

**American Board Of Health Physics**  
Kresge Center for Environmental Health  
Harvard School of Public Health  
665 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

October, 1969

TO: All Certified Health Physicists

SUBJECT: Progress Report on Activities of the American Board  
of Health Physics

Last January the American Board of Health Physics distributed a Questionnaire to all certified health physicists to explore their interest and willingness to assist in financially supporting the Board's certification program. Tabulation of the results of this poll indicated that, although about two-thirds of those certified would be willing to make an annual contribution, approximately one-third of those polled either declined to support such a proposal or requested more information on the activities of the Board before making a decision.

In response to these requests, the Board (at its Annual Meeting on June 8, 1969) instructed the Chairman to take steps to keep certified health physicists more informed as to its activities. This letter represents a first step in this direction, and it is hopeful that it will continue to keep open the channels of communication which were so effectively stimulated by the previously cited Questionnaire.

To bring you up-to-date on recent activities, we are enclosing the following items:

1. Annual Report of the Board Chairman  
(June 1, 1968 to May 25, 1969)

Highlights of the year included the certification of 28 additional health physicists, the addition of the American Public Health Association as a third sponsor of the Board, and initiation of a statistical study of the records of approximately 400 people who have taken the written certification examination during the past decade.

2. A copy of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board on June 8, 1969.

As indicated, the Board plans to complete by November, 1969, the evaluation of all candidates who took the written examination on June 9, 1969. Many candidates in the past have indicated dissatisfaction in the delay in making the certification decisions known, and the Board will continue to shorten the evaluation process in any way possible.

Also to be noted is the action of the Board with respect to the establishment of a certification program for health physics technicians. In the opinion of the Board, such a program should not be established until such time as there is a national organization of health physics technicians who request such a program and are willing to offer the leadership and direction required for its success.

3. Annual Report of the Treasurer, ABHP

During the year, the Board continued to receive financial support from the Bureau of Radiological Health, Environmental Control Administration, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in the development of multiple-choice questions for Part I of the written examination. This support amounts to about \$8,000 per year and will culminate in the Board having a "bank" of questions exclusively for use in the certification program.

As may be noted, however, in spite of substantial employer support to Board members for travel and secretarial services, the Board ran a deficit of about \$3,000 during the year.

4. American Board of Health Physics Brochure

This is a copy of a brochure recently developed under the leadership of William C. Reinig, ABHP Secretary-Treasurer. It is designed to provide background information on the Board and its program of activities.

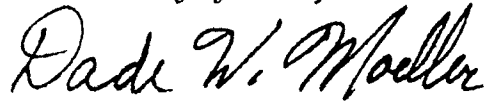
Lastly, you will find among the enclosures a second "Questionnaire" which we would like to have you complete and return. Its purpose is to gather information indicative of the professional progress of health physicists subsequent to certification. As some of you may know, the Board is frequently asked what opportunities for self-improvement and achievement are available or being utilized by "older" health physicists. Hopefully, the responses to this Questionnaire will assist us in determining to what degree such needs are, or are not, being met. Your replies will also enable us to compare the activities of health physicists to people in other professional categories. For these reasons, we hope you will take time to complete and return the Questionnaire.

In closing, we hope the enclosures prove of interest and that you will not hesitate at any time to make your thoughts known to us. The Questionnaire last January demonstrated a distinct lack of communication between the Board and the vast majority of certified health physicists. During the months ahead, the Board will make every effort to correct this situation by keeping you better

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informed of our activities and providing an opportunity for you to make your thoughts known where issues are involved.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dade W. Moeller". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Dade W. Moeller, Ph.D.  
Chairman

DWM:jmb

Enclosures