

New Features, Time-Honored Traditions Slated for SNM Annual Meeting in Philadelphia

The SNM 2004 Annual Meeting, to be held from June 19 to 24 in Philadelphia, PA, will mark the 51st time the world's largest association of physicians, physicists, technologists, and industry specialists in nuclear medicine have come together to exchange information on scientific research, clinical care, technical innovations, and regulatory issues. As the Society begins its second half century, it is appropriate that the meeting is scheduled to feature both new offerings and the full schedule of scientific and educational presentations that have made the yearly event a destination for attendees from around the world.

New in 2004

All SNM members and subscribers to *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine (JNM)* will receive a CD of all meeting abstracts, times, and locations with the May issue of the journal. "Many of our members have told us that they would find the abstracts-on-disk format, previously available only at the meeting, most useful in preparing their schedules," SNM Director of Education Brenda Johnson told Newsline. "Not only is it possible to search for specific topics and presenters more easily in this format, but users can load information directly into their PDAs or laptops for ready reference." A printed abstract book will be included in every meeting attendee's registration bag at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Institutional subscribers will receive a print version of the abstract book with their June issue of *JNM*.

"Walking poster sessions" will be reintroduced at the 2004 meeting. For one selected "Meet the Author" session per educational track, a designated moderator will guide attendees through a group of scientific posters. At

each stop, the author(s) will describe the work, and the moderator will lead a questions-and-answer exchange, highlighting specific research and practice issues and general conclusions that can be drawn from the group of presentations.

New this year will be special oral abstract sessions for each educational track. At each session, 6 presenters will summarize their work. A moderator will focus discussion on conflicts and gaps in the subject area, the general state of the field, and thoughts for future work. "A tremendous amount of valuable information comes together at the SNM meeting every year," said Tom Miller, MD, PhD, chair of the SNM 2004 Scientific Program Committee. "The walking poster sessions and the oral abstract sessions will serve to take significant work and not only present it in a new way for attendees but encourage both presenters and participants to see the connections and important similarities and differences in some of the most exciting work being done in nuclear medicine today."

Scientific sessions will be reviewed for Verification of Involvement in Continuing Education (VOICE) credit for the first time in 2004. Technologists will be able to receive continuing education credit for scientific session attendance, as physicians and other scientists have done for years. At a June 2003 meeting, the SNMTS National Council approved adding scientific presentations to the types of activities that are eligible for VOICE credit.

This year's meeting will be highlighted by 4 plenary sessions, to be held on June 20, 21, and 22. Noted speakers will discuss their visions of the opportunities and challenges facing the general medicine and medical imaging disciplines in the 21st century. On the morning of June 20, Nora Volkow, MD, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse and an SNM member, will deliver the Henry N. Wagner Lecture at the opening session. Those arriving early in the main hall of the convention center will be entertained by Philadelphia's Avalon Mummies String Band. The following day, Valentin Fuster, MD, and Carlo M. Croce, MD, will address a plenary session on "New Directions in Coronary Artery Disease and Cancer." At the Tuesday plenary session, Michael J. Welch, PhD, will deliver the Cassen Lecture on "Tracer Studies from Bench to Bedside; Past, Present and Future." Also on Tuesday, the SNMTS will hold a plenary session. More information on all plenary sessions, awards ceremonies, and other special events at the meeting is available at www.snm.org/am.



A Tradition of Excellence

The most enduring tradition associated with the SNM Annual Meeting is the quality of the scientific and educational offerings. This year's program is packed with more categorical seminars (see below), continuing education courses, and scientific paper and poster sessions than ever before. The complete program can be accessed at www.snm.org/am, where an online meeting planner is available to help registrants plan by reviewing the details, times, and locations of presentations.

For the 27th consecutive year, Henry N. Wagner, Jr., MD, of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, will share his views of the presented papers at the meeting in his annual Highlights Lecture. Wagner will deliver the lecture on Wednesday, June 23.

As in previous years, the SNM and SNMTS will supplement the program offerings with additional nuclear medicine courses, including:

Modern Imaging Technology: Recent Advances (June 18 and 19): Participants will discover advances made in cell labeling, use of labeled cells to study cell trafficking, new approaches to measure angiogenesis and

monitor antiangiogenic therapy as well as learn about the progress in small animal PET and SPECT.

2004 Nuclear Medicine (Physician) Board Review (June 19 and 20): A course designed for residents seeking certification and physicians maintaining certification.

Emerging Leaders Seminar (June 19): An SNMTS seminar designed to take leaders in state and chapter technologist organizations to a new level in the national arena.

CT Workshop: Radiology-Based Training for the Nuclear Medicine Technologist (June 19–21): A 3-day series of lectures designed to help prepare nuclear medicine technologists for changes in the field as a result of the introduction of PET/CT.

Technologist Certification Exam Review and Mock Certification Exam (June 19 and 20): Designed as a review for students and technologists preparing to sit for the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board examination.

For complete information on the 2004 SNM Annual Meeting, including continuous updates on program offerings, registration, housing, travel, special tours, and social events, visit the SNM Web site at www.snm.org/am.

Categorical Seminars

Categorical Seminars at the SNM 2004 Annual Meeting

Full-day seminars on Saturday, June 19, will offer in-depth discussions on a single topic of clinical or academic interest.

CAT 1: Radiopharmaceutical Preparations: What You Really Need to Know

Organized by the SNM Radiopharmaceutical Science Council

CAT 2: Brain Imaging: Parkinson's Disease

Organized by the SNM Brain Imaging Council

CAT 3: Nuclear Oncology Scientific Innovations and Potential for Enhancing Patient Outcomes

Organized by the SNM Nuclear Oncology Diagnosis and Therapy Council

CAT 4: PET/CT: State of the Art: Controversies, Correlative Imaging, and Clinical Applications

Organized by the SNM PET Center of Excellence and Correlative Imaging Council

CAT 5: Modeling Cardiac Imaging: Building Science into Development Tools

Organized by the SNM Computer and Instrumentation Council

CAT 6: Advances in Nuclear Cardiology

Organized by the SNM Cardiovascular Council

CAT 7: PET in Pediatrics: Specifications and Applications

Organized by the SNM Pediatric Imaging Council

Technologist Categorical Seminars

Organized by the SNM Technologist Section

TSCAT 8: PET/CT Applications in Oncology

TSCAT 9: Radioimmunotherapy and Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

TSCAT 10: Nuclear Cardiology 2004: Updates for the Practicing Technology

TSCAT 11: Nuclear Medicine Reimbursement: 2004 and Beyond

TSCAT 12: Clinical Instructor Training