



American Academy of Health Physics American Board of Health Physics

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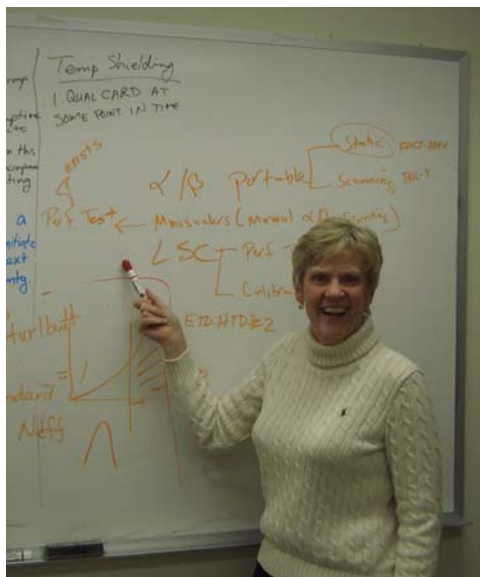
CHPs in Action President's Message Nancy P. Kirner Certified Health Physicist®

"CHPs in Action:" that is the challenge I am setting for myself and for you, the members of the American Academy of Health Physics for 2008. Let us show some action!

One of the more active CHPs that I know is Frazier Bronson. He was able to cut through red tape better than Zorro to achieve registration from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for the title "Certified Health Physicist" and the stylized CHP logo. As I remember, the logo was developed from the winning contest entry submitted by Keith Schiager and then stylized by Danene Warnock. Frazier has an article in this issue of the CHP News instructing us on how to use our newly registered designations. Please, follow Frazier's directions and use the titles properly in all your correspondence and commerce. It's truly a matter of "Use it, or Lose it," and it we need to keep it.

On a practical note, we need photos of CHPs doing interesting things, so we can populate our new emerging website with images that represent what we do. In keeping with this "contest" tradition, let us submit our photos of "CHPs in Action." Now is the time for all you CHP-photographers (not just Sandy Perle and Casper Sun) to submit photographs of what you do and what others do under your direction. Although much of our work happens in front of a computer screen in an office, please, no computer shots. The photo accompanying this article is

my submission; I'm sure you can do better! Send those action photos to Ed Maher at emaher@moellerinc.com by July 6, 2008. Ed has promised that a new website will be appearing this year, and he would like some high quality photos to show the breadth of our professional service sectors and the diversity of our membership. Winners of the CHP Photography Contest will be published in upcoming issues of the CHP News, as well as have the honor of gracing our website.



Action is also the by-word for the Academy's new officers. Rich Vetter, President-Elect, is busy populating the various Academy Committees with members eager to provide service. If you want to serve on an Academy Committee, please contact Dr. Vetter at rvetter@mayo.edu. Dan Mantooth, Secretary, has completed his first draft meeting minutes, and Director Steve Rima has been instrumental in helping the Continuing Education Committee. Existing officers continue to perform their functions. Ed Bailey, Treasurer, Bob Miltenberger, Past-Secretary, and Jim Tarpinian, Chair of the American

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Board of Health Physics, are reviewing our financial

position and putting together the new budget. Dave Myers, Parliamentarian, has already proposed implementing wording for the motions enacted in our Mid-Year Meeting. Ken Kasper, Member-at-Large, has been providing his opinions and votes on issues, also.

Our Past-President, Ed Maher, has one of the more visible and active assignments: that of organizing the technical session for Tuesday, July 15, 2008, at the 53rd Health Physics Society Annual Meeting. Ed has put together an intriguing program entitled, “Radiological Accidents and Incidents - Lessons Learned?” See May 2008 CHP Corner for a full description of the program. The speakers were selected because of their unique and first-hand knowledge of notable radiological accidents and incidents that have influenced the practice of health physics over the past 40 years. The types of accidents and incidents that will be discussed are varied and will include DOD, DOE, medical, utility, and university settings. Many of these accidents and incidents are very well known and others are not, but the lessons learned are all remarkably similar and worth recalling from time-to-time and passing down to new generations of health physicists.

By the time this Newsletter is published, you should have taken action and voted for our new officers. We have another excellent slate of candidates. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Kathy Pryor¹, provides us with hard choices again this year. Regis Greenwood and Paul Stansbury are running for President, Ray Johnson and Jim Yusko are both hoping to be Treasurer, and Robert Hayes and Michael Bollenbacher seek the position of Director. I am always amazed at how the Webmaster, Scott Medling, organizes the ballot and maintains secrecy and validity of our votes: only the computer knows, and it’s not telling. A big thank you to Scott for all that he does behind the scenes. Also, a big thank you to all the candidates for their willingness to run for office and to serve the Academy.

Every month, the Editor of the CHP News and Corner, Kyle Kleinhans, informs us of Academy and Board events, news, and actions.

