

ACNP and ACNM Announce Merger

Over the past year the American College of Nuclear Physicians (ACNP) and American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM) have met to discuss and determine whether the best interests of both organizations would be served by merging into a single unified college. Both ACNP and ACNM leadership believe that this merger will not only strengthen the field of nuclear medicine but solidify the position of the new college as a strong advocate for physicians, scientists, and pharmacists while creating new opportunities for a refined focus of education initiatives. As a first step toward the merger, and for the first time, the ACNM and ACNP hosted a joint annual meeting during the SNM Mid-Winter Meeting. Over all, the response has been encouraging.

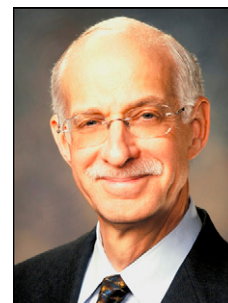
On August 31, the ACNM and ACNP officially merged. The official name of the new college is “The American College of Nuclear Medicine (a combined organization of the American College of Nuclear Physicians and the American College of Nuclear Medicine).” The parenthetical tagline will remain within the title for at least the first year of the new college’s existence. A new set of governing bylaws and procedures was adopted by the ACNM and ACNP prior to finalization of the merger.

All current ACNM and ACNP members and fellows in good standing were automatically entered into the new college. The new ACNM board of directors assumed office on August 31. Members of the leadership include: Jay Harolds, MD, president; David Wymer, MD, president-elect; Munir Ghesani, MD, secretary; and Ronald S. Tikofsky, PhD, treasurer. A new logo was approved by the ACNM board, and a new Web site interface was launched in early September. *The Scanner*, ACNP’s official newsletter, will continue on a quarterly production schedule with the new

college. Finally, the new college will join the SNM for the third straight year in cosponsoring the Mid-Winter Meeting.

Beginning in January 2010, the new ACNM will add an impressive new member benefit to its already growing list. *The Journal of Clinical Nuclear Medicine* will be distributed to all dues-paying ACNM members. The journal will be known as the official publication of the ACNM beginning in January 2010. ACNM residents will also be able to receive an online version of the journal for a substantially reduced fee. The journal will continue to publish accepted residents’ abstracts as well as a regular letter from the ACNM president and several additional articles focusing on ACNM’s involvement in government relations initiatives.

The new ACNM has come a long way in the past several months—from a membership barely exceeding 200 in each college to a growing membership of more than 450 in the new ACNM. This is a great time to be a part of the new college. Many new initiatives are scheduled for 2009, with many new and energized leaders mobilized to push the college into the new year. We are excited to welcome the members of the old ACNM to the new college and encourage anyone who is interested in joining to contact the ACNM membership office at (703) 708-9000.



Jay Harolds, MD

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President, American College of Nuclear Medicine