Are you looking for one of the most rewarding and fulfilling volunteer opportunities for a certified health physicist? Do you want an opportunity to hang out with like-minded individuals in exotic locations like Charleston, Dallas, or Scottsdale (with a FREE lunch or two)? Well look no further; sign up for a four-year tour of duty on the Part II Exam Panel. Participation on the panel is a rewarding experience, although it involves a significant commitment from each panel member. In exchange for your hard work, you obtain a substantial number of recertification points and may receive travel support to attend the panel workshop during the midyear meeting. The following is a synopsis of the typical Part II Panel year, for those few and proud willing to serve.

In the fall, the panel chair makes question assignments for each panel member. Typically, each member works to develop two questions—one 50-point question from one of the core topics of health physics (personnel dosimetry, shielding and activation, measurements and instrumentation, and biological effects of radiation) and one 100-point question from one of the topical areas (accelerators, environmental, fuel cycle, medical, nonionizing, power reactors, university, and general health physics). These questions are submitted to the chair in time for formatting for the panel workshop.

The panel workshop was held 4–5 February 2012, in Dallas, Texas—just before the midyear meeting. Seventeen of the 26 panel members were able to attend the workshop and we were joined by the American Board of Health Physics (ABHP) chair. The panel workshop is an intense two-day period of review and improvement to develop questions and stock solutions from each of the submitted questions. At the end of the workshop, the top three choices for each core question and each topical area question are selected for further consideration. The panel chair takes these questions and prepares them for a balloting round.

A few weeks after the workshop, the balloting round begins. Each panel and ABHP Board member ranks the 12 core questions and the three questions for each topical portion of the exam. The panel chair tallies the results and begins the final Part II exam development process. This ends the panel member duties until exam grading begins.

After the examination is given (in conjunction with the annual Health Physics Society meeting) grading activities begin. Panel members and ABHP Board members work in teams of three to grade each of the questions as assigned by the panel chair. A panel member typically grades one core question, which all candidates are required to take, and one topical question, which a candi-
date elects to complete. The team leader compiles the results for the team and ensures that grades from each of the three graders are consistent. This process is usually completed by the early fall. A great big THANK YOU to the entire panel for taking time out of their busy schedules to volunteer for this important task: Vice Chair Wayne Gaul, Past Chair Dan Menchaca, Erik Abkemeier, Richard Adams, Matthew Arno, Kelly Ausbrooks, John Bliss, Jack Buddenbaum, Kathleen Dinnel-Jones, Derek Favret, Robert Ford, Shawn Googins, Don Haes, Willie Harris, Benny Hooda, Sarah Hoover, Greg Jones, Curtis Kwasniewski, Bryan Lemieux, Allen Mabry, Bill Maguire, Dennis Quinn, Steve Rademacher, Pat Roach, Johnafred Thomas, and Wei-Hsung Wang. In addition, we thank Nancy Johnson from Burk & Associates for her valuable support and guidance, as well as John Serabian for involvement in the question-writing process.

If you are interested in participating on the panel, please indicate your interest when you submit your American Academy of Health Physics annual dues or email me at Sturchio.glenn@mayo.edu.

Title Protection and Professional Recognition Committee

Daniel Mantooth, CHP, Chair

The purpose of the Title Protection and Professional Recognition Committee is to obtain formal protection from federal, state, and/or local governments for the titles “certified health physicist” and “CHP” and recognition for the profession of health physics as it applies to certified health physicists. The committee is a standing committee of the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) and its organization is given by the AAHP Bylaws. The committee is composed of six members of the academy—nominated by the president and approved by the Executive Committee. The committee is currently comprised of the following academy members: Chair Dan Mantooth, Edgar Bailey, Kathleen Dinnel-Jones, Robert Gallagher, Charles Kent, and Carmine Plott.

The committee’s current responsibilities include:

• Implementing AAHP responsibilities in the Tri-Partite Agreement among the AAHP, Health Physics Society (HPS), and American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA). This provides for a joint program to obtain title protection and professional recognition (TP-PR) for the professions represented by these three organizations.
• Coordinating the participation of the AAHP, and the local HPS and AAHP membership in states where TP-PR legislation is being considered, by actively supporting the proposed legislation and providing testimony.
• Preparing materials that may be used in testimony before legislative committees to support TP-PR.

To date, we have worked with the AIHA to implement title protection legislation in the state of Georgia. We were also successful in getting legislative language changed (that required that health physicists work under licensed sanitarians) in Michigan. The committee relies heavily on input from academy members and HPS local chapters for information regarding title-protection activities, so please contact one of the committee members if you learn of issues that need to be addressed. ■