nuclear cardiology, neurology, pediatrics, gastroenterology, radiochemistry, and radiation safety.

The Society's annual quiz panel presentation of unknown cases will take place Thursday June 15 in the format of the television quiz show, "The College Bowl." The Missouri Valley Chapter, host of this year's meeting, will challenge the Central Chapter to display their expertise of the clinical practice of nuclear medicine. Although the Chapter Bowl pits chapter against chapter, it is an educational event that is open to all members.

In one of the Meeting's highlights, Henry N. Wagner, Jr. MD, professor of medicine, radiation, and environmental health sciences at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, a past president of the Society, will offer his views of the Meeting's scientific highlights, relating today's developments in nuclear medicine to past work and future directions. "Henry Wagner's..." (continued on page 579)
work with that first 15 MeV cyclotron in the physics department have influenced the development of PET.

Dr. Phelps lists three factors precipitating PET's development at Washington University: The radioisotope work being done since the 1940s, probe scanning instruments that he and Drs. Ter-Pogossian and Hoffman had developed, and the development of computed tomography.

The growth in applications of PET in the 1970s led to the installation of a second cyclotron (a 15 MeV proton, four particle machine) in the basement of Barnard Hospital in 1977. In fact, "until about five years ago, Washington University had three cyclotrons making radioisotopes for PET and nuclear medicine," says Dr. Welch. After the decommissioning of the physics department cyclotron in 1983, two cyclotrons remained to furnish radioisotopes for the Institute's four PET scanners. "One of the cyclotrons," Dr. Welch explains, "is used solely as an 18O generator to produce tracers for measuring blood flow, metabolism, and blood volume. The other one produces fluorine-18 and 13C to make more complex radiopharmaceuticals."

In 1987, Mallinckrodt's PET research team received a $7 million grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to support their various radionuclide projects. The grant, originally supporting the 6.2 MeV cyclotron, first installed in Barnard Hospital, is now in its 27th year. Some of the key PET work being done at Washington University Medical Center, according to Dr. Welch, includes studies of normal and abnormal brain function and brain receptors, headed by Marcus Raichle, MD, professor of neurology; heart studies directed by Burton E. Sobel MD, director of the division of cardiology; and studies assessing receptors in tumors.

Elaborating on Dr. Sobel's work, Dr. Ter-Pogossian says, "Dr. Sobel has been pioneering in the utilization of 11C-labeled palmitate in the determination of myocardial fatty acid metabolism and 11C-labeled acetate in the determination of myocardial oxidative metabolism, as well as the use of water labeled with 18O to study myocardial blood flow. Dr. Sobel's group," adds Dr. Ter-Pogossian, "has used PET extensively in assessing the effectiveness of plasminogen activator therapy. [They] have contributed heavily to improving the effectiveness of the use of plasminogen activator in coronary artery disease."

Nuclear medicine professionals in and out of St. Louis acknowledge the accomplishments of the City's institutions and researchers. Richard A. Holmes, MD, president-elect of The Society of Nuclear Medicine and chief of the nuclear medicine section, department of radiology, University of Missouri Hospital and Clinics, in Columbia, 120 miles away, says, "Washington University and St. Louis University have had tremendous impacts on nuclear medicine." Says Dr. Welch, "In various areas of conventional nuclear medicine and PET, St. Louis has been a leader."

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References

