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The Part II Examination Panel Process

Wei-Hsung Wang, CHP, Chair

The Part II Panel of Examiners Workshop will be held on 16 and 17 July 2016 in Spokane, Washington (just prior to the 61st Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society). At this intense, two-day workshop, a group of panel members will work diligently to review and improve questions and their stock solutions, with the goal of ensuring that the examination will be fair and challenging.

The two primary responsibilities of the Part II Panel of Examiners are Part II examination preparation and examination grading. Participation on the panel is a very rewarding (and sometimes humbling) experience and involves a significant commitment. Members of the panel have staggered terms of four years each. Panel members normally contribute approximately 100 to 200 hours per year.

Panel duties include drafting/reviewing questions, attending the panel workshop, and grading the questions. In exchange for their hard work, active panel members are eligible to obtain substantial recertification credits and receive financial support (e.g., for transportation, hotel, and meals) to attend the workshop.

After the Part II examination is given in July, grading activities begin. Members of both the panel and the American Board of Health Physics (ABHP) work in teams of three to grade each of the questions, as assigned by the panel chair.



Photo courtesy of The U.S. National Archives Series: Lewis Hine Photographs for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) (Record Group 142)

A panel/board member usually grades one of the required 50-point questions from one of the four core topics of health physics (i.e., biological effects of radiation, measurements and instrumentation, personnel dosimetry, and shielding and activation) and one elective 100-point question from one of the eight specialty topics of health physics (i.e., accelerators, environmental, fuel cycle/waste management, general, medical, nonionizing, power reactors, and university).

A team leader assembles 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 examination results after the ABHP board meeting in November.

In January, the panel chair chooses three questions from each subject-area category and sends them to all members of both the panel and the ABHP for evaluation and balloting. Completed ballots are then provided to the chair. The chair tallies the results, ranks the questions, and finalizes the composition of the Part II examination for review by the ABHP.

After the balloting round is concluded, 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 four core topics and one 100-point question from one of the eight specialty topics. These questions can be entirely new or updates and revisions of existing questions. These questions are submitted to the panel chair in time for compiling and formatting for the subsequent panel workshop in July.

The panel members put in a tremendous effort. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the entire panel for taking time out of their busy schedules to contribute to this vital task.

Kathleen Dinnel-Jones (vice chair)	Jeff Chapman	Mark Krohn	Johnafred Thomas
Richard Adams (past chair)	John Dixon	Henry Lynn	John Tomon
Matthew Arno	Daniel Evans	Allen Mabry	William Uhland
Wes Boyd	Gerald George	William McCarthy	Betsy Ullrich
William Bullard	Tom Hansen	Joseph McDonald	Toshihide Ushino
Michael Campbell	Gregory Jones	Hans Oldewage	Latha Vasudevan
	Chris Kessler	David Rynders	
	John Kinneman	Clifford Stephan	

Finally, a great big THANK YOU to Nancy Johnson, executive director of the ABHP, for her valuable guidance and support in the question-writing and grading process as well as the workshop arrangements.

If you are interested in participating on the panel for a four-year adventure, please indicate your willingness when you submit your American Academy of Health Physics annual dues.

Title Protection and Professional Recognition

Jay Maisler, CHP, Chair

The Title Protection/Professional Recognition Committee is responsible for developing and implementing legislation protecting the title and name of "Certified Health Physicist" and "CHP."

Towards this end, the committee has coordinated closely with the American Industrial Hygiene Association in efforts to recognize both the health physics and the industrial hygiene certifications in various states. The committee is also engaged in promoting the professional recognition of certified health physicists. The committee will meet this year, in person, at the 61st Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society in Spokane, Washington.

The current committee composition is:

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| • Jay Maisler (chair) | • Charles Kent | • John Solini |
| • Richard Harvey | • Ruth McBurney | • Paul Ward |