New Officers for SNMMI and SNMMI-TS

During the 2021 SNMMI Annual Meeting, from June 11 to 15, both the SNMMI and SNMMI Technologist Section (SNMMI-TS) welcomed new officers. Elected at earlier meetings by the members of the 2 organizations, the new officers will serve in these positions through June 2022.

SNMMI President

Richard L. Wahl, MD, became the 2020–2021 SNMMI president, succeeding Alan Packard, PhD. He is the Elizabeth E. Mallinckrodt Professor and head of radiology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis (MO), director of the university’s Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, and a professor of radiation oncology. “Nuclear medicine is undergoing a renaissance as a precision medicine specialty, with new radiopharmaceuticals, theranostics, and instrumentation to elucidate biology and benefit patients,” Wahl said. He plans to focus on access to and advocacy for nuclear medicine, on enhancing the diversity and number of professionals in nuclear medicine, and on discovery and innovation.

After graduating from Washington University School of Medicine and completing his residency there, Wahl interned at the University of California at San Diego School of Medicine. He returned to Washington University in 1979 for training in diagnostic radiology and nuclear medicine. He accepted his first faculty appointment at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) in 1983 and moved to Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD) in 2000, where he was the Henry N. Wagner Jr., MD, professor and director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine; vice chair for technology and new business development in the Russell H. Morgan Department of Radiology and Radiological Sciences; and professor of oncology. He accepted his current appointment at Washington University in 2014.

Wahl has been an active SNMMI member and currently serves as chair of the Research and Discovery domain for the society’s Value Initiative. He has served on the editorial board of The Journal of Nuclear Medicine for many years. Wahl is an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the American Association of Physicians, and the National Academy of Medicine and has received honors from multiple organizations. He holds 18 patents and has published more than 475 peer-reviewed scientific articles. He is the primary author of several textbooks, including Principles and Practice of PET and PET/CT. He maintains a strong interest in quantitative imaging and is on the coordinating committee of the Quantitative Imaging Biomarkers Alliance efforts of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) and has been a lead investigator in the Quantitative Imaging Network of the National Institutes of Health.

His awards include a U.S. Department of Energy Achievement Award; the de Hevesy, Tetelman, and Berson–Yalow awards and 2 Alavi–Mandel awards from SNMMI; and the Academy of Molecular Imaging’s Distinguished Scientist Award. He has given many named lectures throughout the world.

SNMMI President-Elect

Munir Ghesani, MD, associate professor of radiology at Mount Sinai Hospital and chief of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging at Mount Sinai Health Enterprise (New York, NY), assumed the office of SNMMI President–Elect. He reported that his goals in this position include working to streamline approval of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging agents and technologies; advancing and promoting education, quality, value, and safety; and fostering the availability and clinical utilization of nuclear medicine. He has targeted creation of a clear Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process, development of quality measures for reporting and appropriate use criteria, and establishment of a sustainable domestic isotope supply supplemented by uninterrupted international imports. Ghesani noted that collaborations are key for achieving these goals. “Throughout my various roles at SNMMI, I have seen the value of effective collaborations,” he said. “By working together with physicians, technologists, scientists, government agencies, and other national and international societies, we have made great progress in advancing nuclear medicine and molecular imaging.”

Ghesani earned his medical degree from Gujarat University, NHL Medical College (Ahmedabad, India) in 1984. He completed a diagnostic radiology residency in 1988 at the KM School of Postgraduate Medicine and Research, followed by a diagnostic ultrasound fellowship in 1989, also in Ahmedabad. In 1993, he completed an internal medicine residency at Jersey City Medical Center (NJ) and, in 1996, a nuclear medicine residency and fellowship at St. Luke’s–Roosevelt Hospital Center (New York, NY), where he also went on to radiology residency. He has held academic appointments in New York City at the New York University School of Medicine, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and Columbia University.

Within SNMMI, Ghesani has been an active member of the society’s governance, with a strong focus on advocacy. He has served as chair of the SNMMI Government Relations Committee and the SNMMI/FDA Task Force, as well as Advocacy Domain chair for the SNMMI Value Initiative. He was a cochair of the SNMMI Membership Task Force and a member of the SNMMI Board of Directors. He has also held multiple leadership positions in the Greater New York Chapter of SNMMI, most recently as president.

In the greater nuclear medicine community, Ghesani has served as chair and director of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM) and as president of the American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM). In 2020 he won the ACNM Personal Best Mentor of the Year award. He has published 88 peer-reviewed journal articles and a text, Nuclear Medicine: A Case-Based Approach.

