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Call for 2007 McAdams Award Nominations!

Nominations for the William A. McAdams Outstanding Service Award are due by 2 March 2007.

This award is presented annually by the American Board of Health Physics and the American Academy of Health Physics

(AAHP) to honor a certified health physicist who has made a significant contribution toward the advancement of professionalism in health physics and to the certification process. Any member of the AAHP may submit a nomination.

More details and information on the history of the McAdams award can be found at <http://www.hps1.org/aahp/McAdams/McAdams.html> and the nomination form may be downloaded at www.hps1.org/aahp/McAdams_Nomination.pdf.

Continuing Education

Sarah Hoover, Chair

As the newly appointed chair of the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) Continuing Education Committee, I'm busy trying to acclimate myself to the responsibilities of this position. I am joined on the committee by four other motivated members: Roy Craft, JoAnn Myrick-Jenkins, Joel Rabovsky, and Nancy Sullivan. Together, we are trying to ensure consistent implementation of the Academy's continuing education policies. Additionally, we attempt to turn around your applications for continuing education credits in a timely fashion, with invaluable help that is provided by Nancy Johnson.

At the upcoming meeting in Knoxville, we have what should be a very interesting AAHP short

course presented by Gary Kephart and Grant Ceffalo titled “Heat Stress for Health Physicists.” It promises to be an illuminating discussion of the optimization required to ensure that personal protective equipment selected for particular operations does not compromise worker health and safety when the work environment is such that heat stress can become an issue. It will provide an intermediate-level review of heat stress and a review of relevant case studies from the nuclear industry and other activities. Unique innovative solutions will be presented that can have applications in these environments.

The committee is working on ideas for the AAHP courses (two) that are to be presented at the

Health Physics Society (HPS) Annual Meeting in Portland this July. We would greatly appreciate any ideas for topics that you feel should be explored. We would also be most appreciative if you as a health physicist would like to provide an interesting, stimulating learning experience for your colleagues in an area of interest to you. Ideas for topics that you feel would add to the vibrant dialogue in the health physics community would be of great value to the committee.

Please feel free to contact me at shoover@lanl.gov or 505-665-4224 if you have an idea that the committee should pursue or if you would like to volunteer to present an AAHP course at the 2007 HPS Annual Meeting in Portland.

Part I Examination Panel

Joe Greco, Chair

The Part I Exam Panel is appointed by the American Board of Health Physics (ABHP) and is given the responsibility for producing Part I of the certification exam for health physicists. Due to the comprehensive nature of the ABHP certification, the panel is comprised of members representing the numerous fields in which health physicists work.

The panel meets for two days each November near Washington, DC. The process of generating the Part I exam is quite rigorous and begins with a review of the previous year's

exam. Panel members evaluate the performance of each and every question using a variety of statistical tools and make determinations regarding the questions that will be removed from or added to the exam.

New questions are taken from an extensive question bank that is continuously updated by the addition of fresh new questions and deletion of older questions that are no longer current or relevant. Before new questions are allowed in the bank, they must first pass the scrutiny of the panel. Some are modified, some

are rejected, and some are accepted as written. By the end of the two-day meeting, the first draft of the exam for the following year is ready.

Although most of the work by panel members is completed during the November meeting, tasks are

assigned throughout the year as necessary. These tasks may include such things as editing the final version of the exam, reviewing question solutions, and updating questions from the question bank. Members are appointed to the panel for a four-year term.

Participation in the

Part I Examination Panel is quite rewarding. The efforts of panel members bear immediate fruit in the production of the exam. In addition, the insights and expertise of fellow panel members are quite valuable. Despite the hard work, panel members enjoy a collegial atmosphere along with the pleasure of making a significant contribution to our profession. If you are a CHP, are interested in participating in the Part I Examination Panel, and own a Hawaiian shirt, please indicate your interest when you submit your ABHP annual dues. ☒



The 2006 Part I Panel Members are, left to right, Tony Huffert, Beth Hilt, Mike Hinz, Vicky Morris, Vice Chair Rob Forrest, Past Chair George MacDurmon, Jerry Hensley, Chair Joe Greco, Jim Willison, Jay Tarzia, and Jackson Ellis (Missing from photo: Scottie Walker)