Musings from the Editor

You are reading this column in the March Health Physics Society (HPS) Newsletter, but with deadlines such as they are, I’m writing this on an airplane as the Super Bowl is being played. Whoever said that business travel was fun? (And no, even though I log over 50,000 airline miles per year, I don’t worry about the increased radiation dose to which I’m exposed.)

This is a slow time of year for news from the American Academy of Health Physics, as the results of last year’s exam have been announced, the meeting of the Academy’s Executive Committee during the Midyear HPS meeting has not yet been held, and applications for the 2001 exam have been received.

It has been at least two years since any Letters to the Editor or other correspondence has been received for publication in either the “CHP Corner” or CHP News. Either we as CHPs are quite contented with our lot and the Academy’s administration and direction, or we tend to keep our opinions to ourselves. In my experience, it’s not the latter. Remember that this forum belongs to all CHPs, and correspondence is always welcome.

AAHP Information Resources

This column is only one resource to which potential and current CHPs can turn for information. Since this column is limited in space, it provides only limited information. The Academy’s Web site, at http://www.aahp-abhp.org, provides much more information. In a recent visit to the site, your editor noted that it had received over 55,000 visits in the past four years. Obviously, a large number of non-CHPs use the site as a source of information, as do current CHPs.

Information currently available on the site includes:
- A current copy of the AAHP bylaws (when was the last time, if ever, you read this?),
- The current AAHP Strategic Plan,
- Current AAHP membership,
- AAHP and ABHP officers and committee chairs, with contact information,
- Continuing education guidelines (quite valuable at least once every four years),
- An AAHP bulletin board, which is used only very infrequently, and
- Other information of value to both CHPs and non-CHPs alike, such as copies of previous Part II exams.

If you haven’t visited the Web site recently, spend a few minutes with it and reacquaint yourself with what’s available.

Exam Study Material Recommendations

Your editor has noted that several times per year there is an inquiry on the RADSAFE electronic bulletin board for recommendations for Part I and/or Part II exam study materials. Some answers are provided to all subscribers, but there are most likely more that are sent only to the person making the inquiry.

I would like to receive information from all CHPs on what resources they would recommend to those just setting out to study for the exam. I’ll compile a listing, including comments, which I’ll publish in a future edition of the “CHP Corner” or CHP News. No endorsement will be provided either by the editor or the AAHP. Such a list, however, should prove of some value to those wondering what and how to study for the exam. What better recommendation than from those who were successful?