## **SNMMI Offers Education, Exhibits, and Networking in** Vancouver

**S**NMMI heads west this year to Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, for its 2013 Annual Meeting, to be held June 8–12. This will be our 60th anniversary meeting. Our first meeting was held in Seattle, WA, in 1954 and was reported to have had 109 attendees who heard 13 scientific presentations and 1 panel discussion. Our annual meeting is now recognized by thousands of professional attendees as the premier educational and networking event in molecular imaging and nuclear medicine.

The SNMMI Annual Meeting educational program provides physicians, technologists, pharmacists, laboratory professionals, and scientists an in-depth review of molecular imaging technologies, clinical applications, and translational and advanced research topics. A total of 110 expert-led continuing education sessions have been organized by the Scientific Program Committee (SPC) on topics such as emerging PET radiotracers, dementia, neuroendocrine tumor imaging, novel targeted radiopharmaceutical therapies, and hybrid imaging. Several special courses will be held, including 11 categorical sessions, 22 self-assessment modules, a 2-day CT case review workshop, and a new education forum designed specifically for nuclear medicine program directors. The Annual Meeting will also feature a session honoring Henry N. Wagner, Jr., MD, nuclear medicine pioneer and visionary, who died last year.

An extraordinary number of scientific abstracts were submitted for the 2013 Annual Meeting. The SPC reviewed more than 2,375 abstracts, which are grouped into 10 tracks representing 66 categories. There will be 96 oral scientific sessions for physicians/scientists/pharmacists and 8 oral sessions for technologists/technologist students. Three "Meet the Author" poster sessions have been scheduled, including a special poster session for the Molecular Targeting Probes Radioactive and Nonradioactive Track, to be held Sunday evening, June 9, during the Poster Hall Mixer.

SNMMI is once again offering its Virtual Meeting for those unable to attend certain sessions or make the trip to Vancouver. The Virtual Meeting will capture 70 of the most popular sessions, featuring more than 100 hours of content from the opening plenary through to the final Highlights Session, plus the molecular imaging/radiopharmaceutical sciences and computer and instrumentation basic science summary sessions. CME, ACPE, and VOICE credits are available through the Virtual Meeting.

Several networking events for attendees will be held, including a welcome reception on Saturday evening, June 8, and a First-Timer's Orientation as well as a Poster Hall Mixer on Sunday, June 9. The annual Technologist Party on Tuesday, June 11, will be themed "The Soul Tech Train."



Peter Herscovitch, MD

The exhibit hall will provide a unique opportunity to meet with the top nuclear medicine and molecular imaging product and service providers. More than 130 companies will be represented, including medical device manufacturers, radiopharmaceutical providers, and publishers. New this year: up to 20 exhibitors will designate their booths as "Hot Spots." Twice each day, a "Hot Spot" company name and booth number will be announced. Attendees standing in that booth will be eligible to win a cash prize. Also new will be an exhibit hall scavenger hunt in which attendees can play to win a chance at 1 of 4 complimentary registrations for our 2014 Annual Meeting.

Vancouver offers a beautiful natural setting with all the amenities of a big city. The Convention Centre West Building, built for the 2010 Winter Olympics, has panoramic harbor and mountain views and a 6-acre "green" roof. While in the city attendees can check out the Vancouver Art Museum, the Vancouver Aquarium, or Science World. To connect with nature, Vancouver offers beaches, whale watching, floatplane tours, hiking, and more. Vancouver's jewel, Stanley Park, features ever-blooming gardens, trails, totem poles, and roughly 500,000 cedar, fir, and hemlock trees.

This year's Annual Meeting offers an outstanding program in a beautiful location. I look forward to seeing you in Vancouver as the nuclear medicine and molecular imaging community gathers to advance the field. For more information or to register, visit www.snmmi.org/am.

> Peter Herscovitch, MD SNMMI Vice President-Elect