

The CHP Corner, December 2022

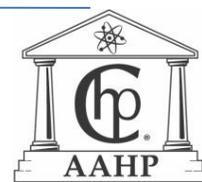
For CHPs, aspiring CHPs, and anyone else on the bell curve.



The American Academy of Health Physics

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DECEMBER PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Gus Potter, CHP, AAHP President

As we come to the end of my term as President of the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP), I would like to thank everyone for trusting me to lead this great group of people that includes the AAHP Executive Committee, the AAHP committees, liaisons with other organizations, and the ABHP. We have done a lot of work this year to make the AAHP more relevant and provide more benefits to our members, and I hope it is found to be beneficial. Soon we will be rolling out a new website which, among other things, will include a jobs board specifically geared toward certified health physicists.

Bylaws and Ballot

You should have received an email on November 21 with two provisions on the bylaws. The first provision adds a new category of membership, the Distinguished member, that awards particular individuals who have given much of themselves to the Board, Academy, or the field at large. This allows the Academy to recognize more than those who are able to receive the Academy's three major awards. There will be no nominations with which to start, although a process can be added if needed. The change allows for 10 awardees per year, but it is expected that the number will be lower for most years. I am sure there will be some growing pains as we start this, but we will review the process and results and make changes as necessary.

The second provision is concerned with a general cleanup of the bylaws. This is infrequent and unusual, but necessary when such a document has been updated with the addition or deletion of a few sentences here and there over the course of

decades. It includes the addition of two committees, one to administer the Distinguished member process and the second being a Communications Committee that has run as an ad hoc committee throughout most of this year. There has been some feedback due to the reformatting of membership section 3 where it may appear that Emeritus status has been deleted. Nothing could be further from the truth, as we greatly value our Emeritus members (including our President Elect!). Emeritus is a sub-membership to Plenary, with all the rights and privileges thereunto, and nothing changes there. I thank AAHP Parliamentarian Elaine Marshall for all the hard work she put into these documents. Comments are appreciated and will be considered for the next revision.

Whether yea or nay, please vote. As with any vote, this is your chance to participate in the AAHP's direction and make your thoughts known. The ballot closes on December 20.

Initiatives

Most of the initiatives that have been started or carried out this year were reported at the AAHP open meeting at the HPS annual meeting in July. This includes formation of the aforementioned Communications Committee and associated communications efforts, disbanding the Title Protection Committee and moving its responsibilities to the Executive Committee, and getting the new website development started. I hope that you all are seeing the new communications coming out, whether on Facebook, LinkedIn, through email, or posted on the home page. I would especially point out the blog site (www.aahp-abhp.org/blog-posts) where some of your colleagues have been interviewed on different subjects and provided great content.

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You will soon see a new video that the Professional Development Committee has produced that provides guidance and information on how to become a CHP. In addition to providing something toward which we all can point interested colleagues, who may be interested in certification, you will see this and the existing video on hiring a CHP at the AAHP booth at HPS and other meetings.

Thanks

As my tenure comes to a close, I am quite pleased with the work that was accomplished by the Executive Committees, the standing and ad hoc committees, and the ABHP this year. Each of the AAHP committees fills a vital role in certification, recertification, or other areas vital to the work of the AAHP for its members. As I'm going long with this letter, I won't name each member or chair, but I would like to direct you to the committees' webpage (www.aahp-abhp.org/organization/committees) to see who of your CHP colleagues is on the committees and which committee you may be interested in serving on, and I thank each chair and member of the committees for their hard work.

This whole effort would be meaningless without the work of the ABHP. Having served as the Chair of the ABHP and of the Part II Exam Panel, I can say with confidence that the Board has difficult tasks and that

each member sees the process as an important calling and supports the candidates in seeing through the work it takes to become a CHP. The Board did excellent work this year in meeting their goals and timeline, providing great exams, and elevating many to the title of CHP. We welcome our new CHPs into the Academy.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Executive Committee for its hard work. In addition to the usual winter and summer meetings, we have met virtually each month to support our initiatives. Each member of the committee has participated in our ongoing efforts, which I very much appreciate. I think we will all be able to look back on this year and see the good work that has been accomplished.

As the year ends, I'll be leaving you in the capable hands of Carolyn MacKenzie. She has been helpful and supportive throughout the year, and I know that she will carry on well. I'd like to express my appreciation also to Michael Canino, our Executive Director. His hard work every day for the Academy helps keep things going and his support of my year as President was a huge part of being able to accomplish what we did.

I wish each of you the best holiday season and a joyous New Year.