



**March, 2002**

## **Missouri Valley Chapter – Society of Nuclear Medicine General News Items**

### **Newsletter General Information:**

Greetings MVC members!! I hope that you are having a nice winter and keeping yourself healthy and safe. In our attempts to keep our membership up-to-date with current information, we are providing to you our next installment of the Missouri Valley Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine Inc. Newsletter. This edition will relate to you additional details that have occurred since our previous newsletter and it will update you with information from the Mid-Winter meeting as well. Once again, in an effort to provide as much information to our professional membership and those involved with Nuclear Medicine in our Chapter, we will have this Newsletter available through the Missouri Valley Chapter Website. (<http://www.mvcsnm.org/newsletter.htm>)

As stated before, we welcome any news items that you may want to have communicated to the membership. This includes local or regional meetings, special announcements, interesting news items and general information that will make this publication informative and useful.

Please send any comments, suggestions or information for the Newsletter to either Nanci Burchell ([NANCIBUR@aol.com](mailto:NANCIBUR@aol.com)) or Phil Bruch ([pbruch@unmc.edu](mailto:pbruch@unmc.edu)).

### **MVC Officers:**

For your information, here is the listing of the MVC Executive Council. Contact information for these individuals is available on the MVC website. Please feel free to contact these individuals with questions or concerns regarding the Chapter or Society of Nuclear Medicine.

#### **MVC Officers:**

John Floyd, M.D. – President  
Henry Royal, M.D. - Secretary/Treasurer  
James Littlefield, M.D. – President Elect  
Mark Wittry, M.D., FACC – Immediate Past President

#### **MVC-Technologist Section Officers:**

Carole South-Winter, CNMT – President  
Jeff Galen, CNMT – Secretary/Treasurer  
Peggy Squires, CNMT - National Council Delegate  
Mary Moreau, CNMT – Immediate Past President  
Janis Brule, CNMT – President Elect

#### **MVC Councilors:**

Keith Fischer, M.D.	Subhash Paknikar, M.D.
Phil Bruch, MS, CNMT	Kimberly McDaniel, CNMT
David Perry, CNMT	Mark Mintun, M.D.

#### **MVC Council Members:**

Michael Graham, M.D.	Bennett Greenspan, M.D.
James Fletcher, M.D.	Henry Royal, M.D.
Mickey Clarke, CNMT	Nanci Burchell, CNMT

**MVC Executive Director:** Nanci Burchell, CNMT

**Message from the Missouri Valley Chapter - Technologist Section President  
Carole South-Winter, M.E.d., CNMT, RT**

Kansas City here we come!!! Greetings Missouri Valley Technologists, Scientists, Pharmacists and Physicians! As we prepare for spring in the upper Midwest, our chapter officers and executive director are planning our annual fall meeting. Current plans are to present a very diverse and exciting meeting in the heartland that will be designed to find that 'niche' to fit your needs.

With this in mind, my first challenge to every technologist in our chapter is, to invite one person to attend our meeting. I am thinking of those people who have either never attended a chapter meeting, those who are newly certified technologists or those individuals who are currently a technologist in training. The more first time attendees you invite the higher your "rewards". Our profession depends on us, the technologist, to nurture and grow those entering the nuclear medicine profession. If you were mentored in your journey as a professional technologist, model that experience to someone needing guidance. Perhaps you feel that you missed out on professional guidance as you entered nuclear medicine technology, make a decision to reach out and offer support that would encourage these professionals to become active in the Society and in the MVC.

Plans are underway to offer a basic sciences track during the annual meeting. This chapter is fortunate to be home to some of the top Nuclear Medicine Technology training programs in the nation. I have had wonderful response from the program directors and educators in our chapter to offer 30-minute overview sessions on Radiation Biology, Radiation Safety, Radiation Detectors, Radiopharmacy, In Vivo imaging, Positron Emission Tomography, Nuclear Medicine Math and Stats, In Vitro procedures and Patient Care. These sessions will run concurrent with the scientific educational sessions and are designed for Missouri Valley Chapter students, entry-level technologists or those just interested in refreshing their memories of useful information. Feel free to pop in and stay for the entire session or go back and forth to the general session.