The real action of the Academy happens at the Committee level, though. I will not repeat the membership rosters in this issue, as that information appeared in my Summer 2007 article, but I will relate some of the highlights of this year, so far. The Continuing Education Committee will be offering three 8-hour courses on Saturday, July 12, in

Pittsburgh, PA, in conjunction with the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society. The course offerings are:

- “Key Elements of Preparing Emergency Responders for Nuclear and Radiological Terrorism: An Overview of NCRP Commentary 19” presented by Ian Scott Hamilton;
- “Radiation Risk Communication,” presented by Raymond Johnson; and
- “Developing & Demonstrating Compliance with DCGLs for Subsurface Soils” by Jeffrey W. Lively

The Professional Standards & Ethics Committee is nearing issuance of guidance for CHPs on expert testimony and similar legal challenges. The Title Protection/Professional Recognition Committee worked with the Hawaii Legislature to get a study bill passed to support recognition of Certified Health Physicists. Tom Buhl, Committee Chair, even volunteered to go to Hawaii, if needed. The Exam Site committee has similarly been preparing for many convenient and secure alternate locations for our candidates to take Part I and Part II Exams.

Speaking of the exam, the American Board of Health Physics, operating independently from the Academy, has renewed its accreditation from the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards. The Board is also cautiously examining the possibility of accreditation under ANSI Standard ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024, “Accreditation of Bodies Operating Certification of Persons.” The Board, and especially the Panel Chairs, are to be commended for their continual efforts in maintaining high administrative and technical standards of accreditation, and for providing the Academy with well-qualified members.

In this brief article, I’ve tried to describe the challenge for myself and for you: serve when asked; then perform to the best of your ability. I’ve mentioned some members by name, but most serve anonymously with dedication and distinction. The Academy is most grateful for the many hours of service and time from your family that you give to your profession. And, please, while you are doing your regular job, ask your organization to professionally capture your interesting endeavors “on film” and enter the CHPs in Action Photography Contest. See you in Pittsburgh!

¹ Did you know she qualified for the Boston Marathon? Now, that’s Action!

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF HEALTH PHYSICS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 27, 2008 Oakland, CA

1.0 Call to Order

President Ed Maher called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. local time on January 27, 2008, and welcomed those present.

2.0 Welcome to Members and Guests

Executive Committee Members:

Ed Bailey – Treasurer
Frazier Bronson – Ad Hoc Trademark Committee
Regis Greenwood - Visitor
Nancy Johnson - Program Director
Nancy Kirner – President-Elect
Ed Maher - President
Dan Mantooth – Secretary-Elect
David Myers – Director and Parliamentarian
Steve Rima – Director
Richard Vetter – President-Elect Designate

2.1 Announcements

The Parliamentarian verified that there was not a quorum. Motions and voting were deferred until after installation of new officers in order to achieve a quorum. Ed Maher suggested that outgoing Executive Committee (EC) members call-in to the Midyear meeting so that a quorum can be obtained. The Parliamentarian commented that there is no requirement in the Bylaws or SOPs that EC members be physically present at the meeting and that call-in participation is possible. Nancy Johnson stated that she would look into getting a speaker phone at future EC meetings.

3.0 Discussion and Approval of Agenda

The meeting agenda and handout packet had been distributed electronically to the Executive Committee in advance of the meeting.

The recommendation was made that Nancy Johnson request changes to the agenda when distribution of the pre-meeting package.

Nancy Johnson asked if there is a preferred format for officer and committee reports. Ed Maher commented that the HPS has a standard committee report format that could be revised and adapted for Academy meetings.

4.0 Approval of Minutes of July 2007 Meeting

Secretary Robert Miltenberger had provided a draft of the meeting minutes from the Executive Committee meeting held in July 2007 in Portland, OR.

5.0 Reports of 2007 Officers

5.1 President's Report (Ed Maher)

Ed summarized his written report which had been included in the meeting packet. Of particular interest, Ed mentioned the following:

- ✓ Drafted and submitted a CHP Corner article “The President’s Report”. The article appeared in the December 2007 issue and included the recent AAHP Election and Bylaw voting results.
- ✓ Prepared a congratulatory and welcome letter to all candidates who had completed all requirements for ABHP certification. Nancy Johnson reported that the letters will be sent with their ABHP Certificates.
- ✓ Reviewed several draft designs for the new AAHP Website received from Brett Burk. The templates will be submitted and demonstrated at the Midyear Executive Committee Meeting for final selection. Sample designs were included in the Executive Committee meeting packet.
- ✓ Reviewed two draft NCRP Reports. The first was the report from SC 1-8 on “Risk to the Thyroid from Ionizing Radiation” and the second one was the report from SC 6-5 on “Radiation Protection and Measurements Issues Related to cargo Scanning and Accelerator Produced High-Energy X-Rays.” No comments were submitted on either draft report.
- ✓ Sent the revised GTTK Document for the President and Excel Spreadsheet with the AAHP Recurring Action Tracker to the Parliamentarian on January 10, 2008.
- ✓ Selected a proposed AAHP Special Session topic for the Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. The proposed

- ✓ title of the AAHP Special Session is “Radiological Accidents and Incidents: Lessons Learned?” A preliminary agenda for the Special session was included in the agenda package. Approximately one-third of the suggested speakers have been contacted and asked to participate. Any suggestions from AAHP members would be appreciated.

