
SNM COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE RELOCATION OF NATIONAL OFFICE

Richard Holmes, MD, President of The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM), has established an *ad hoc* Committee of Business Advisors to consider the possible relocation of the SNM National Office from its present Madison Avenue address. Dr. Holmes' initiative was prompted by concerns among the membership regarding the relatively high costs associated with the New York site, including premium rent, labor costs, strong competition for the New York City skilled labor pool, and very high charges for area hotel rooms for those members of the Society whose activities require overnight stays in Manhattan.

Each Chapter to Nominate a Location

As part of the site selection process, each SNM regional chapter's Executive Committee will propose its best site for potential relocation of the National Office. The Business Advisors Committee will entertain those recommendations along with the locations developed by the Committee members themselves.

A secondary series of observations regarding the internal operations of the New York office also prompted a number of membership concerns. However, the new leadership of Torry Mark Sansone already has placed a strong emphasis on membership satisfaction. Sansone and key staff members within the New York Office are at work re-organizing the SNM staff internally and achieving greater responsiveness to the needs of membership. Indeed, comments of higher levels of satisfaction were heard at the mid-winter meeting in Los Angeles, California. Mr. Sansone points out that the Society has many loyal, hard-working, and competent staff members, who it values and who carry with them both experience and an historical perspective of the Society.

Multiple Criteria to Be Considered

The Committee has developed criteria for assessing sites

of relocation. The criteria do not preclude the present location or other sites in the New York City region. These criteria include, but are not limited to, the following: accessibility to the membership, ideally within 30 minutes of a major airline hub; a moderate cost of living for employees; desirability of geographic location, for example, mid-continental versus coastal; and accessibility to other professional organizations, to federal regulatory agencies, and to printing houses.

Also included as criteria are related costs, including leasing or construction costs, should the Society choose to build; costs associated with relocation, including relocation expenses for the staff and other costs associated with employee turnover; and the size of the office space to be leased, to be determined by a five year projection of the Society's staffing needs being developed by the SNM Executive Director. This will also affect the ultimate decision of leasing or owning the office space.

The current lease runs until 1995, which provides optimal time to collect the data and plan for any proposed changes. The Committee will also evaluate the costs associated with terminating or subletting our existing lease, with the aid of a consultant to be chosen. In 1991, the Committee hopes to be in a position to make recommendations to the Executive Committee for its consideration.

Business Advisors Committee Members

Leon S. Malmud, MD, chairs the Business Advisors Committee, which is composed of two subcommittees; Robert Donati, MD, chairs the "relocation" subcommittee, whose members include M. Donald Blaufox, MD, David L. Gilday, MD, John L. Kuranz, PhD, Myron L. Lecklitner, MD, Michael D. Loberg, PhD, Leonard Lopez, RNMT, and F. David Rollo, MD, PhD. Thomas Haynie, MD, chairs the "lease versus own" subcommittee, whose other members are Paul J. Early, BS, Gerald S. Freedman, MD, Alan R. Fritzberg, PhD, Hirsch Handmaker, MD, and Malcolm Powell, MD. ■