The annual meeting will open this year with an "Old Fashioned Quiz Bowl!" Teams, comprised of 'seasoned technologists', new technologists, physicians, pharmacists, students and educators will compete against each other for prizes. If you would like to be a part of a team let me know. Otherwise, grab a refreshment and sit back and enjoy the fun.....who knows, you may be picked as a "phone-a-friend" reference! This has been a great year so far and I look forward to seeing you in KC!

I would also like to re-iterate, please let me know of Subchapter meetings and I will try to attend as many as possible, and do not hesitate to contact me regarding your thoughts or concerns [scls@dtgnet.com](mailto:scls@dtgnet.com) or [carole.south-winter@southeasttech.com](mailto:carole.south-winter@southeasttech.com). Thank you for your support.

**A MISSOURI VALLEY CHAPTER HISTORICAL NOTE**

**ODE TO THE TECHNOLOGISTS (IN PROSE)**

Nuclear Medical Technologists (NMTs) have always been a critical part of the Nuclear Medicine imaging and information gathering team. However, at the October 8-9, 2000 Missouri Valley Chapter scientific meeting, the techs performed especially brightly.

James Taylor, CNMT from the University of Kansas Med. Center talked to us on the topic of "Setting Up a PET Imaging Center". Penny Yost, CNMT from St. Louis University enlightened us with the all-important "Quality Control of PET", and Deborah Gibbons, CNMT visiting from PET-NET Pharmaceuticals in Sacramento, CA, spoke of "PET/MCD Reimbursement".

The Ralph Robinson Memorial Lecture topic followed in suit and was appropriately entitled, "PET Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow", presented by R. Edward Coleman, M.D. visiting from Duke University in Durham, N.C.. William Hubble, CNMT of St. Louis University explained "Web Resources for Nuclear Medicine"; Mickey Clarke CNMT from the Mallinckrodt Institute presented "Planning for Success" and David Perry and Martin Schmitt CNMTs from Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, MO presented information regarding the MVC Website.

All in all, the Technologists within the MVC were and are highly contributive on a regular basis.

Respectfully submitted: R.F. Cech, M.D. Historian

## **Society of Nuclear Medicine National News**

### **National Council Delegate Report – Technologist Section**

#### **Peggy Squires, CNMT**

As the NCD representative from the Missouri Valley Chapter, I very much enjoyed attending my first National Council Meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologist Section. The schedule listed a six-hour meeting, so I was a little apprehensive about the “snooze factor” creeping in as the afternoon lengthened, but I’m happy to report that the National Council really moves and shakes. Mickey Clarke, our SNM-TS President managed to keep the meeting and all the council delegates on track and successfully organized discussion of agenda items, which lead to timely decisions with a result of being able to adjourn the meeting just minutes past 5pm. This report includes items of what I consider areas of interest to the technologists in the field. Regardless of whether you work (or play) in a hospital or clinical environment, whether your teammates are physicians, students or administrators; I hope you find the following useful and informative.

**Scope of Practice:** During the summer and fall of 2001, a task force of techs, physicians and scientists developed a “Scope of Practice” document to replace the Performance Guidelines currently approved by the SNM. Development of the document is in preparation for passage of the CARE Act, which would mandate licensure in all 50 states. The Scope is a summation of all the skills that a nuclear medicine technologist uses in daily practice and is designed to be a resource for states to use when developing licensing regulations and keeping them up-to-date as the practice of nuclear medicine technology (and the Scope) evolves and changes. **The National Council of the SNM-Technologist Section approved a resolution to adopt the 2001 Scope of Practice.**

**SNM President’s Report:** Alan Maurer, M.D. presented a report on the successful recruitment campaign for new members. The program provides free on-line membership to radiology and nuclear medicine residents and technologist students. This free membership is only for the duration of their residency or training program. This is designed to provide them with information on how membership in the Society is useful when they enter the workforce. Membership information can be accessed via the SNM website, [www.snm.org](http://www.snm.org).

A PET Learning Center at the SNM Reston office is being developed for physicians and technologists, the intense weekend course will be offered starting April 2002.

Lobbying efforts are becoming more formalized; current focus is on PET reimbursement and indications, as well as the recent NRC petition.