5.2 President-Elect (Nancy Kirner)

Nancy summarized her written report which had been included in the meeting packet. Of particular interest, Nancy mentioned the following:

- ✓ Submitted an article to the CHP News on committee appointments by July 15
- ✓ Imported the Schedule of Recurring Action Tracker Items from Ed Maher’s Excel spreadsheet into a relational database and reported the tasks by date and by person. The spreadsheet assumes January and June meetings of the EC. Rich Vetter asked who updates the database. Nancy indicated that Parliamentarian updates the database. However, it was agreed that since the Action Tracker is the President’s tool and should be maintained by the President as Appendix B of SOP 6.2.2, Rev 2. Nancy described that the database is in Microsoft Access. Rich Vetter /Frazier Bronson asked that a PDF file be made available for use by actionees since it is more usable. Frazier asked if there was a process or SOP for updating the list. Nancy indicated it was the President’s tool and discussion indicated it was the President who is responsible for insuring that actionees complete their assignments.
- ✓ Sent confirming e-mails to each of the new committee appointees thanking them for serving the Academy.

5.3 Past President (Jim Bogard)

No written report submitted.

5.4 Secretary (Bob Miltenberger)

No written report submitted.

5.5 Treasurer (Ed Bailey)

Ed summarized his written report which had been included in the meeting packet. Of particular interest, Ed mentioned the following:

- ✓ Created a password for access to Wachovia account.
- ✓ The fair market value of intermediate- and long-term funds totals \$677,465 as of November 30, 2007. This represents an increase of \$52,586 (8.4%) from February 28, 2007. The performance of these funds over time was attached in the agenda package.

- ✓ Rich Vetter asked why we don’t have current value as stated since password is now available.
- ✓ Ed Bailey stated that it doesn’t really mean anything. We always report as of a specified date.
- ✓ Conducted a review and rated the Performance of AAHP Investments and the Financial Manager for the period ending November 30, 2007. The results of these reviews are presented later in this report. Stocks have outperformed S&P consistently. The Financial adviser continues to do an acceptable job.
- ✓ Long-term security met 150% criterion (Actual is 221%). Short and intermediate term added should be 100% of annual budget (Actual is 132%). All investments are within AAHP Policy.
- ✓ Rich asked a question about operating significantly under budget. Ed Maher indicated that this would be discussed later in the Special Report.
- ✓ Ed Bailey indicated the issue maybe due to not justifying budget requests that maybe greater than that actually needed.

5.6 Parliamentarian (Dave Myers)

Dave summarized his written report which had been included in the meeting packet. Of particular interest, Dave mentioned the following:

- ✓ Submitted an article to Kyle Kleinhans for the CHP Corner of the Newsletter on his activities as Parliamentarian. In the article, he mentioned that Goal #5 in the strategic plan is to encourage and facilitate communications among the Academy’s leadership and its committees, with CHPs, other professionals and their professional organizations, and the public. Since there was some discussion at the Knoxville meeting about whether the Academy was doing enough to meet this goal, he raised the question in his article.
- ✓ He included a request for comments on Goal #5 and our success in trying to achieve it in his annual letter to Academy members. Received one comment and that was related to the recent Bylaws change requiring CHPs to maintain their certification if they wanted to refer to themselves as CHPs. The conclusion drawn, of many possible conclusions, is that we were doing an adequate job in meeting Goal #5 in the strategic plan.
- ✓ Checked Bylaws and determined that we can hold meetings by telecom for the purpose of achieving a quorum.

6.0 Installation of New Officers

Ed Maher made introductory comments before installation of new officers. He emphasized accountability from

committee chairs to complete responsibilities in a timely manner. He complimented Nancy Kirner for her efforts on the Action Item Tracker. Ed asked to continue his efforts on the Website Design with Nancy's approval. He thanked the EC for their support during his tenure and recognized specifically Nancy Kirner, Jim Bogard, and Frazier Bronson, with special thanks to Nancy Johnson of the Secretariat.

Ed expressed a desire to see the relationship with ABMP be changed but recognized that this may be a difficult transition but something that needs to be pursued.

Ed turned the gavel over to Nancy Kirner.

Nancy started her tenure by thanking Ed Maher for his service.

7.0 Committee Correspondence and Reports

7.1 Appeals Committee (Bob Cherry)

The Appeals Committee report had been included in the meeting packet. No committee activity had been conducted since the Portland Meeting (July 2007).

Nancy Kirner discussed the fact that no activity had been reported for the previous two meetings. However, the committee was still needed in the event that problems arose.

