

**SNM 37th Annual Meeting**

**MEETING IN THE NATION'S  
CAPITAL WILL FEATURE INCREASED  
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, NEW SCIENCE,  
AND REGULATORY ACCENTS**

**T**aking advantage of the Washington, DC location of The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) Annual Meeting this year, the Scientific and General Program Committees have developed a program highlighted by presentations on government and regulatory issues as well as a strong educational scientific program encompassing the gamut of research and clinical topics studied and practiced today.

The Meeting, which will be held at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC from June 19-22, 1990, will feature education and science and will also include mock Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspections, reviews of the regulations governing the practice of nuclear medicine, and tours of the exhibit hall for members of Congress and representatives from various government agencies.

**Plenary Session**

During the plenary session on Tuesday, June 19, Niels A. Lassen, MD, PhD, chief of the laboratory of the Clinical Hospital, Bispebjerg Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark, will be awarded the Georg Charles de Hevesy Nuclear Medicine Pioneer Award for his efforts over the past 35 years to study blood flow in the brain, heart, kidney, and peripheral tissues through his innovative radio-tracer methods (see p. 28A). Dr.



*U.S. SUPREME COURT—The judiciary branch of the American Government is based in Washington, DC's famed marble-columned building across from the Capitol. (Photo provided courtesy of Washington, DC Convention and Visitor's Bureau.)*

Lassen's friend and colleague, Marcus E. Raichle, MD, professor of neurology, radiology (radiation sciences), and biomedical engineering at Washington University Medical Center in St. Louis, Missouri, will present the Award. The Seventh Annual SNM Lectureship, will be given by Andrew Todd-Pokropek, PhD, reader in medical physics at University College in London, England, who will discuss single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) instrumentation. The SNM Lectureship

will conclude the plenary session, at which time the exhibit hall will officially open.

**Science and Education**

As in the past, the Program Committee will place a major focus on new science and education. Scientific Program Chairman Peter T. Kirchner, MD, told *Newsline*, "The emphasis this year will be continuing medical education." Stressing the importance of continuing education (CE), the

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Scientific Program Committee has enlarged the Continuing Medical Education Program to include two simultaneous CE presentations during each session. Dr. Kirchner notes, "There are four vehicles for continuing education — the Categorical Seminars, the two simultaneous CE tracks, the Nuclear Medicine Review Course, and the scientific exhibits."

As part of the CE sessions on radiation safety, NRC mock inspections will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 19 and 20. James E. Carey, MS, assistant professor of physics at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, will lead the audience and a panel through an inspection of mock facilities confronting various regulatory issues along the way. The audience will be asked to assess whether the mock facility is in compliance with existing NRC regulations. A panel comprised of a physician, a physicist, a technologist, and an NRC staff member will discuss how the facility is or is not in compliance. Mr. Carey says that this "interactive" approach should make the session more interesting.

Another CE session highlighted in the Program is the annual Chapter College Bowl, a quiz panel session of unknown cases that is modeled after the television quiz show, "The College Bowl." The Midwestern Chapter challenges the Central Chapter to display their expertise in clinical nuclear medicine. This humorous and educational event will be held on Thursday afternoon, June 21.

Sponsored by the Society along with various Councils, the Categorical Seminars provide an in-depth review of selected areas within nuclear medicine. The following Categorical Seminars will be held Monday, June 18, before the official start of the Annual Meeting and during the SNM Board of Trustees Meeting: Clinical Applications of PET and SPECT Functional Brain Imaging for the Practicing

Nuclear Medicine Physician; Cardiovascular Nuclear Medicine; Advances in Clinical Nuclear Medicine: State of the Art of Correlative Imaging SPECT/MRI; Workshop on Absorbed Dose Calculations Using the MIRD Method; Pediatric Nuclear Medicine; and The Aberrant Cell: Implications for Radiopharmaceutical Design. The Technologist Section Program for Monday features a seminar on The Fundamentals of Department Financial Management.

The annual Nuclear Medicine Review Course, which will take place Tuesday, June 19 through Friday, June 22, will include topics traditionally reviewed by candidates for certification and recertification. The topics to be presented include a review of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine certification and recertification processes, a review of the rules and regulations governing the practice of nuclear medicine, an overview of the impact of medical economics, as well as discussions on quality assurance, nuclear accident management, bone, pulmonary, thyroid, and renal imaging, in vitro and non-imaging procedures, and therapy.

In addition to the various avenues of continuing education, the Program will include over 1000 presentations of original work in the form of oral papers, posters, and scientific exhibits. The areas to be discussed range from nuclear cardiology, neurology, gastroenterology, oncology, immunology, and pulmonary, bone, and renal imaging to radiopharmaceutical chemistry and instrumentation and also include specific work with positron emission tomography and SPECT.

The Technologist Section Program features scientific papers and other presentations on oncology, immunology, hematology, cardiology, neurology, bone imaging, pulmonary imaging, pediatric nuclear medicine, radioimmunoassay, monoclonal antibodies, radiopharmaceuticals, and other areas.

