

marketing pieces, SNM will not order any additional large quantities with the current name until the final decision regarding the name change has been made. This will cause no additional unbudgeted expenses in FY2012 in relation to the name change.

Changing the name of the organization is not a process that is taken lightly; it requires a change to the bylaws. SNM has begun this process with the approval of a name change by the SNM Board of Directors. The proposal has been sent to the Bylaws Committee, and the Bylaws Committee has officially proposed the change, to the SNM membership, in the notification included in this issue of *JNM*. This is in accordance with the process outlined in the bylaws for amendments stating that members will be notified 60 d prior to the House of Delegates meeting in which the vote will take place. The next House of Delegates meeting will take place on January 28, 2012, at the SNM Mid-Winter meeting in Orlando, FL. The House of Delegates is the governing body that makes the final decision regarding any bylaws amendments. Proposed changes to the bylaws can be found below.

Subsequently, if the SNM Bylaws amendment is approved, SNM would be required to amend its articles of incorporation in order to change the society's name. SNM is incorporated in the state of Washington, which requires that an amendment to Articles of Incorporation be approved at a meet-

ing of members by receiving at least two-thirds of the votes of members present at the meeting or represented by proxy.

If the bylaws change is approved during the House of Delegates Meeting at the Mid-Winter Meeting, the SNM will utilize the SNM Business Meeting, held during the SNM Annual Meeting in Miami, FL, on June 11, 2012, as the forum in which to vote on the amendment to the articles of incorporation. The SNM national office will send the notice of the meeting to all voting members of the SNM (full, associate members, and emeritus members who were members of full or associate categories at time of emeritus status).

We continue to encourage members to share their thoughts on changing the name of SNM to the "Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging." If you have comments to share at any time, please e-mail us at feedback@snm.org. You may also contact your chapter, council, or center of excellence delegate to the House of Delegates to provide feedback. A full listing of the chapter, council, and center delegates can be found on the SNM Web site at: www.snm.org/namechange. We also encourage SNM members to attend the House of Delegates meeting and be a part of the discussion.

*Carolyn J. Anderson, PhD
Chair, SNM Name Change Task Force*

Notification of Proposed SNM Bylaws Change

The current version of each affected section of the Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) Bylaws is included below in its entirety; unaffected sections are not included. Proposed deletions are struck through. Proposed additions are underlined. Some minor housekeeping revisions to the sections, such as relettering, are also included. The SNM is proposing changes to various sections of the bylaws that will be affected by a name change of the society.

Background: Name Change

The SNM is completing its 5-y campaign to embrace all molecular imaging modalities while, at the same time, its 60th anniversary is rapidly approaching. As a specialty, nuclear medicine arose from the application of sophisticated technology providing a unique ability to image function and physiological processes. Nuclear medicine therapy provides ways to treat diseases such as thyroid disease and non-Hodgkin lymphoma by utilizing radioactive medicines that specifically target fundamental aspects of the organ's physiology or the pathophysiology of the disease. Over the past 5 y, we have incorporated nonnuclear molecular imaging technologies into SNM and SNM-sponsored scientific and educational programs and publications. This transition was quite natural, as SNM came to realize that molecular imaging has always been an integral part of our specialty.

It is appropriate at this critical juncture to consider whether the name "Society of Nuclear Medicine" adequately describes who we are and where we are headed. It has certainly served us well over these past 60 y and has come to represent the most prestigious international organization in the field of nuclear medicine. However, as molecular imaging expands, we need to incorporate emerging imaging technologies beyond those that utilize radioactivity.

In reflecting on the name of the society this spring (2011), the House of Delegates, National Council of Representatives, SNMETS Executive Board, and SNM Board of Directors agreed that it is time to review the name to determine whether or not it still fits who we are as an organization. In February 2011 a task force was formed, comprising representation from the SNM and SNMETS membership, to discuss the options regarding changing our name. The task force recommended the following name change: Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMI).

The proposed name “Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging” retains our identity while opening our arms to new possibilities as well as to scientists, technologists, clinicians, and laboratory professionals whose primary focus is non-nuclear molecular imaging. It recognizes our growing diversity in imaging, nuclear and nonnuclear, molecular and non-molecular. It also recognizes the therapeutic, medicinal aspects of our specialty by retaining the words “nuclear medicine.”

As a result, the following changes to the bylaws are recommended.

James M. Woolfenden, MD

Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Bylaws

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, a not-for-profit corporation incorporated in the state of Washington, hereinafter referred to as the Society.

ARTICLE II MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1: MISSION

The Society is a multidisciplinary professional medical organization dedicated to the advancement of excellence in the education, research, and clinical practice of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging.

Section 2: OBJECTIVES

To establish and maintain an organization of physicians, scientists, technologists, and other allied health professionals with a common interest in the scientific and clinical disciplines concerned with the diagnostic, therapeutic, and investigational use of radionuclides and other molecular imaging technologies.

To disseminate information concerning nuclear medicine and molecular imaging through meetings, publications, and other mechanisms.

To strive to better the welfare of mankind by maintaining and advancing the highest possible standards of education, research, and clinical practice of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging.

To address in a timely manner socioeconomic issues and government relations that may significantly affect the quality of education, research, and clinical practice in nuclear medicine and molecular imaging.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: CLASSIFICATIONS

A. Full Membership

Physicians, scientists or pharmacists possessing an advanced degree who have presented credentials indicating their professional activity, either, medical, paramedical, investigational or educational in the scientific or clinical disciplines of molecular imaging or nuclear medicine, may join the Society as Full Members. This includes the diagnostic, therapeutic or investigational use of radionuclides or other molecular imaging technologies. These individuals have the right to vote and to be elected an Officer of the Society. The SNM Board of Directors by majority vote may extend Full Membership to individuals who have made exceptional contributions to molecular imaging or nuclear medicine, but who do not otherwise qualify for Full Membership.

C. Technologist Membership

Technologists who have presented credentials indicating professional activity in molecular imaging or nuclear medicine technology or other related fields may join the Society as Technologist members without the rights to vote or to be elected an Officer of the Society. This membership does include membership in the SNMTS Technologist Section with the right to vote and to be elected an Officer in the SNMTS Technologist Section.

G. Honorary Membership

Individuals who have rendered outstanding service in an area of nuclear medicine or molecular imaging may be granted Honorary Membership in the Society with all rights and privileges of membership, except the rights to vote and to be elected an Officer of the Society.

ARTICLE V ORGANIZATIONAL CATEGORIES

Section 2: CHAPTERS

B. Mission: The mission of chapters shall be to provide leadership and active participation by nuclear medicine professionals in nuclear medicine or molecular imaging technologies on the local level consistent with the goals of the Society.