

# New SNM/SNMETS Officers Recognized at Toronto Meeting

At their annual meeting, held June 18–22 in Toronto, Canada, the SNM and SNMETS announced new officers for 2005–2006.

## SNM Officers

**Peter S. Conti, MD, PhD**, a pioneer in clinical applications of both PET and PET/CT, will serve as SNM president through June 2006. He is a professor of radiology at the University of Southern California (USC) Keck School of Medicine, of clinical pharmacy at the USC School of Pharmacy, and of biomedical engineering at the USC School of Engineering. Since 1991, he has served as director of the PET Imaging Science Center at the Keck School of Medicine.

Conti received his medical degree from Cornell University Medical College and his doctorate in biophysics from Cornell University Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Sloan–Kettering Division, both in 1985. He completed his residency in diagnostic radiology and fellowship in nuclear medicine at Johns Hopkins University and interned in the department of surgery at St. Luke's Hospital in New York.

Conti holds hospital appointments at USC University Hospital, the Kenneth J. Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Los Angeles County/USC General Hospital. He is a fellow of both the American College of Radiology and the American College of Nuclear Physicians (ACNP) and is board certified in both diagnostic radiology and nuclear medicine.



Outgoing SNM President Mathew Thakur clips the “-Elect” from Peter Conti's ribbon, officially changing his designation from president-elect to president of the SNM.

A member of SNM since 1979, he has served in numerous society positions: SNM president-elect, 2004–2005; SNM vice president-elect, 2003–2004; member of the board of directors, 1998–2004; chair of the Government Relations Subcommittee on PET, 2002–2003; scientific program chair, 1998–2001; and member of the House of Delegates, 1997–2004. He is the current chair of the PET Center of Excellence Task Force and is a member of the SNM Radiopharmaceutical Sciences Council, the SNM/ACNP Government Relations Committee, and the SNM Coding and Reimbursement Committee. A recipient of the SNM President's Distinguished Service Award in 2001, he has published more than 200 journal articles, abstracts, and symposia papers and was the co-editor of the recently published book, *PET/CT: A Case-Based Approach*.

In assuming the SNM presidency Conti said, “Molecular and nuclear imaging play an essential role in patient care, and SNM, the largest scientific organization dedicated to nuclear medicine, functions as the critical voice for physicians, technologists, and physicists. Our members are the innovators and implementers of some of history's most significant scientific advances in diagnosing, treating, and curing diseases. Research funding in molecular imaging is growing, and PET reimbursement is expanding. The use of PET/CT has the potential to place the trained nuclear medicine specialist as a final arbiter of in vivo diagnosis.”

**Martin P. Sandler, MD**, was named SNM president-elect. He is chair of the department of radiology and radiological sciences at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine (Nashville, TN) and is the Carol D. and Henry P. Pendergrass Professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences at Vanderbilt.

Sandler received his medical training at the Groote Schuur Hospital and the University of Cape Town, South Africa. He was a resident physician at the Groote Schuur and Johannesburg General Hospitals, training in internal medicine and endocrinology. After serving as a consultant physician in the department of medicine at the University of Witwatersrand, he completed fellowship training in the division of endocrinology and metabolism and the division of nuclear medicine at Vanderbilt.

A member of SNM since 1983, Sandler, is certified by the South African Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Nuclear Medicine. His hospital



Martin Sandler

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appointments at Vanderbilt have included vice chair of the department of radiology and radiological sciences, 1992–2000; director of the nuclear medicine/PET section, 1987–2000; director of the nuclear medicine residency training program, 1987–1988; and director of clinical nuclear medicine, 1983–1986. In 2003, he completed a distinguished 5-year term as editor-in-chief of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*. He has served on numerous SNM chapters, committees, and councils and is the author of 8 books, 86 journal articles, and 63 book chapters.

Sandler noted on assuming his new SNM office that, “The society must continue to provide significant educational opportunities for its members,” and added that emphasis should be placed on continuing education for practicing physicians, especially in the interpretation of CT scans, and for the international nuclear medicine community.

**Alexander J.B. (Sandy) McEwan, MD**, who was elected SNM vice president-elect, is the director of oncologic imaging at Cross Cancer Institute, Edmonton,



**Sandy McEwan**

Alberta, Canada, and a professor and director of the division of oncologic imaging in the department of oncology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Alberta. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of London and served as a medical officer with the United Kingdom Royal Navy from 1977 to 1982. He completed a residency in nuclear medicine at the Royal Naval Hospital in Haslar,

UK; a residency in radiation oncology at the University of Auckland, New Zealand; and a residency in nuclear medicine at the University of Southampton, UK. He is a past president of the Canadian Society of Nuclear Medicine. A member of SNM since 1987, McEwan has held numerous chapter and national positions on committees and councils and has been active in the Society's Molecular Imaging and Radionuclide Therapy Trials group.

