

Call for AAHP Nominations

Jerry Hunt, Chair Nominating Committee

The American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) Nominating Committee needs your assistance in finding a few good nominees interested in serving as AAHP officers. We are seeking nominees for President-elect, Treasurer, and Director. Nominees must be current Plenary Members of AAHP (active or emeritus). The elected candidates will take office at the 2007 Health Physics Society (HPS) Midyear Meeting and serve a three-year term of office. Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee (Steven H. Brown, William P. Fitzgerald, Jeffery M. Hoffman, Jerry B. Hunt, David S. Myers, Carl J. Paperiello, Kathryn H. Pryor, Charles E. Roessler, or James S. Willison) by phone, fax, or email to volunteer or to nominate someone. Contact information for these individuals can be found in the HPS Membership Handbook or at the AAHP web site or you may contact the chairman directly at huntjb@ornl.gov.

The Nominating Committee would also like to thank the members who came off the Committee this year: Mary L. Birch, Joel O. Lubenau, and Johnafred M. Thomas, past chairman.

Continuing Education Committee Activities

Jeffrey Kotsch, Chair

The Continuing Education Committee held three 8-hour training classes at the annual HPS meeting in Spokane:

- Identification and Control of Electromagnetic Fields (0 – 300GHz), by John Leonowich – 21 attendees
- Low Dose Effects of Ionizing Radiation, by Douglas Boreham – 48 attendees
- Training Emergency Responders; Materials, Tools, and Methods for Health Physicists, by Brooke Buddemeier and J. DiLorenzo – 53 attendees

For the upcoming mid-year HPS meeting in Scottsdale, the Committee will be holding two 8-hour training classes on January 21, 2006:

- Medical Internal Dose Assessment, by Mike Stabin
- Health Effects of Ionizing Radiation in the Context of Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism, by Dan Strom

The Academy and the Committee deeply appreciate the time and efforts of the presenters of these courses.

10 CFR Part 35, Medical Use of Byproduct Material

Mary Birch, ABHP Chair

On March 30, 2005, the NRC published in the Federal Register (70 FR 16336) revisions to 10 CFR Part 35, Medical Use of Byproduct Material, that eliminated the list of accepted specialty boards from the regulation. On April 4, 2005, the American Board of Health Physics (ABHP) received a letter from the NRC notifying it that the previous

recognition of the ABHP as a specialty board for Radiation Safety Officer would lapse on October 25, 2005, and, if the Board should decide to retain NRC recognition of its certification process, it should do so no later than mid-August 2005. The ABHP applied for recognition as a specialty board for the certification of Radiation Safety Officers on July 29, 2005. To meet the educational requirements of 10 CFR Part 35.50, the Board with the concurrence of the AAHP Executive Committee, has revised the educational requirements for certification and the Prospectus is being revised to state:

“As a minimum, the applicant must submit evidence (for example, official college transcripts or certified translations of official transcripts) of earning a bachelor's or graduate degree from an accredited college or university in physical science or engineering or in a biological science with a minimum of 20 semester hours in physical science.”

This change is effective for applicants applying to take the exam in 2006.

ABMP Certification Opportunity for CHPs

K. David Steidley, ABMP Liason

The American Board of Medical Physics, sponsored in part by the AAHP, has created a three-year window that expires in December 2006 to allow the entrance of baccalaureate level individuals who are well-experienced Medical Health Physicists (MHP) to their examination for certification in MHP. Now eligible in this window are those certified by the American Board of Health Physics with 5 years experience in medical health physics. The ABMP will waive Part I (General Medical Physics) exam requirement for physicists who are already certified by the ABHP. Candidates without their HP boards but with a B.S. degree from an accredited university in physics, medical physics, health physics, or another appropriately related field and with 15 years experience in medical health physics may also apply. The experience for Medical Health Physics must be obtained as a provider of services in a healthcare facility. The ABMP tests the candidate's experience and practical knowledge in the area of current radiation protection standards for both ionizing and non-ionizing radiation. Part I is a multiple choice test on General Medical Physics while Part II covers topics in medical health physics. Part III is a three member panel oral test of 2 hours duration. More information may be obtained at the web site: <http://www.abmpexam.com/>. The MHP panel chair, K. David Steidley, Ph.D. will be glad to take questions at 973-322-5625.

ABHP Examination No. 1 – June 1960

As promised in last month's CHP Corner, a 10 point question from the 1st ABHP exam is listed below. Candidates were required to answer 15 out of 20 ten-point questions, plus a 50-point essay in an exam time limit of 3 hours.

1. a) Why is Sr^{90} an exceptionally toxic radioactive poison?

- b) Why is it that different types of radiation have varying degrees of relative biological effectiveness?
- c) What are the initial events in tissue leading to the biological effects of radiation?
- d) What chemical products are thought to be formed during the irradiation of water?
- e) What are the principal physiological effects of chronic whole-body exposure to gamma rays?