

M E E T I N G M E M O

To: All members and colleagues considering submission of work for presentation at the 1992 Annual Meeting.

From: Scientific Program Committee

Re: **Policies and procedures for the 1992 Scientific Program.**

A meeting as large and complex as that of The Society of Nuclear Medicine poses awesome challenges in its assembly. The diverse needs of a very broad audience must be met within strictly defined time and space boundaries. For a field as dynamic as Nuclear Medicine some needs change noticeably from year to year while other problems linger, seemingly forever. In attempting to meet these demands and also address some long-standing problems, the Scientific Program Committee has implemented some significant changes this year. You should particularly notice the following:

- 1.** There will be no Works-In-Progress submissions this year. All submitted work is due by the deadline of Tuesday, January 7, 1992 (or January 14 for Scientific Exhibits). The reasons for this change are two-fold. First, the quality of Works-In-Progress submissions in recent years has not lived up to the Committee's standards and expectations. Second, there appears to be an adequate mechanism, through Chapter and regional meetings of the Society, to get significant developments before the Nuclear Medicine community in a timely fashion. This is especially true now that proceedings of many such meetings are published.
- 2.** The requirements for Scientific Exhibits have been revised and strengthened. In recent years it had become difficult, indeed impossible, to tell the difference between Exhibits and Posters. For this reason, we will encourage viewboxes, booths, and computer presentations and discourage posters. We will also accept exhibits on computer-aided instruction where exhibitors wish to demonstrate actual hardware and software. Please note also that the application form for Scientific Exhibits is now separate from that for Scientific Papers. Abstracts for Scientific Exhibits will not be published.
- 3.** Poster sessions will be split into two non-overlapping sessions during the first and last half of the meeting. There will also be two designated meet-the-author sessions which should increase access to poster detail for many attendees.
- 4.** The Computer and Instrumentation Council has introduced a Young Investigator Award analogous to the very successful Cardiovascular Young Investigator Award. Those who would like to be considered for either of these awards should note the requirements on the abstract form and check the appropriate box if you are eligible.

In addition to these changes in the program format, the Program Committee also faces the herculean task of reviewing all of the submitted abstracts and assembling the meeting. Your help is solicited to make our work easier and to improve the overall program by adhering to the following guidelines:

- 1.** Please read and follow all of the instructions on the abstract submission form. They are there for a reason.
- 2.** Note the requirements for a signature certifying that the material has not been submitted for publication nor for presentation at another national or

international meeting and certifying that all of the listed authors agree to the submission of the material as presented. These requirements *do not* preclude prior presentation at local and regional meetings, even if the proceedings will be published.

3. Combine material of a similar or related nature into a single submission. You will improve the chances of acceptance by sending in abstracts with more “meat.” The Committee may specifically ask submitters to combine two or more related but minimal abstracts into a single presentation.

4. It is *not* appropriate to submit essentially similar abstracts to different categories. Also, use good judgement in designating categories for your submissions. For example, preliminary trials of a new radiopharmaceutical that have been conducted only in animals belong in the “Pre-Clinical Testing” category. However, if you have followed guideline #3 above and combined animal and early human trials into a single submission, the paper would belong more appropriately in a clinical session. If you have a question about designating a category, call a member of the Scientific Program Committee. We are here to help.

We look forward to seeing you in Los Angeles.

John W. Keyes, Jr., MD
CHAIR, Scientific Program

Richard A. Holmes, MD
CHAIR, General Program

Scientific Program Committee:

Jeffrey A. Leppo, MD, *VICE-CHAIR, Cardiovascular*

Joanna S. Fowler, PhD, *VICE-CHAIR, NMR/Radiopharmaceuticals*

David A. Weber, PhD, *VICE-CHAIR, Physical Sciences*

Darlene Fink-Bennett, MD, *VICE-CHAIR, Clinical I*

Harvey A. Ziessman, MD, *VICE-CHAIR, Clinical II*

Robert W. Burt, MD, *ASSOCIATE CHAIR, Categorical Seminars*

Henry D. Royal, MD, *ASSOCIATE CHAIR, Scientific Exhibits*

Robert J. Lull, MD, *ASSOCIATE CHAIR, Continuing Education*