7.2 Continuing Education Committee (Sarah Hoover)

The Continuing Education Committee did not submit a written report. The following verbal report was given by Nancy Johnson:

- ✓ Two courses were presented on January 26th:
 - Ray Johnson, presented "Auditing Radiography" with 29 attendees;
 - Ken Groves, presented "Homeland Security" with 15 attendees.
- ✓ Rich Vetter asked if we had offered 2-4 hour courses in lieu of 1-8 hour course. The answer was "No".
- ✓ Lots of CEC applications.
- ✓ Non-performing members are a problem on the Committee. There is the possibility of removing non-performing members.
- ✓ This committee is very active.

Ed Bailey asked about on-line training opportunities. Nancy Johnson said this is still a question but the committee hasn't met to discuss it.

7.3 Exam Site Selection Committee (Dawn Banghart)

No written report submitted.

7.4 Finance Committee (Paul Stansbury/Ed Bailey)

Ed summarized the committee written report which had been included in the meeting packet. Of The Finance Committee proposes and recommends the Executive Committee approve two new SOPs:

Ed Bailey described the two proposed SOPs and opened floor to questions and discussion.

Proposed SOP 2.4.2 – Academy Investment Policy

In July of 2005, the Executive Committee approved the revisions to the Statement of the Academy's Investment Policy. The Finance Committee recommends that the Statement of Investment Policy be changed in format and be adopted as an SOP. Such a conversion will place the Statement in the Academy's chief controlled document system, rather than keeping the document as a stand alone, controlled document.

Proposed SOP 2.4.3 – Financial Operations Details

In recent meetings, the Executive Committee has:

- Defined a process by which the Finance Committee will decide whether to recommend a performance-based bonus for Burk and Associates (BAI), and
- Decided that the Finance Committee must vote to release funds from the Finance Committee's contingency fund.

The proposed SOP codifies these processes. In addition, it:

- Defines the Academy's fiscal year
- States the process by which the Finance Committee recommends a cost of living increase in the BAI fee.
- Defines and requires the President's contingency fund and incorporates (and controls) the Academy's Travel Reimbursement Form. (This form contains much of the Academy's travel reimbursement policies.)

Rich Vetter requested Ed's opinion of the SOPs. Ed spoke in support of both.

Jim Tarpinian also offered a statement of support of both SOPs as being important for accreditation purposes and uniformity of operations.

7.5 Nominating Committee (Carl Paperiello/Kathy Pryor)

The Nominating Committee report had been included in

the meeting packet. A summary of the report is provided below:

- ✓ The Nominating Committee members solicited nominees from the AAHP membership for the offices of President -Elect, Treasurer, and Director. A slate of potential candidates was assembled, and in accordance with AAHP Standard Operating Procedure 2.5, the Committee ranked the nominees and selected the highest ranking candidates. The outcome of the ranking process is as follows:

President Elect: Regis Greenwood & Paul Stansbury
Treasurer: Ray Johnson & Jim Yusko
Director: Mike Bollenbacher & Robert Hayes

- ✓ The Nominating Committee is working with Paul Rohwer (Chair, Professional Standards and Ethics Committee to request nominations for the Joyce P. Davis Memorial Award. Nominations were due to the committee by February 10, 2008. The committee provided recommendations by March 10, 2008.

7.6 Professional Development Committee (Jay Maisler)

The Professional Development Committee did not submit a written report.

Nancy Johnson said that the PDC was responsible for assisting in erecting and taking down and manning the Academy/ABHP booth. She requested volunteers for manning the booth.

Ed Maher identified that the Standards for RSOs at Health Care Facilities are not embraced by the entire medical health physics community. As a result, the American College of Radiology (ACR) developed their own committee. We are currently not participating in the ACR process.

Rich Vetter asked if this was not more an interaction with the American Board of Medical Physics (ABMP). Ed said the issue started with the ACR.

Nancy Kirner committed to follow up with the committee chair.

7.7 Professional Standards & Ethics Committee (Paul Rohwer)

The written report had been included in the meeting packet. A summary of activities is provided below:

- ✓ There were no complaints referred to the committee.
- ✓ A call issued for nominations for the Joyce P Davis Memorial Award.
- ✓ Suggested changes to SOP 2.7.1 were submitted.
- ✓ The committee continues to work on question of dealing with convicted felons who are certified or want to sit for certification.

Ed Maher opened this issue for discussion. Many issues and examples were raised by several individuals. Ed identified these as the hold up for resolving the issue. For example, do we count all felonies or only certain classes of felonies? The issue started in October 2006. The discussion is on-going. It was suggested that we go to other organizations for input. The Ethics Committee is still wrestling with this issue. Dave Myers cautioned that we must do nothing that is not in accordance with our existing SOPs and must carefully consider any revisions. Ed Bailey asked if we don't all sign the ethics statement.

7.8 Title Protection/Professional Recognition Committee (Tom Buhl)

The Appeals Committee report had been included in the meeting packet.