SNMMI Vice President–Elect

Helen Nadel, MD, director of pediatric nuclear medicine at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford (CA) and clinical professor of radiology at the Stanford School of Medicine, was named as SNMMI
vice president-elect. She has set goals for her tenure that reflect lessons learned from the collective nuclear medicine COVID-19 experience. “The pandemic highlighted many ways in which we can improve our field, from radiopharmaceutical supply to government cooperation to safety and equity for our scientists, technologists, nurses, physicians, and patients,” she said. To accomplish these goals, Nadel proposes creation of an ongoing working group to address preparedness issues, education of members on potential risks, and development of rapid global communication and mobilization plans. She encourages SNMMI’s continued cooperation with government and industry to develop and quickly approve diagnostic and therapeutic molecular agents and associated hardware. She supports SNMMI’s diversity initiatives to ensure an inclusive working environment and deliver quality health care to all patients regardless of ethnicity or gender.

Nadel earned her medical degree from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg (Canada) in 1977. She completed a diagnostic radiology residency in 1982 at the University of Toronto (Canada), followed by a fellowship in pediatric radiology at the Hospital for Sick Children at the University of Toronto. She then completed a nuclear medicine residency in 1989 at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver, Canada). She held multiple academic appointments at the University of British Columbia between 1983 and 2018 and was head of the division of nuclear medicine and department of radiology at British Columbia Children’s Hospital before taking on her current roles at Stanford.

An active SNMMI member for more than 30 years, Nadel has served as a member of the House of Delegates and on the Pediatric Imaging Council board, PET Center of Excellence board of directors, Scientific Program Committee, Membership Committee, and The Journal of Nuclear Medicine editorial board, among other posts. She was president of the SNMMI Pacific Northwest Chapter for many years and currently plays an active role in the Northern California chapter. In the greater nuclear medicine community, she has served in multiple positions for the American College of Nuclear Medicine, the ABNM, RSNA, and the Children’s Oncology Group. In 2019, Nadel received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the European Society of Pediatric Nuclear Medicine for ongoing contributions to pediatric nuclear medicine.

**SNMMI-TS President**

Dusty M. York, MAEd, CNMT, PET, ARRT(N)(CT), associate professor and clinical coordinator of the nuclear medicine program at Chattanooga State Community College (TN), assumed the office of 2021–2022 SNMMI-TS president. “As a nuclear medicine and molecular imaging educator, I am committed to promoting the field and am excited to represent the members of the SNMMI-TS as president-elect,” noted York. “I would like the SNMMI-TS to be the first place technologists look for continuing education, patient resources, and advocacy support. In this ever-changing world, we will continue to make every effort to meet our members’ needs. This past year was a year unlike any we have faced before. I want to continue to provide the encouragement and support that our technologists need. I am looking forward to a great year and hopefully seeing many of our members in person again soon.”

York studied nuclear medicine at the Medical College of Georgia (Augusta) and later earned a master’s degree in education from Tusculum College (Greenville, TN). She began her career as a staff technologist at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga and has been in her current position at Chattanooga State Community College since 2003.

An active member of the SNMMI-TS, York currently serves on the SNMMI Board of Directors, House of Delegates, and Committee on Women in Nuclear Medicine, as well as the Technologist Section Executive Board, Educators Committee, Grants and Awards Committee, and Professional Development and Education Fund. In the past she has served on and chaired multiple committees across the organization, including the Nuclear Medicine Week Task Force, the Continuing Education Committee, the International Outreach Task Force, and the local Organization Task Force, among others. York was named the SNMMI-TS Outstanding Educator of the Year in 2017 and was a 2014 graduate of the SNMMI-TS Leadership Academy. She was named among Augusta University’s 2020 Alumni of the Year. She has been a site visitor for the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology since 2005 and has served on various review boards and exam committees. She has also contributed to several books and speaks both locally and nationally on nuclear medicine and molecular imaging.

**SNMMI-TS President-Elect**

Krystle W. Glasgow, MIS, CNMT, NMTCB(CT), NMAA, teacher and clinical coordinator at the University of Alabama at Birmingham became the 2021–2022 SNMMI-TS president-elect. “As SNMMI-TS president-elect, I plan to be laser-focused on membership,” she said. “Membership is the lifeline for the society, and we must continue to retain and gain in our numbers. Having served as the Technologist Section Membership Committee chair for 2 years, I have seen a lot of excitement from our members. We need to continue to bring individuals into our great society, get them involved, and help them succeed in our profession.” Glasgow’s other goals for the society include engaging emerging nuclear medicine technologists (both students and early career professionals) and strengthening support for all nuclear medicine technologists. These goals include making SNMMI a 1-stop shop for all nuclear medicine needs, enhancing communication between the society and its members, increasing and diversifying educational offerings, and promoting advocacy endeavors.

Glasgow received her bachelor of science degree in nuclear medicine technology with a concentration in CT in 2010 from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She completed a master’s degree in imaging sciences and was certified as a Nuclear Medicine Advanced Associate. She is pursuing a doctoral degree in health services administration with a concentration in health informatics.