

INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR MEDICINE COMMUNITY TO CONVENE IN CINCINNATI FOR SNM'S 38TH ANNUAL MEETING

THE CINCINNATI CONVENTION Center, Cincinnati, Ohio, will host the 38th Annual Meeting of The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) on June 11-14, 1991. The gathering will feature over 1,100 scientific papers and exhibits, more than two dozen continuing education courses, a technical exhibition by over 80 companies and a complete nuclear medicine technologist program.

Opening Day

Following the formal opening of the Annual Meeting, a plenary session features opening remarks by SNM President Naomi P. Alazraki, MD, co-director, division of nuclear medicine, Emory University Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia, and a special address by Congressman Willis D. Gradison, Jr., R., Ohio, ranking minority member of the House Ways and Means Subcommittee. This year's Nuclear Medicine Pioneer Award will be presented to Alfred P. Wolf, PhD, director of the positron emission tomography (PET) program, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York, by his colleague, Joanna D. Fowler, PhD. The SNM Business Meeting concludes the opening day.

The Program

The SNM Scientific Program Committee has developed an educational program covering a broad range of subjects within nuclear medicine to meet the needs of scientists, physicians, technologists and pharmacists. The scientific papers, posters and exhibits include cardiovascular antibody imaging; neuro-receptor and neurotransmitter modeling; PET instrumentation and data analysis; antibody targeting strategies; display, optimization, and quantitation of single-

photon emission computed tomography (SPECT); scatter and attenuation correction of SPECT; hepatobiliary dynamics; bone and joint infection and therapy; thallium-201 imaging and redistribution; unique applications of technetium-99m-labeled myocardial perfusion agents; and quantitative issues in cerebral blood flow and metabolism.

Among the subjects covered at the 28 continuing education courses being offered are SPECT quality assurance issues and cardiovascular SPECT, tumor imaging, cardiac PET, new myocardial perfusion agents, scintigraphic evaluation of non-coronary heart disease, nuclear gastroenterology, radionuclide therapy of painful bone metastases, endocrine and osteoporosis controversies, and monoclonal antibodies for diagnosis and therapy. "The CE courses cover many evolving and controversial areas this year," says Robert J. Lull, MD, associate director of nuclear medicine, San Francisco General Hospital, San Francisco, California. "The courses are designed to give attendees practical take-home knowledge and skills. The courses have also been designed to help clinicians incorporate into their practices the many exciting innovations occurring on the interface between the clinical and research arenas." A maximum of 108.5 credits for continuing medical education (AMA Category I), 7.85 credits for continuing pharmaceutical education (ACPE), and 20.04 VOICE credits will be available during the Meeting.

The popular Chapter Bowl Challenge will once again be featured in the continuing education program. Moderated by James J. Conway, MD, chief of the division of nuclear medicine, Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Illinois, the program will quiz panels of clinical



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experts from the Southeastern Chapter and the Greater New York Chapter with questions about clinical cases of nuclear medicine formatted as in a Board Certification Examination.

President of the Southeastern Chapter, Edward Silberstein, MD, has selected to his panel R. Edward Coleman, MD (captain), Eva Dubovsky, MD, Michael J. Gelfand, MD, Jack Ziffer, MD, Dominique Delbeke, MD, and (as an alternate), George Sfakianakis, MD. The Greater New York Chapter's contingent includes Todd P. Makler, MD (captain), Sydney Heyman, MD, Leonard M. Freeman, MD, Stanley J. Goldsmith, MD, Ronald L. Van Heertum, MD, and Alan H. Maurer, MD, who is the alternate. All members are welcome to attend this educational event.

Categorical Seminars

A program of categorical seminars
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development of electronic instrumentation for nuclear medicine.

Dr. Brill notes that Professor Beck was "responsible for the design of a number of devices that have been of major importance in the development of nuclear medicine," including the ACRH brain scanner, the fluorescence scanning system for thyroid iodine content imaging, and the use of semi-conductors.

Professor Beck has also made significant contributions to positron emission tomography, exemplified by his construction of the "PET VI" tomograph at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, and his current development of a high-resolution, multi-slice PET system for brain function studies. "His work is and was of major importance to the development of nuclear medicine," says Dr. Brill. "Those of us who are con-

cerned about instrumentation and analysis methods cannot fail to appreciate the . . . contributions he has made to the field [of nuclear medicine] and to his systematic development of those ideas . . . I can think of no one who has contributed more to the theory of radioisotope measurements, and figures of merit for imaging systems. His contributions have established the formalism accepted and widely used for systems design, radiopharmaceutical and instrumentation testing."

Reflecting on Professor Beck's personal qualities, Dr. McAfee says: "Bob's national and international reputation is well-deserved. His presentations at national meetings have been outstanding and in his own institution he has the reputation of an excellent teacher."

Aside from serving as director of the McLean Memorial Research Institute, Professor Beck has served as director of

the University of Chicago's Center for Radiologic Image Research and the department of radiology's section of radiological sciences. He is also a member of various professional scientific associations, including the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Section. Professor Beck has also worked on various task groups and committees of the International Commission on Radiation Units and the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements. Among the many scientific endeavors he is presently engaged in is the development of an Imaging Science Exhibit at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, which is scheduled to open in spring of 1993.

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takes place, prior to the convention, on Monday, June 10. Among the half dozen topics included during this seminar is "Functional Imaging of the Brain." Organized by Martin P. Sandler, MD, department of nuclear medicine, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, and colleagues, this session will present theoretical information on how modern noninvasive methods like PET and SPECT uncover the physiology, pathology and pharmacology of the brain. "Computers for the Computer Shy," presented by Barbara Y. Croft, PhD, associate professor of radiology, Health Sciences Center, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, will discuss the fundamentals of PC hardware and software, and MS-DOS for physicists, physicians, and technologists who feel their computer skills could be improved. Another seminar will be devoted to helping technologists develop managerial skills. Organized by Marianne Gaskill, CNMT, department of nuclear medicine, Royal

Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Michigan, the session, "Technologist Section Management Seminar," will broadly discuss issues that affect finances, productivity and human resources.

Administrators Program

A session devoted to hospital and radiologist administrators will be held on Wednesday, June 12. The morning portion of this new program will feature speakers and panel discussions on spiraling health care costs and nuclear medicine, the finances behind an upstart PET facility, and a presentation by Dr. Alazraki on the future of nuclear medicine as reflected in the manufacturers' exhibition. Tours of the exhibit hall will be conducted in the afternoon. "We are particularly excited by this new addition to the Annual Meeting itinerary," says Dr. Croft. "We hope we can educate hospital administrators—that is, decision-makers who purchase equipment for nuclear medicine departments—on the needs and future direction of our medical specialty. We seek to en-

courage the increased participation of non-scientist administrative policy-makers at our meetings."

The annual Nuclear Medicine Review Course lectures for residents preparing for the ABNM boards are Tuesday, June 11, through Friday, June 14. The lectures will feature a comprehensive overview of those areas considered important to the development of nuclear medicine, including medical economics, radionuclide bone imaging, instrumentation quality control, procedures for the evaluation of the thyroid, pediatric nuclear medicine, and radionuclide therapy.

For the 14th year in a row, Henry N. Wagner, Jr., MD, department of radiology, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, Maryland, will close with his presentation of the highlights of the Scientific Meeting.

For further information contact: Education and Meetings Department, The Society of Nuclear Medicine, 136 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016-6760, (212) 889-0717.