

Proposed Name Change for the Society of Nuclear Medicine

Over the past year, SNM has been considering a name change to accurately reflect the society and the future direction of the field. The name “Society of Nuclear Medicine” has served us well over these past 60 years and has come to represent the most prestigious international organization in the field of nuclear medicine. However, the time has come for us to embrace our role in the expanding field of molecular imaging including the emergence of imaging technologies beyond those that utilize radioactivity.

With the launch of the Bench to Bedside campaign in 2006, SNM began to make a concerted effort to embrace other modalities that, like nuclear medicine, image physiology at a molecular level to better diagnose, stage, treat, and monitor therapy of disease. Our field and professional organization have the potential to grow for the ultimate benefit of patients by welcoming professionals who utilize these emerging technologies while maintaining our focus on our core area, nuclear medicine, both diagnostic and therapeutic. The name “Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging” retains our rich history and identity while recognizing the current diversity in our field: imaging and nonimaging, nuclear and nonnuclear, molecular and non-molecular. Retaining the term “nuclear medicine” also recognizes the therapeutic, medicinal aspects of our specialty.

The SNM Board of Directors discussed the impact a name change would have on the SNM membership, in particular the importance of embracing the fundamental nature of the field while looking to the future. After careful deliberation the Board officially approved the proposed name change in April 2011 and began soliciting feedback from the membership.

To determine whether a name change was in the best interest of the society, SNM undertook a comprehensive process to educate members on the pros and cons of changing the name and to solicit feedback. Several articles

were published in *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, including a point/counterpoint debate in the December issue to illustrate both points of view. More than 325 responses were received from members, all of which were reviewed by the Name Change Task Force. Generally speaking, almost 75% of the feedback was positive.

In January 2012 at the SNM Mid-Winter Meeting, the SNM House of Delegates—the leadership of the councils, centers, chapters, and technologist section that make up the society—supported by greater than a two-thirds majority a proposed amendment to the SNM bylaws that would change the society’s name to the “Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging.”

The last step required by our articles of incorporation toward finalizing the name change is for our members to vote on this change at the annual business meeting. The vote will take place on Monday, June 11, at the Monday plenary/business meeting, held between 8:00 and 10:00 AM during the society’s Annual Meeting in Miami, FL.

SNM and SNMTS Leadership strongly encourage all members to attend this meeting in order to actively participate in this historic and very important vote. Changing the name of



Carolyn J. Anderson, PhD



Frederic H. Fahey, DSc



Kathy Hunt, MS, CNMT

Official Notification of Proposed Amendments to Articles of Incorporation

The Society of Nuclear Medicine is incorporated in Washington State. According to section 24.03.165 of the Washington Not-For-Profit Statute, in order to amend the Articles of Incorporation, the proposed changes must be approved at a meeting of members with at least two-thirds of the members voting and present casting their votes in favor of the change.

The SNM will be utilizing the Monday, June 11, 2012 Plenary Session and Business Meeting, beginning at 8:00 AM in Hall D of the Miami Beach Convention Center in Miami, FL, as the forum to conduct this important vote to amend the Articles of Incorporation. If you are a voting member of the SNM, and are preregistered for the meeting, you will receive your voting card with your badge in the mail. If you register on site, and are a voting member, you will receive your voting card at that time. If you are a voting member of SNM and wish only to participate in the Business Meeting but not register for the meeting, staff will be available in the plenary room to distribute voting cards.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please e-mail: feedback@snm.org.

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