- ✓ A draft bill has been prepared and is being submitted to the Wisconsin State Legislature for their 2008 session. This is a new bill, rather than a proposed amendment of existing legislation that had already been enacted through the AIHA program.
- ✓ It is also likely that a submittal will be made to the Hawaii State Legislature. A previous submittal to the Nevada State Legislature was to be amended to include CHPs, but it looks like the Legislature wants to postpone action on this bill until its 2009 session.
- ✓ The committee met during the Portland HPS meeting. The Committee reviewed the history of the AAHP's title protection/professional recognition program, particularly with regard to lessons learned. A major action taken during the meeting was to finalize a legislative briefing package that could be provided to CHPs asked to testify before legislative committees in support of the TP/PR program. We plan to have the greater part of this package available for the upcoming 2008 legislative sessions.

Frazier asked if all 3 efforts are in coordination with AIHA. The consensus was "yes".

7.9 Ad Hoc Committee on Investigating Reciprocity (Ed Maher)

Ed Maher reported that dealing with the issue of certification reciprocity is a responsibility of the ABHP and has been handed off to the Board for action. Rich Vetter asked if anyone had defined the term; Ed said no. Ed Bailey remembered that this was a request from an individual member. Not sure that it's an issue unless we are considering recognizing certification from other countries. Ed Maher stated that it was more than that and a formal response should be sent. Ed Maher said it came from Rich Brey. We have a number of folks working overseas and CHP is not recognized abroad. There would be advantages to make the US certification recognized. Jim Tarpinian, requested copies of the notes and materials.

Nancy Kirner reaffirmed that there is value to continuing the Ad Hoc Committee on Investigating Reciprocity but since the issue belongs to the ABHP, the committee will be assigned to the ABHP Board.

7.10 Ad Hoc Trademark Committee (Frazier Bronson)

Frazier summarized his written report which had been included in the meeting packet. Of particular interest, Frazier mentioned the following 3 tasks that the committee had worked on:

- ✓ The "term" Certified Health Physicist is now officially recognized by the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office. Frazier provided the Certificate of Trademark Registration to the Chair of the AAHP. This is a Certification Mark (different from a trademark) and should be used with the ® symbol following.
- ✓ The stylized form of CHP present on our lapel pins has been registered as well. Frazier emphasized that this only applies to use as a pin. Future editions should be marked with the ® symbol to provide maximum protection.
- ✓ Efforts to register the text form of CHP were not successful.

See the full article by Frazier on page 11 of this CHP News.

7.11 Liaisons' Reports

7.11.1 ABMP (Dean Broga/Steven King/Jean St. Germain)

Ed Maher reported that King's tenure with the ABMP is up. The suggested replacement does not meet the SOP requirement but may be a good candidate anyway. Nancy Kirner suggested we follow our SOP and notify the nominating committee. Ed said that it has happened. Kathy

Pryor was notified to evaluate this process subsequent to the EC meeting.

7.11.2 CRCPD (Earl Fordham)

No written report was submitted.

7.11.3 Health Physics Society (Kathy Shingleton)

No written report was submitted.

7.11.4 NRRPT (Dave Kent)

No written report was submitted.

8.0 Reports from the Editor and Webmaster

8.1 Newsletter Editor (Kyle Kleinhans)

The written report had been included in the meeting packet, the highlights included:

- ✓ After completing the CHP Corner Schedule and requesting articles, he continued to run into a unique problem, more articles than he had space for in the standard one-page CHP Corners. In response to this, the August, September, October, and November, 2007 CHP Corners as well as the February 2008 CHP Corner are two-pages in length. The Editor thanked the Executive Committee and Committee Chairs that have submitted articles.
- ✓ In accordance with SOP 3.2.2, the Editor has performed the required annual review of SOP 6.2.15, *GTTK Document for CHP News Editor*, and the proposed revisions have been submitted. The revision addresses correcting Gary Lautenschlager's name and minor revisions to attachments 5.1 and 5.3., and will be addressed under 11.6 of the agenda.

Nancy Kirner noted that reports should not be submitted in "track changes" format.

8.2 Webmaster (Scott Medling)

No written report was submitted.

Brett Burk presented an overview of new website design. The concept is to make the site as flexible as possible at the lowest price. Rich Vetter asked "who is the customer; who uses this page?"

Nancy Johnson said it is used by current or potential candidates, exam panels (currently part II), and they would like to expand to Part I and committees, Committees and consultants.

Ed Maher said there also may be allied organizations using the site.

Dave Myers asked about the developer's workload and can he complete this in a reasonable time frame. Brett's feeling is that once AAHP decides on the final page design, he can complete it in about a month.

There was much discussion about interaction between the paid website designer and the current webmaster and how the work could be most efficiently completed and maintained. All expressed gratitude to Scott Medling who has been the Academy's volunteer webmaster since inception.