The SNM name change proposal will be reviewed at the Midwinter Meeting. **The National Council of the SNM-Technologist Section approved a resolution to endorse the concept of the name change and support the selection of Society of Nuclear and Molecular Medicine (SNM<sup>2</sup>) as the new name.**

**NMTCB:** Bhaskar Dawadi, Executive Director of the NMTCB reported new features within the NMTCB web site. Included is an on-line membership directory and results of the 2001 salary survey. A task analysis is the next big project for the Board. Take a look at this very informational website at [www.nmtcb.org](http://www.nmtcb.org).

**Nominating Committee** The slate of candidates running for office in the 2001-2002 election year once again includes qualified individuals from the Missouri Valley Chapter – Technologist Section. David Perry is running for President-Elect, Mary Moreau has been nominated to run for Executive Board At-Large, Liesje Dotson and Nik Iwaniw are on the list of candidates for Nominating Committee. Please give your support to these individuals that take time from their busy schedules to represent us at the national level.

**Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology (JNMT):** Kathy Thomas, CNMT reported on a lack of manuscripts for the JNMT was so severe that the March 2002 issue had not entered production as of early February. Technologists are encouraged to write scientific papers and CE articles, there are proposals to encourage the number of submissions and some help available from an in-house staff ‘reporter’, if you have an idea for an article but unsure about how to proceed. Case studies are also needed; if you come across something interesting, share it with the rest of us!

**Entry Level Education Standard:** Gateway III, a special task force formed to review the potential need for entry level education requirements and the impact of setting entry level standards, presented their recommendations to the National Council. As you might guess, requiring nuclear medicine students to have a baccalaureate degree as an entry-level qualification, initiated tons of discussion among members of the Council. Cost of education, current education system, current technologist shortage, 'professional' status in the federal government, along with increasing demands in the field of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging were just some of the issues raised during the discussion. **The National Council of the SNM-Technologist Section approved a resolution to endorse the concept and investigation of a baccalaureate degree as entry level for Nuclear Medicine Technologists by the year 2010.**

**Advanced Practice:** The other topic reviewed and presented by the members of Gateway III, was the need for an advanced practice education program for nuclear medicine technologists. The initial effort to develop an advanced scope of practice included identification of the data needed, the tasks a technologist would perform at this level, the educational requirement (Master's degree), a course curriculum and an implementation strategy.

**Finance Committee:** After six (6) years of no increases in dues for the members of the Technologist Section, the committee decided it was time to play catch up. Actually, the Technologist Section Budget has been 'in the black' for a couple of years, but in order to adjust for normal cost increases and avoid the need for a whooper of an increase in future years, a \$5 increase in dues was proposed. **The National Council of the SNM-Technologist Section approved a resolution for a \$5 increase in membership dues for Fiscal Year 2002-2003 (beginning October 1, 2002). An exception to this increase in dues was given to the SNM-TS student members.**

On a separate, but related matter, the Finance Committee proposed a policy to require consistent assessment and maintenance of a long-term financial plan to assure financial integrity of the Technologist Section. The goal is to be proactive and ascertain on a regular basis the expenditures of the SNM-TS and avoid the need for an excessively high increases in membership dues; the National Council does not want to be approving increases in dues every 2-years. **The National Council of the SNM-Technologist Section approved a resolution whereby a bi-annual increase of \$2 is reviewed on a yearly basis during the Midwinter Meeting by both the SNMTS Finance Committee and the Executive Board.**

For further information or if there are topics that you are interested in that I did not cover, please contact me at [psquires@metroheart.com](mailto:psquires@metroheart.com) or call (314) 997-6001 ext. 202.

NCD Report Submitted by: Peggy Squires, CNMT MVC-TS National Council Delegate

## **Message from the Missouri Valley Chapter - President John Floyd, M.D., FACR**

As evident to anyone reading this newsletter, our chapter draws its viability from a number of talented, dedicated persons. These smart and learned people have donated their time and resources, often year after year, so that the rest of us may benefit in our lives and jobs from the education, information, politics, and social offerings through the year and at the annual fall meeting. I am using this forum to invite each member to participate in chapter activities this year by attending subchapter and chapter meetings, volunteering for committees, thanking vendors for their support, running for office, etc.

