

CHP Corner



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF HEALTH PHYSICS email: AAHP@burkinc.com

1313 Dolley Madison Blvd. ■ Suite 402 ■ McLean, VA 22101 ■ 703-790-1745 ■ FAX: 703-790-2672

Address contributions for *CHP News* and “CHP Corner” to:

Editor Kyle Kleinhans, CHP Associate Editor Harry Anagnostopoulos, CHP

Email: klink17@tds.net

Email: harold.anagnostopoulos@nrc.gov

We need your help! The Professional Development Committee (PDC) is looking for interesting pictures of certified health physicists at work to post in our American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) booth for the annual meeting. The pictures we have now are old and need to be updated. Please send pictures, with captions describing the activities, to PDC Chair Jan Johnson at janetj@sopris.net. Please also include the names of the individuals in the pictures in case we need permission to use them. Thanks for your help.

Academy Seeking Associate Editor for “CHP Corner” and *CHP News*

After about a dozen years, your editor is ready to hand the reins to Harry Anagnostopoulos, the associate editor, thus creating an opening for a new associate editor. The associate editor is expected to help the editor as needed and to learn the process of putting together the monthly “CHP Corner” and the biannual *CHP News*. An associate editor is expected to serve for a couple of years before taking over as editor.

If you are a certified health physicist (CHP) and would like to be considered for this position, or have questions about it, please contact the editor at klink17@tds.net.

Show Your Support to Exam Candidates!

In keeping with tradition, please wear your Hawaiian shirts on Monday, 13 July 2015, to show your support for the exam candidates.

Part II Examination Panel

Rick Adams, Chair

As we head to the 2015 Health Physics Society Annual Meeting this summer, there will be a subset of folks with possibly a little anxiety about their first day. For many individuals, the first day of the meeting is the day they get to challenge themselves to see if their preparations over the past months will pay off. They will be taking the test put together by the Part II Examination Panel. The panel consists of about 30 individuals, professionals and experts in their respective fields, who work diligently to put together a test that is both fair and challenging. They write questions testing others to the knowledge level that would be expected of professional health physicists and enjoy a FREE breakfast and lunch (or two) while working with a great group of professionals to make an exam that tests the knowledge of potential CHPs. Participation on the panel is very rewarding. If you become a member of the team, you can get lots of recertification points and can receive travel support to attend the panel workshop during the annual meeting. The following is a synopsis of the typical Part II Examination Panel year.

After the Part II exam is taken, questions are sent to each panel member for grading. Panel members and American Board of Health Physics (ABHP) members work in teams of three to grade each of the questions as assigned by the panel chair. A panel member typically grades one required 50-point core question and one elective 100-point topical question. 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 early fall, and the candidates are informed of their results.

Sometime after the first of the year, the balloting round begins. Each panel and ABHP member ranks the twelve core questions and the three questions for each topical portion of the exam that are selected by the chair for the coming year's test. The panel chair tallies the results and begins the final Part II exam development process.

Another task done by the committee is development/correction of questions that could be used in future exams. The 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 topical areas (accelerators, environmental, fuel cycle, medical, nonionizing, power reactors, university, and general health physics). These questions can be entirely new or updates and revisions to existing questions. These questions are submitted to the chair in time for formatting for the panel workshop.

The panel workshop will be held on 11 and 12 July 2015 in Indianapolis, Indiana, just prior to the annual meeting. A group of panel members will attend the workshop along with the 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. This is where your knowledge will be tested to improve the process. At the end of the workshop, the top three choices for each core question and each topical area question are selected for inclusion in the exam bank.

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 Wei-Hsung Wang, Past Chair Curt Kwasniewski, Allen Mabry, Betsy Ullrich, Chris Kessler, Clifford Stephan, David Rynders, Gerald George, Gregory E. Jones, Hans Oldewage, Henry Lynn, Jeff Chapman, John Dixon, John J. Tomon, Johnafred Thomas, Joseph McDonald, Kathleen Dinnel-Jones, Kelly L. Ausbrooks, Latha Vasudevan, Michael Campbell, Michael Stabin, Tom Hansen, Toshihide Ushino, Wes Boyd, William McCarthy, William P. Roach, William T. Bullard, and William Uhland. In addition, we thank Nancy Johnson from Burk & Associates for her valuable support and guidance 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 (AAHP) annual dues or email me at rwachp@yahoo.com.

Title Protection/Professional Recognition Committee

Steve Frey, Chair

The Title Protection/Professional Recognition Committee (TPPRC) is a standing committee of American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP). The mission of TPPRC is to defend and promote the titles and names "certified health physicist" and its acronym "CHP" as they are perceived and defined by relevant legislative and licensing bodies. The TPPRC also promotes professional recognition of CHPs and prepares an annual report to the AAHP Executive Committee.

Since our last report, TPPRC, in continuing an effort that began early in 2014, drew together input from various factions within AAHP, the American Board of Health Physics (ABHP), and the Health Physics Society (HPS) to develop an application to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Centers for Clinical Standards and Quality/Survey and Certification Group to accept the ABHP as a qualified agency for certifying individuals for Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) director of a high-complexity testing laboratory, particularly a radiobiology laboratory. The comprehensive process was spearheaded by Vicki Morris, then-chair of TPPRC, and resulted in the production of a robust letter of application dated 14 February 2015 from Patrick J. LaFrate, ABHP chair, to the DHHS Centers for Clinical Standards and Quality/Survey and Certification Group for this purpose. Unfortunately, the application was rejected. Nonetheless, the col-

lective effort was of institutional benefit to AAHP, ABHP, and HPS, as much was learned about the designation of “qualified expert” within government agencies and what would be required for CHPs to achieve such designation within those agencies.

Also in early 2015, several offices in TPPRC changed hands. Committee members for 2015 (term expires at the end of the year indicated) are:

Chair

Steven Frey ('15)
1412 Pine Crest Drive
South Williamsport, PA 17702
570-567-7443
Stevenfrey@aol.com

Members

Travis Beard ('15)
Charles Kent ('17)
Jay Maisler ('17)
Ruth McBurney ('17)
John Solini ('16)

The TPPRC is eager to serve CHPs per our mission! Please contact us about any title recognition issues or suggestions that you may have. We are here for you.