9.0 Report of the American Board of Health Physics (Jim Tarpinian)

Jim summarized his written report which had been included in the meeting packet. Of particular interest, Jim mentioned the following:

- ✓ Acknowledged excellent support of the individual Part I and Part II Panel Chairs and the members of the respective Panels. The Board would like to especially thank Rob Forrest (Part I Chair) and Gus Potter (Part II Chair) for their exceptional efforts in developing a fair and challenging exam.
- ✓ The 2007 certification examination was given at the Health Physics Society's Annual Meeting in Portland, OR, and other various locations. 121 candidates took the Part I exam, compared to 111 in 2006. Part I of the 2007 exam was passed by 59 of 121 candidates, yielding a passing rate of 49% (compared to the passing rates of 46% in 2006 and 56% in 2005, a 20 year high). The Assessment Resource Center said that the 2007 Part I exam was one of the best exams we have produced.
- ✓ One hundred and seven candidates took the Part II exam in 2007. The passing rate for Part II of the 2007 exam was 32 % (as compared to 39% in 2006 and 20% in 2005), producing thirty-four candidates eligible for certification by the ABHP. While the passing rate on the 2007 Part II Exam is on the low side, a review of the exam results indicated that there appeared to be a good mix of difficult and easy questions that covered all the domains of practice. The results represented a fair and accurate assessment of the candidates.

Dave Myers asked if we had any sense of what happens in other organizations with regard to passing rates on certification test results. Nancy Johnson and Ed Bailey reported that the organizations reviewed had similar results. Ed Bailey indicated that these discussions have been

going on for some time.

Jim Tarpinian complemented Panels on the level of detail that goes into ensuring exam questions perform well. He also indicated that data are just coming on Part II question performance since the exam bank was closed.

- ✓ The ABHP Chair and the AAHP President co-signed a letter to the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission in support of the AAPM's Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-35-30). The purpose of the Petition was to request a change to NRC's regulations that would allow grandfathering of medical physicists that were certified by either the ABR or the ABMP prior to October 25, 2005 to be listed on NRC licenses as Authorized Medical Physicists (AMPs) or Radiation Safety Officers (RSOs).
- ✓ The ABHP continued its accreditation by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB) while examining the possibility of accreditation under ANSI Standard ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024 "Accreditation of Bodies Operating Certification of Persons". The ABHP had submitted a budget request to the AAHP Executive Committee to fund an informal look at the status of the ABHP procedures and processes. This informal evaluation was performed in November of 2007 and the ABHP is reviewing the results to determine the possibility of ANSI accreditation.
 - Jim presented the findings from an informal assessment by ANSI on the needs for ISO 17024 certification, and opened the floor for input.
 - Dave Meyers asked: "What are the advantages of CESB?" Jim stated that the CESB has recognition within this country. He is unsure how it is viewed abroad such as ISO or ANSI.
 - Jim stated that completing the improvements indicated will take time and money. Jim estimates it will take at least 3 years and \$2000 to achieve ISO 17024 certification.
 - Ed Bailey asked if other organizations that achieved ANSI certification had dropped CESB. Jim indicated that the Board of Certified Safety Professionals had dropped their CESB accreditation.
 - Jim suggested that the next step would be to develop a project plan identifying steps required to achieve ANSI certification.
- ✓ The incoming ABHP Chair wrote a letter to William Anderson from the CESB responding to an inquiry regarding the relationship of the AAHP and the

ABHP. The Accreditation Board had expressed concerns that the ABHP may not be operating independently from the AAHP. In particular, the ABHP Chair described the processes that demonstrate no conflict of interest exists between the two organizations. In response to a question posed by Dan Mantooth, there are controls to prevent an individual from participating as an officer or committee member for both organizations simultaneously, aside from ex officio membership as outlined in the Bylaws.

- ✓ There was discussion about the possibility of using a commercial testing service (i.e. Sylvan) to administer Part I. The initial conclusion is that the cost doesn't justify the change. A formal report is to be submitted in June 2008.

10.0 Report of the Secretariat (Nancy Johnson)

Nancy summarized her written report which had been included in the meeting packet. Of particular interest, Nancy mentioned the following:

- ✓ Participated in an informal review by ANSI for possible ISO accreditation.
- ✓ Prepared and distributed Agenda Packets for the ABHP meeting.
- ✓ Prepared and distributed Agenda Packets for the AAHP meeting.
- ✓ Discussed that the apparent increase in deceased CHPs has resulted from a scrubbing of the member database to make it more current. Nancy acknowledged the work of Jim Willison in improving membership records.
- ✓ Number of people taking the exam is increasing.
- ✓ Provided AAHP/ABHP Organization rosters.
- ✓ Prepared certificates of appreciation and plaques for distribution at the 2007 Awards Luncheon.

11.0 Old Business

11.1 ABHP/AAHP Website Redesign (Ed Maher)

Ed Maher requested to remain as point of contact for website redesign.

11.2 Finance Committee SOPs (Paul Stansbury)

Several minor editorial comments were addressed for both SOPs.

11.3 Review of GTTK documents (All Officers)

Reviewed and concurred with all proposed changes. Several items were identified that need to be added to the President's action tracking list.

11.4 Kephart's Comments on the AAHP Strategic Plan (Dave Myers)

Dave has reviewed Gary's comments provided recommendations and requested input from the EC.

Ed Maher did not support including the words as written (or with modifications by Ed Bailey), nor did Rich Vetter.

