

From the SNM TS President

Having 1 y on the SNM TS leadership team under my belt, I can say that I have learned much over the past months and am excited to lead the SNM TS membership as president for the 2011–2012 term. I am grateful for the guidance that Kathy Hunt, MS, CNMT, has provided over the past year and thank her for her service to the society.

One of my main goals as president is to connect with members as often as possible. The programs, services, and initiatives that SNM TS undertakes must all benefit the membership—whether it is an education course on a new technology, a scholarship fund, or a bill in Congress that will advance the field of nuclear medicine technology. Connecting with members is a 2-way street; we need to not only share with members the great things that the SNM TS is doing but also listen to their feedback as to how we can improve.

To do this, we will be conducting SNM TS-sponsored “roadshows” with the help of funding from the Education and Research Foundation for SNM. The roadshows will serve as an educational opportunity for technologists who are unable to attend larger SNM meetings and will allow us to engage with members across the country. In addition, SNM TS leadership will continue to attend chapter meetings to meet with SNM TS members in their local areas.

In meeting with members, we will focus on building up our grassroots support. The SNM TS recently developed the Technologist Advocacy Group—known as the TAG team—to ensure that SNM TS is at the forefront of state licensure issues. Although SNM TS as a society will continue to advocate on behalf of members on these issues, a call or letter from a constituent remains extraordinarily effective in getting the attention of elected officials. Our goal for the coming year is to grow the TAG team and provide members with the tools and resources they need to help advance nuclear medicine technology.

In addition, as president I will continue to ensure that the SNM TS provides high-quality education for technologists. The field of nuclear medicine technology is changing rapidly, and we need to make sure that the SNM TS education offerings reflect that. To prepare our technologist members to perform PET/MR scans and other emerging technologies, we will offer MR courses, as well as other pertinent topics. We will also maintain our efforts to

transition nuclear medicine programs to the baccalaureate level for those students preparing to enter the field of nuclear medicine technology.

We have many other goals to accomplish in the coming year. As you most likely know, SNM is considering a name change for the organization to the “Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging.” Over the past several years SNM has integrated molecular imaging into the society’s education, journals, and direction for the future. We are now looking to our members to provide feedback on the name change—I encourage all members to let the SNM and SNM TS leadership know their thoughts. I look forward to receiving comments from the membership on this significant decision.

The future of SNM is much more than a name change. We are also planning for the profession through the SNM Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging 2020 Task Force, which will make recommendations to meet the challenges that lie ahead for our field. Kathy Hunt and I are chairing the Technologist Working Group within the task force and will be working this year to identify challenges and opportunities for technologists in the year 2020.

I also look forward to expanding the relationships we share with other radiology groups. SNM and SNM TS have already signed on as supporters of the Image Gently campaign to lower radiation dose in the imaging of children. We would like to expand our support this year to the Image Wisely campaign, which raises awareness about lowering radiation dose in adults. These initiatives are worthy and should be embraced by all nuclear medicine technologists.

I want to thank the SNM TS members for placing their trust in me to lead our society in the coming year and represent their needs and concerns. It is an honor to be able to work with technologists from across the nation to improve the field of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging.



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