

Goodman Recognized with 2012 Aegersold Award

Mark M. Goodman, PhD, a program director at the Center for Systems Imaging (CSI) and professor of radiology and imaging sciences, psychiatry, and hematology and oncology at Emory University (Atlanta, GA), was named this year's recipient of the Paul C. Aegersold Award. He received the award on June 10 at a plenary session at the SNM (now SNMMI) 2012 Annual Meeting in Miami Beach, FL. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in basic science applied to nuclear medicine. Dr. Goodman is an internationally known PET radiochemist who has led the way in research for the development of novel imaging biomarkers.

Goodman's research interests include PET and SPECT radiotracer development for oncologic, neurologic, and cardiac applications. He and his colleagues were the first to develop ^{123}I -BMIPP, which has been introduced clinically to image ischemic heart disease and measure fatty acid metabolism. He also led the way in developing probes for dopamine and serotonin transporter imaging. Most recently, Goodman developed a cyclic amino acid to measure leucine amino acid transport across cell membranes.

Goodman received his doctorate in chemistry from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa) in 1976 and completed postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Alabama, Yale University (New Haven, CT), and Harvard University (Cambridge, MA). He has held academic appointments at Emory University and the University of Tennessee (Knoxville) and served as staff scientist in the nuclear medicine



Hyunsuk Shim, PhD (left), and Peter Herscovitch, MD (right), present Aegersold Award to Mark M. Goodman, PhD (center).

group at Oak Ridge (TN) National Laboratory, Martin Marietta Energy Systems, Inc. Goodman has authored or coauthored almost 400 articles, book chapters, and abstracts and holds 26 patents. He has received numerous awards and honors.

"I have always believed that an award such as the Paul C. Aegersold Award is a shared honor. I would not have been placed in consideration for this award if not for the patience, support, and encouragement of my family and the extraordinary colleagues I have had the privilege to work with," said Goodman at the ceremony.

Robert E. Henkin Government Relations Fellowship

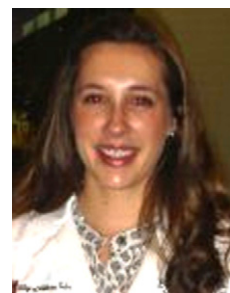
In March 2012 I had the great fortune of becoming the first SNM (now SNMMI) Robert E. Henkin Government Relations Fellow. This experience solidified my commitment to my patients and to our specialty. During a whirlwind week I was able to meet with officials from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, National Institutes of Health, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, members of Congress, and many of their wonderful staff members. The overall experience allowed me to see how the actions of these organizations intersect and can affect us as we perform nuclear medicine procedures.

The culminating task of my fellowship was selection of a specific area that merits SNMMI Government Relations attention. As a physician in Delaware, I am acutely aware of the problems that occasionally arise in precertification prior to imaging. As readers may remember from national media coverage, a patient in Delaware was denied a myocardial perfusion study in 2011. That patient subsequently experienced worsening of chest pain and eventually required emergency intervention and 4-vessel coronary artery bypass graft surgery. I want to identify ways to ensure that patients with appropriate indications get the tests they need when they need them—without unnecessary challenges and wasted time.

Frederic Fahey, DSc, our new SNMMI president, has appointed a subcommittee of the Coding and Reimburse-

ment Committee to look into what has been done in regard to this problem. I have been appointed as the chair of this subcommittee and am looking forward to working with physicians in our specialty and in other disciplines to ensure that our patients are appropriately cared for.

Applications are currently being accepted for the next Robert E. Henkin Government Relations Fellowship. The closing date for application submissions is December 31, 2012. The fellow will be selected at the SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting in New Orleans, LA, with the fellowship week to occur at a time mutually agreed upon between February 2013 and May 31, 2013. Expenses for the week will be paid, and a stipend of \$1,000 provided. Additional information and the application are available at: www.scholarselect.com/scholarships/4325-2013-robert-e-henkin-government-relations-fellowship-



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