Nancy Kirner suggested we do not have the details in place to implement this Plan. She suggested that we should form an Ad Hoc committee to develop them.

The motion failed due to lack of time to provide in depth consideration. President Nancy Kirner formed an Ad Hoc committee composed of Dave Myers, Jim Tarpinian, and Ed Maher to evaluate the suggested change and recommend action to the EC at the July 2008 meeting.

11.5 Development of National Service Award SOP (Dave Myers)

Dave presented a draft SOP for the National Service Award. Discussion resulted in several wording changes.

11.6 Change of Relationship with ABMP (Ed Maher)

Still a work in progress. Past President Maher will continue to be POC.

President Kirner formed an Ad Hoc Committee to study ways for enhancing the relationship with the ABMP. Members are Ed Maher and Rich Vetter.

11.7 Special Report from the Treasurer

Ed Bailey presented *Special Report on the Budgeting Patterns of the American Academy of Health Physics*.

Ed Bailey commented that investment income was not included in budgeted income total. He stated that it was included in Treasurer's report for total worth, but not against budgeted income.

Total net worth continues to rise according to the Treasure's Report.

Performance of Securities from 12/2002 to 2007 went from \$289K to more than \$514K. Steve Rima summed the columns and reported since FY2000, we have spent about \$5000 more than income not including income

investments.

Nancy Kirner emphasized the need for this report to provide data on whether we need a dues increase. She asked Ed Bailey for any guidance on this issue.

Rich Vetter expressed a concern that we are reporting a budget that is \$61K in the hole. We have a responsibility to the Academy to manage to budget.

Ed Maher asked what would happen if there is recession and the market drops by 20%. Ed Bailey indicated we'd still be okay from an earnings goal standpoint.

12.0 New Business

12.1 Academy Special Session in Pittsburgh (Ed Maher)

Ed Maher presented the agenda and described the proposed topics. Regis Greenwood questioned the utility of the SL-1 accident presentation given the age of the incident and other issues. Ed replied that he is looking for common lessons learned. Many excellent presenters are included.

12.2 Misrepresentation of CHP Credentials (Ed Maher)

Much discussion and commiseration was made on these events.

13.0 Adjournment

The January 2008 AAHP Executive Council Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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

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The Future of Certification Accreditation Where are We Headed?

Jim Tarpinian

The ABHP and AAHP's continued dedication to maintaining the high professional standards of certification are reflected in our commitment to continuing accreditation by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB). While the ABHP continues to value its accreditation by the CESB, the Board has been examining the possibility of also accrediting under Standard ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024 "Accreditation of Bodies Operating Certification of Persons". The merits of the ANSI/ISO accreditation address the growing interest in the "globalization" of credentials as government and regulatory agencies are placing a greater emphasis on internationally recognized standards. Indeed, the CESB Board has been discussing how to address this growing need as other professional certification groups, such as the American Board of Industrial Hygiene and the Board of Certified Safety Professionals have pursued international recognition for their certifications through ISO 17024.

This past year, the ABHP arranged for a "gap analysis" between the ABHP/AAHP practices and ISO 17024 by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The results

indicate that we would have to make some changes in the documentation of our processes and address a few other issues. These changes will require some significant work if we choose to go down this path. I thought I would take announcement of our reaccreditation by CESB as an opportunity to let you know of the Board's continued interest in the ANSI/ISO accreditation and to provide an opportunity to hear your thoughts and questions on the matter. The cost of such accreditation is comparable to the cost of maintaining the accreditation with CESB, about \$5k - \$6k annually. Some questions to consider include: (1) is accreditation by ANSI/ISO worth the effort and expense (2) should we try to maintain both accreditations and (3) can we attract enough volunteer effort to make the needed changes to conform to the ANSI/ISO standard?

Please address your questions or comments to me at tarpinianj@battelle.org. I'd like to hear from you and will try to answer each note if I can. If there is enough interest we can try to provide an opportunity for an open forum discussion at a business meeting or other appropriate venue.

Report of Ad-Hoc Trademark Committee

Frazier Bronson, Chair

In 2005 the Executive Committee (EC) decided to try to protect the terms by which we refer to our professional selves. I was President at the time, and assigned the task to me. Some of you might remember that we started this same process in 1995 but were not successful. We still weren't successful [two more rejections] by the time I left the EC, so the Ad-Hoc Trademark Committee was created with the following members:

Chair:

Frazier Bronson
Certified Health Physicist[®]

Vice Chair:

Frazier Bronson
Certified Health Physicist [Reg. U.S. Pat. & TM Off.]

Secretary:

Frazier Bronson CHP

Treasurer:

Frazier Bronson
CHPSM

We had numerous meetings the next few years. I am pleased to report that there was 100% attendance at each meeting. The meetings were very orderly, and there were very few disagreements with the opinions of the Chair.

