



American Academy of Health Physics
American Board of Health Physics

Corner

Address contributions for *CHP News* and "CHP Corner" to:

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From the Part I Panel of Examiners

On Saturday, 9 May 1998, the first ABHP Part I Exam Panel question writing workshop was held in Richland, Washington. A good time was had by all. We spent the day discussing the science and art of health physics. The participants submitted many new questions to the ABHP Part I Exam Panel.

New Mexico (contact Morgan Cox), New Jersey (contact Mike Nunno), and Charlotte, North Carolina, (contact Mary Birch) are planning to hold similar Part I question writing workshops in the summer or fall. All CHPs and associate members of the Academy who have passed Part I are eligible and invited to participate. Each participant will receive four continuing education credits (CECs) plus one CEC for each question subsequently approved by the board for insertion in the question bank. There is a cumulative limit of 16 CECs for question preparation. CHPs interested in participating in any of the proposed workshops should express their interest to the local sponsor "champions."

For those of you who cannot make any of the exam panel workshops, you can submit questions to Ellen Hochheiser, Ph.D., CHP, P.O. Box 1000, H6-34, Richland, WA 99352; phone: 509-376-2190.

From the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the American Academy of Health Physics will next meet on *Sunday, 12 July, at 1:00 in conjunction with the Health Physics Society Annual meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota*. Some highlights of the last meeting (7 February 1998 in Mobile, Alabama) have been previously published in the April 1998 "CHP Corner." After review of exhaustive meeting minutes prepared by George Chabot, Jr., additional deliberations from that meeting are provided here. While perhaps not timely, they are summarized in the hope that it will spark additional interest and participation by Academy members,

either by *attending* the Minneapolis meeting, or by contacting an Executive Committee member with some feedback/input.

President Kathren and Past President Martin have attempted to increase representation by CHPs on the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements—particularly CHPs with recent operational health physics experience.

Both written and telephone contacts have been initiated by AAHP officers with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding the issue of getting CHPs described and accepted as "competent persons" in regulatory contexts.

The Academy Treasurer, Jean St. Germain, and Program Director Nancy Johnson are collaborating in trying to better define and differentiate between fixed and variable costs. This is intended to improve the Academy leadership's ability to forecast the financial impact of fluctuations in numbers of applicants for certification.

The Continuing Education Committee reported on research conducted surrounding a suggestion that the Academy formally seek "reciprocity" of continuing education credits with the American Board of Industrial Hygiene and the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. This led to additional discussion of existing reciprocity or courtesy extended by other credentialing bodies including the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and the American Academy of Physicists in Medicine. The Executive Committee also acted to apply for recognition of the CHP by the National Environmental Training Association.

Considerable discussion resulted in a motion approved to make terms of Academy committee members and chairs, appointed by the President, to coincide with the term of the President who appoints them. Timing of election slate recruitment by the Nominating Committee under certain midyear meeting schedule scenarios had initiated this discussion.

Jerry Martin proposed several enhancements to the benefits offered to Associate members of the Academy, including a rewritten welcoming letter, enhancements to the certificate, reduced registration fees for continuing education courses, and automatic receipt of the Part II examination each year shortly after the exam date. The Executive Committee unanimously approved these recommendations.

It was agreed that the membership would be polled at the annual meeting for reaction to a suggestion that the Academy issue membership cards. Costs have been researched, but the leadership did not feel confident that they could predict CHP interest in this benefit.

Hope your bags are packed . . . look forward to seeing you in Minneapolis!