If possible, come to the fall meeting and bring a coworker. The 2002 meeting is in a great location, and it will have offerings to make each of us better at what we do in our work. See you in Kansas City!

John L. Floyd, MD, FACR

# 2002 Missouri Valley Chapter FALL MEETING

*“Molecular Medicine in the Millennium”*

October 11-13, 2002

Sheraton Four Points Hotel

The annual fall meeting of the Missouri Valley Chapter has been scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, Friday through Sunday, in Kansas City, MO. The meeting will be at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel. This is one block off the Country Club Plaza (fine dining and shopping) and just a few blocks from the Westport area (where the younger generation 'gets down and boogies'). The reserved room rate will be \$89.00 for single or double occupancy. The meeting's central location within the Chapter will surely attract technologists and physicians from the four corners of the six state Chapter. The program will include the usual panoply of topics and speakers and will likely include PET imaging, tumor receptor imaging, nuclear cardiology, newly released therapy agents, and some review sessions. We also hope to have some papers submitted by technology students and nuclear medicine residents for presentation. You should expect to receive the official announcement and registration forms by early summer.

Local Arrangements: Nanci Burchell, CNMT, MVC Executive Administrator

Reginald Dusing, M.D., Kansas City, MO

Program Chairman: James Littlefield, M.D. St. Louis, MO

Sheraton Four Points Hotel

One East 45<sup>th</sup> Street

Kansas City, MO 64111

866-223-9330

see: [http://reservations.lodging.com/servlet/PropertyInformation/FP\\_1267/ego1](http://reservations.lodging.com/servlet/PropertyInformation/FP_1267/ego1)

Please be sure to register as a member of the MVC-SNM group.

## NMTCB Nuclear Cardiology Specialty Exam

My name is Jennifer Gaffey from the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB). The Board of Directors at NMTCB are offering the Nuclear Cardiology Exam for Technologists again in 2002. We are offering this specialty exam at the Society of Nuclear Medicine Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, CA and also at an Atlanta, GA location.

### NMTCB Nuclear Cardiology Specialty Exam:

The NMTCB is proud to announce the offering of a specialty exam in Nuclear Cardiology Technology! The exam will be offered on June 15, 2002 during the Annual Society of Nuclear Medicine Meeting in Los Angeles and also on June 15, 2002 in Atlanta, GA.

### Eligibility Requirements:

(A candidate for examination must show documented evidence of the following:)

1. Active NMTCB, ARRT(N), and/or CAMRT nuclear medicine membership.
2. Clinical Experience in Nuclear Medicine Technology for a minimum of two years full-time (4,000 hours)

For more information, refer to the NMTCB web page: [www.nmtcb.org](http://www.nmtcb.org)

**The NMTCB announces the offering of a specialty exam in  
NUCLEAR CARDIOLOGY TECHNOLOGY.**



Exam Locations:

Los Angeles, CA  
June 15, 2002

Atlanta, GA  
June 15, 2002

Visit [www.nmtcb.org](http://www.nmtcb.org) for more details

For application, please contact: Jennifer Gaffey at the NMTCB office:  
2970 Clairmont Road, Suite #935  
Atlanta, GA 30329  
Phone: (404) 315-1739  
Fax: (404) 315-6502  
e-mail: [jgaffey@nmtcb.org](mailto:jgaffey@nmtcb.org)

**Visit the Missouri Valley Chapter Website**

[www.mvcsnm.org](http://www.mvcsnm.org)

**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Oncology Conference**  
**Sponsored by the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, University of Missouri**  
**April 19-21, 2002**  
**Hyatt Hotel at Union Station**  
**St. Louis, Missouri**

**This meeting will include a Scientific Session entitled “Cancer Specific Radiopharmaceuticals”, with this session being held on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Speakers include Drs. Barry Siegel, Michael Welch and David Piwnica-Worms from the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, Washington University and Drs. Susan Deutscher, Thomas Quinn, Wynn Volkert, Michael Lewis and James Wooldridge from the University of Missouri-Columbia.**

For further information, please contact the CME Office at 573-882-0366 or [walterssj@missouri.edu](mailto:walterssj@missouri.edu).