The entire committee is pleased to announce that **Certified Health Physicist** is now officially recognized by the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as Registration No. 3,347,583. The Federal Certificate of Trademark Registration has been received and has been officially turned over to the AAHP EC. It is complete with a nifty gold embossed seal and a (printed) signature of the Director of the USPTO. This is a Certification Mark, which is different than a Trademark which only applies to goods. The words can be used in any font, style, size, or color. The authorized protected use: "The certification mark, intended to be used by authorized individuals, is intended to certify the quality of an individual's services provided by professionals who have obtained credentials based on a combination of education, experience, and performance-based exams established by the prospectus of the American Academy of Health Physics." Our Prospectus gives that credentialing role to the ABHP. The mark should be followed with the[®] symbol or the legend "Registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark office" or by "Reg. U.S. Pat. & TM Off.". Failure to use the mark may result in loss of registration, and requires that actual notice of the registration to be given to an infringer before the ability to recover damages can accrue. When a registered mark has been in use in commerce for 5 years and evidence of use is provided to the USPTO, we gain certain rights of incontestability. The proper use is on a separate

line following the name of an authorized user on a document prepared by the user and used in commerce, e.g. a report.

The committee is also happy to report that the **stylized form of CHP** on our pin has also been awarded Registration No. 3,364,074. This Certification Mark is only protected on the pin, but can likely be extended [with another filing] to other goods. The protected use: "The certification mark, as used by persons authorized by the certifier, certifies that such persons have obtained credentials based on a combination of education, experience, and performance-based exams established by the American Board of Health Physics." Future editions of the pin should be marked with the[®] symbol to provide maximum protection. If this stylized form of CHP is in other places, it should be marked with theSM symbol or the legend "Registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark office" or by "Reg. U.S. Pat. & TM Off.". Failure to use the mark may result in loss of registration, and requires that actual notice of the registration to be given to an infringer before the ability to recover damages can accrue. When a registered mark has been in use in commerce for 5 years and evidence of use is provided to the USPTO, we gain certain rights of incontestability.

Unfortunately the application for the **text form of CHP** was ultimately rejected. The entire committee searched high and low and appealed to the EC and the CHP news readers for evidence of use in commerce of CHP by authorized users in a manner that was different from the use of a title or a degree. The only documented use in commerce was simply following the name as our committee Secretary did, just like MBA or PhD is used. If we want to attempt again, then we should document a 5 year record of use. One way is to put the CHP on a separate line, followed bySM in superscript. This would require a new application, which I was told could again be rejected, but then can be appealed showing the evidence of use. Please send your examples of use in.

The committee is disappointed at only getting two successful registrations from the three applications; however that is better than the batting average than Ted Williams, and better than the pass completion record of Tom Brady.

The total cost of this adventure was approximately \$3500, plus the salary of the committee members and their bonuses. This process took about 3 years.

Following the presentation of the committee report at the Oakland EC meeting, the Ad-Hoc committee mission was over and the committee was disbanded. That evening, the former committee members all celebrated with multiple

Margaritas, and then went our separate ways.

CHP Program Accreditation

Nora Nicholson

Every four years, the certification program for CHPs administered by the American Board of Health Physicists is reviewed by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB). The CESB is an oversight accreditation board that provides criteria and guidelines to specialty certification programs for engineers, technologists, technicians, and scientific professionals, and approves accreditation of these programs after a review determines these criteria are met. On February 12, 2008, the CESB approved re-accreditation of the CHP program administered by the ABHP. This accreditation is valid through December 31, 2012. The Board extends its thanks to Jim Willison for his work on the application for re-accreditation.

ABHP Certification Test Taking Tips

Nora Nicholson

Soon candidates will be taking the ABHP certification exam. After much preparation that includes reading, studying, and working problems, good test taking skills are still valuable to passing any exam. Graders for Part II of the exam, questions involving essay and calculations, have offered some test taking tips.

- Read questions thoroughly. Determine what the question is asking and what information is necessary to answer that question.
- Respond in an organized, logical manner. Develop a clear and logical plan for a response, especially

for calculations. Lay out a plan or sequence to get partial credit.

- Work step by step according to your plan. Number steps or sub-steps to keep your response orderly.
- Use at least one line per step, more if necessary. Do not cram information in a small space.
- Use as many sheets of paper as necessary.
- Do not erase; line out completely. Lining out is neater and takes less time. Incomplete erasures show up on copies and may be confusing and misleading to the graders.
- Write clearly. Use your best penmanship. Some responses are difficult to interpret and grade because they are hard to read. Don't make the grader have to work too hard to figure out what you wrote.
- Use radiological terms when possible. Sometimes a single phrase of a few key words is all that is needed to convey a response, such as high LET, low specific activity, GI syndrome, etc.
- Reference standards or regulations to explain and clarify your response if necessary.
- Use the correct units in your calculations. Including units in your equations makes the grader's job much easier.
- When using units, clearly state which numerical value is associated with that unit.
- Stick with technical responses and data. Do not add any editorial or personal comments.
- Use the equations and formulas provided in the Useful Equations, Formulas, and Constants Sheet when applicable.

For general test taking strategies, check www.testtakingtips.com.

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