

Over the past year an initiative of screening the literature for pertinent studies was piloted. The envisioned goal is to bring articles with practice-changing content to GI Council members and, when appropriate, provide meaningful comments. A special committee will be formed to formalize this initiative.

A major goal this year is to broaden our scope so that we cover the many areas of clinical practice not represented by other SNM councils and centers of excellence (e.g., pulmonary, renal, musculoskeletal, benign thyroid disease, etc.) This would be accompanied by a name change from the GI Council to the General Nuclear Medicine Council. Final deliberation of this initiative was scheduled for the SNM Mid-Winter Meeting. This will considerably broaden the scope of our council and allow us to propose continuing

medical education and categorical courses for the Annual and Midwinter Meetings, as well as have input on SNM decision making as it pertains to the practice of general nuclear medicine.

Alan H. Maurer, MD, completed his 2-y term as president of the GI Council at the 2009 SNM Annual Meeting. I succeeded him as president, and it is my pleasure to inform the membership that Harvey A. Ziessman, MD, was recently elected as the next secretary-treasurer. Our current intern is Kelly Anne Holes-Lewis, MD, who is active in keeping members updated with regular newsletters.

*Mark Tulchinsky, MD
President, SNM Gastrointestinal Council*

From the SNM Nuclear Oncology Council

Tremendous technological growth and advances in the fields of molecular imaging and therapy are providing opportunities for growth in nuclear oncology. The goal of the SNM Nuclear Oncology Council (NOC) is to bring together individuals who want to share their knowledge of these developments for improving practice and teaching other members of the nuclear medicine community. In the NOC, we have been successful in collaborating with other SNM councils as well as similar professional societies and groups, such as the American Society for Radiation Oncology, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the Medical Internal Radiation Dose Committee, to expand in a mutually beneficial way the functions of our groups.

The year 2009 was particularly productive for the NOC. Encouraged by high-quality abstracts presented by investigators from across the globe, the NOC established in 2008 a Young Investigator Award to support and encourage attendance at the SNM Annual Meeting by a clinician and a scientist to present works related to diagnostic or therapeutic aspects of oncology. Guidelines for the award were developed by the NOC board with the help of SNM administrative staff. In 2009, we awarded 3 prizes to the top 3 abstracts presented at a special symposium as rated by a panel of judges.

The NOC organized several outstanding continuing medical education (CME) sessions during several SNM meetings. These sessions were delivered by leaders internationally recognized in their respective fields. We contributed to the development of educational workshops in numerous ways, including assisting in developing programs, reviewing abstracts, providing speakers and moderators, and providing travel fellowships for 3 young translational researchers.

For the 2010 SNM Mid-Winter Meeting in Albuquerque, NM, the NOC organized 2 CME sessions: the first on

diagnosis and management of lymphoma, including radioimmunotherapy; and the second on the issue of cardiotoxic chemotherapy, presented in association with the SNM Cardiovascular Council. For the SNM Annual Meeting in June 2010, we will have 1 categorical seminar and 4 CME sessions on a broad range of topics. All of the CE sessions are directed at practicing nuclear medicine physicians, focusing on a number of challenging and emerging topics of interest, whereas the categorical session will focus on promising diagnostic and therapeutic tracers. We are quite excited about these educational sessions and are certain that the CE sessions and categorical seminar that cover many aspects of nuclear oncology will generate significant enthusiasm among participants.

In 2008, the NOC became a participant in the SNM Councils and Center of Excellence Internships program. This new program is designed to identify and train future SNM leaders in the structure, governance, and operations of the organization; to prepare individuals for progressive levels of responsibility; and to ensure effective leadership that advances the mission and goals of the organization. An internship position for a single 2-y term as a nonvoting member was approved for each SNM council and the Center of Excellence. We have selected Daniel A. Pryma, MD, from the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia) for the 2009–2011 NOC internship program.

The council's newsletter continues as a main way of communication with our members. Membership in the council has increased since the last period, and our goal is to further increase our membership in the coming years. For



Maroun Karam MD

that purpose we have offered discounted fees for members in training and have extended an invitation to technologists and technologists in training to join the NOC. We continue to develop collaborations between the various councils and sections of the SNM. These activities are essential in our

efforts to strengthen the common cause of SNM and to nurture the professional aspirations and needs of our membership.

*Maroun Karam, MD
President, SNM Nuclear Oncology Council*

From the SNM Radiopharmaceutical Sciences Council

This has been a very active year for the SNM Radiopharmaceutical Sciences Council (RPSC) as a result of continuing isotope supply issues. In addition, RPSC has undergone a “re-imagining” of our scientific and continuing education programming. One of my goals has been to ensure RPSC participation and representation in all SNM activities related to our 3 areas of competency: (1) molecular imaging; (2) radiochemistry and radiopharmaceuticals; and (3) dosimetry.

The RPSC has focused on providing value to its members and advocating on their behalf. We have accomplished several goals this year. At the SNM Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada, we were proud to present the first Michael J. Welch, PhD, Award to Wynn Volkert, PhD, from the University of Missouri. Dr. Volkert is a long-standing member of the RPSC and has made significant contributions to the SNM molecular imaging community. We look forward to designating future awardees for this important prize.

Another major accomplishment for this year was the re-categorization of the Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry Track at the SNM Annual Meeting to better reflect the radiopharmaceutical science that we do and to stay in touch with other changes in the SNM program, such as new molecular imaging initiatives. Other important accomplishments were the categorical seminar on “Molecular Imaging of Hypoxia Biology,” presented at the meeting in Toronto, as well as the 3 continuing education sessions organized by our members: Pradeep Garg, PhD; Robert Mach, PhD; Sally Schwarz, MS; Jeffery P. Norenberg, PharmD; and Henry Van Brocklin, PhD. Another highlight was the well-attended basic sciences summary session presented by Welch. The poster/mixer session, which

allowed time to view posters and enjoy refreshments, was a huge success because of an increase in sponsorship, good publicity, and improved organization at the mixer.

Two full educational sessions were held at the 2010 SNM Mid-Winter Meeting in Albuquerque, NM. The educational topic was “Development of a Radiopharmaceutical for Molecular Imaging—from Bench to Bedside.” The 2 sessions included 8 speakers and were designed for clinicians, scientists, pharmacists, and technologists wishing to gain experience in the rapidly evolving field of molecular imaging, especially in PET and SPECT imaging. The role of nuclear medicine imaging was discussed, including constraints involved in developing new and novel imaging agents.

For the 2010 SNM Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT, we are organizing 3 continuing education sessions. The first is cosponsored by the National Cancer Institute on the development of radiopharmaceuticals, and the second is cosponsored by the SNM Molecular Imaging Center of Excellence on apoptosis. The third session will focus on animal imaging.

I look forward to another productive year for the RPSC and to working together with the other councils to achieve our educational goals.

*Michael J. Adam, PhD
President, SNM Radiopharmaceutical Sciences Council*



Michael J. Adam, PhD

From the American College of Nuclear Medicine

The newly expanded American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM) has nearly 620 members. The journal *Clinical Nuclear Medicine*, which all college members will receive, will feature the logo of the ACNM on its cover, and we will have articles in it every month. We will write about such topics as reimbursement, politics, regulatory issues, leadership, availability of radiopharmaceuticals, residency

training, and college activities. Selected biographical sketches of leaders in the ACNM will also be included.

Our 2010 annual meeting will feature lectures on pulmonary imaging, radiopharmaceutical developments, SPECT and PET/CT, MR imaging for nuclear medicine professionals, etc. Also included will be talks on federal government interactions and events in the District of