## BEIR V Minisymposium

To help members interpret the Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation (BEIR) Report V released by the National Academy of Sciences in December 1989 (see *Newsline*, April 1990, p. 13A), the Program Committee has scheduled a minisymposium on the Report for Tuesday afternoon. A. Bertrand Brill, MD, PhD, director of research, professor of nuclear medicine, department of nuclear medicine, University of Massachusetts, Worcester, will moderate the symposium featuring David Hoel, PhD, director of the biometry and risk analysis division at the National Institute for Environmental Health Science in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, a member of the BEIR V Committee, who will discuss cancer data and risk estimates in an overview including BEIR III versus BEIR V; Jacob I. Fabrikant, MD, PhD, professor of radiology at the University of California, Berkeley, also a BEIR V Committee member, who will discuss thyroid cancer data and risk estimates, comparing BEIR III and BEIR V; and Robert W. Miller, MD, chief of the clinical epidemiology branch at the National Cancer Institute, in Bethesda, Maryland, who will discuss risk estimates of in utero effects and mental retardation. After the presentations, there will be a question and answer period with panel members S. James Adelstein, MD, PhD, who is Paul C. Cabot Professor of Medical Biophysics, Harvard Medical School, and Eugene L. Saenger, MD, Professor Emeritus of Radiology, Director Emeritus of the Eugene L. Saenger Radioisotope Laboratory, University of Cincinnati, in Ohio. Dr. Brill, who is chairman of the Society's Committee on the Radiobiologic Effects of Ionizing Radiation, says that the symposium is designed to "put BEIR V in perspective. . . the risk [from most radiation exposures] is still much less than the risk of most things that

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physiology students. A broader understanding of tracer kinetics may... provide a stimulus toward a wider application and the development of diagnostic tests related to regional physiology. This knowledge is prerequisite to realizing the potential of cyclotrons and emission computed tomography since their application requires a thorough understanding of the tracer method." Dr. Potchen hailed Dr. Lassen as a "major authority on the application of tracer kinetics" and noted that this textbook provides a clear "understanding of an intellectual discipline that has now become a cornerstone of both medical

physiology and applied nuclear medicine."

According to Dr. Marcus Raichle, Dr. Lassen is a man with diverse interests and his intellectual pursuits have not been restricted to the confines of the laboratory. As an example, Dr. Raichle cited Dr. Lassen's involvement in a study of high-altitude physiology. "Dr. Lassen and a British investigative team conducted studies on people afflicted with diseases living in mountain areas of the Alps and the Andes," says Dr. Raichle. "This unusual opportunity provided further insight into the regulation of brain blood flow and its relation to the oxygen-poor air of high altitudes." Dr. Raichle adds that

the main body of Dr. Lassen's career achievements have "influenced an entire generation of researchers and investigators of brain disease."

Adds Dr. Kety, "Dr. Lassen's primary contributions are in the physiology of cerebral vascular disease. He developed physiological principles extracted from mathematical equations."

In acceptance of the Award, Dr. Lassen says, "I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to the nuclear medicine community for giving me this honor. I am very pleased to be recognized for my efforts by my friends, peers, and colleagues of many years."

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people do without thinking twice."

#### Government Relations Efforts

As part of its government relations efforts during the Meeting, the Society will conduct a "guest host program," in which SNM members will conduct tours of the exhibit hall for representatives from key Congressional committees and government agencies that work closely with the nuclear medicine community, such as the Food and Drug Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Health Care Financing Administration. The Society also will invite these Congressional and agency representatives to attend selected programs during the Meeting.

In addition, the SNM and American College of Nuclear Physicians Government Relations Office urges members to take full advantage of the Washington location by contacting their Congressional representatives to discuss issues affecting nuclear medicine. Congress will be in session during the Meeting and the Capitol Building is not far from the Conven-

tion Center. If you need help making an appointment with a member of Congress, contact the Washington Office.

#### 'Tour de Force'

In the Meeting's final session, Henry N. Wagner, Jr., MD, professor of medicine, radiation, and environmental health sciences at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, an SNM past president, will summarize his views of the highlights of the Meeting for the 13th consecutive year. (Dr. Wagner's written summary will appear in the August 1990 issue of *Newsline*.) Dr. Kirchner calls this session a "tour de force with a large, loyal following; although it is the Meeting's final session, many members stay to attend it."

Prior to the start of the Meeting, the SNM Committees will gather on Sunday, June 17, and the Board of Trustees will convene on Monday, June 18. During the Board Meeting, outgoing President Richard A. Holmes, MD, chief of the nuclear medicine section, department of radiology, University of Missouri Hospitals and Clinics in Columbia, will

swear in Naomi Alazraki, MD, co-director of the division of nuclear medicine, professor of radiology, Emory University School of Medicine, chief of nuclear medicine, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Atlanta, Georgia, as President of the Society. The other new officers also will be installed during the Board Meeting.

The Technologist Section Committees will meet on Friday, June 15. On Saturday, June 16, the National Council will convene, and President Author J. Hall, CNMT, nuclear medicine manager for Numed, Inc. in Denton, Texas, will swear in Bradley K. Pounds, CNMT, technical director of the department of nuclear medicine at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in Houston, Texas, as President of the SNM Technologist Section. The other Technologist Section officers also will be sworn in during the National Council Meeting.

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