At the Annual Meeting the SNM House of Delegates (HOD) elected **Warren R. Janowitz, MD, JD**, and the SNM National Council of Representatives elected **Author (Art) J. Hall, CNMT, FSNM**, and **Frances K. Keech, MBA, RT(N), FSNM**, to the SNM Board of Directors as directors-at-large. The HOD also elected the following members to the Committee on Nominations: **Helena R. Balon, MD; Michael D. Devous, Sr., PhD; Art Hall; Lalitha Ramanna, MD; Nancy M. Swanston, CNMT, RT(N); and Alan D. Waxman, MD**. The Committee on Nominations will be chaired by past SNM President **Henry Royal, MD**.

#### SNM Officers

**Valerie R. Cronin, CNMT, FSNM**, will serve as SNM president for 2005–2006. She is a director of



**Newly installed SNM President Valerie Cronin with the Technologist Section president's lavalier sash, just bestowed upon her by outgoing President Nanci Burchell.**

imaging services for the Catholic Health System of Western New York in Buffalo. She oversees imaging services at 5 locations with an annual volume of more than 200,000 procedures and has worked as a nuclear medicine technologist, a research technologist, and an educator.

Cronin has held a variety of leadership positions within SNM at the regional and national levels and has been active in SNM government relations programs. She was elected a fellow of SNM in June 2002 and is a member of the SNM Eastern Great Lakes Chapter. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology and is currently pursuing a master's degree in health services administration.

In addressing the challenges of her new position, Cronin said, “We must continue to actively promote state licensure for molecular imaging/nuclear medicine technologists.” She has worked for passage of the Consumer Assurance of Radiologic Excellence (CARE) bill at the national level and also organized a network of state health policy liaisons to work for passage of the bill and to encourage individual states to license nuclear medicine and other radiologic technologists. She is especially concerned about issues facing nuclear medicine technologists with the advent of hybrid imaging. “Hybrid units (such as PET/CT or SPECT/CT) are becoming more and more popular, and the challenge is to have the trained nuclear medicine technologist recognized as operators of fusion imaging equipment,” she said.

**D. Scott Holbrook, BS, CNMT, RT(N), PET, FSNM**, was elected SNM president-elect. He will serve as president-elect through June 2006 and as president

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**Jan Winn (left) is presented with the SNMTS Outstanding Educator Award by Nanci Burchell.**

board of directors of the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology and has also served as its vice chair and as a board of directors member. She has been an accreditation site visitor since 1995.

The 2003 recipient of the University of Oklahoma Presidential Professorship Award, Winn also received the 2002 OUHSC Faculty Governance Award, the Student

Council Outstanding Teacher Award, the Philip E. Smith Service Award, and many other honors and awards. She has taught courses including Introduction to Clinical Nuclear Medicine Technology, Principles of Nuclear Medicine, Medical Ethics and Law, Nuclear Pharmacy, Laboratory Regulations and Accreditation in Nuclear Medicine, Advanced Clinical Nuclear Medicine Technology, and Imaging Devices in Nuclear Medicine. She is the author of 5 peer-reviewed articles and numerous abstracts, posters, presentations, and proposals. She has been a member of the *Radiologic Technology* editorial review board since 1998.

In addition, Winn is a member of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, Oklahoma Section of the SNM, SNM Southwestern chapter, Oklahoma Society of Radiologic Technologists, Association of Educators in Radiologic Sciences, and American Society of Nuclear Cardiology.

“It is an honor to receive the Outstanding Educator Award,” said Winn. “It’s wonderful that SNMTS leadership created this award to recognize educators in nuclear medicine technology.” She received \$750 and a plaque and thanked Vesper Grantham, CNMT, her colleagues, students, and alumni who supported her nomination for this award. ❁

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**Scott Holbrook**

from June 2006 to June 2007. Holbrook is vice president of Clinical Pharmacy Services in Gray, TN, and Cumberland Isotopes in London, KY, previously serving as market development manager for PETNET Pharmaceuticals in Knoxville, TN. He is a member of the SNM Mideastern Chapter, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, the Academy of Molecular

Imaging, and the Lance Armstrong Foundation. Holbrook, who has held numerous SNMTS offices, is the author of 9 publications and more than 70 presentations. He received his bachelor of science degree in nuclear medicine technology from Wheeling Jesuit University.

At the Annual Meeting, the National Council of Representatives elected **Mary Beth Farrell, CNMT, MS,**

**RT(N,BD); Karen Martin, RT(N), CNMT; and Kathy E. Thompson, MS, CNMT,** as members of the SNM Executive Board.

In the 2005 elections, the SNMTS membership elected **April Mann, CNMT, RT(N), NCT, FSNMTS,** to serve as secretary/historian, and elected **David Gilmore, MS, CNMT, RT(R,N)** to the Finance Committee. The following members were elected to represent the Technologist Section in the SNM House of Delegates: **Kathy S. Thomas, MHA, CNMT, RT(R,CT,N), PET, FSNMTS; Danny A. Basso, CNMT, NCT, FSNMTS; Cindi Luckett-Gilbert, BHS, CNMT, RT(N); and Mary K. Moreau, CNMT, RT(R,N).** Four persons were also elected to the Nominating Committee: **Mary M. Dalipaj, MRT (N), NCT; Art Hall; Alan Pan, CNMT;** and Kathy E. Thompson, The Nominating Committee will be chaired by outgoing SNMTS President **Nanci A. Burchell, CNMT, FSNMTS.** ❁