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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT DECEMBER 1997

*Jerome B. Martin, CHP  
President, AAHP, 1997*

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### Executive Committee

The AAHP Executive Committee met on June 30 in San Antonio. A number of actions were taken to conduct the business affairs of the Academy. Ron Kathren, President-Elect, made committee and chair appointments for the standing committees of the Academy, which are listed in the AAHP Administrative Roster for 1998 (see the AAHP section in the new Radiation Protection Professional's Directory and Handbook for 1997-1998). Jean St. Germain and Ken Kase recommended the Academy consider sponsoring the Medical Health Physics portion of the ABMP certification process. They will be presenting a formal proposal at our next meeting in Mobile.

Reports were received from each of the standing committees. Linda Bray, Chair of the Appeals Committee, presented a draft Charter and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Committee. The Continuing Education Committee, Chaired by Les Aldrich, reported it had reviewed over 120 course applications for continuing education credits. The newly approved courses are listed on the AAHP Webpage at Continuing

Education/List of Approved Courses. The Committee is also working on two SOPs to guide 1) its offering of courses at HPS meetings and 2) the process for assigning credits for continuing education activities. The Exam Site Selection Committee, Chaired by Stephen Duce, reported that 19 exam sites were established and staffed for the 1997 ABHP exam. These sites and the proctors were acknowledged in the October 1997 CHP Corner. The Committee presented a draft Charter and recommended that about 12 sites, which are always used, be permanently established. Additional sites could be established if needed.

The Finance Committee presented a proposed budget for 1997-98 along with several recommendations needed to maintain a balanced budget. There are trends of reduced income due to a reduced number of exam applicants and increased expenses due to reduced employer travel support for AAHP and ABHP officers.

The Committee's recommendation to increase the annual maintenance fees from \$50 to \$60 per year was approved. This is the first increase in fees since 1991.

Contributions to the *CHP News* and the "CHP Corner" should be sent to Gary Kephart or Steve Rima.  
(See 1997 AAHP ADMINISTRATIVE ROSTER, pg. 15, for addresses & phone numbers.)

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(continued)

The Executive Committee also approved the recommendations to increase fees for AAHP courses offered at HPS meetings from \$120 to \$150, to be consistent with HPS PEP course fees, and to increase the Part II exam fee to \$200, starting in 1998. A balanced budget was approved.

In the past, the \$50 per year (or \$200 per 4 years) maintenance fees could be paid annually or once every 4 years. This led to some difficult bookkeeping for the Academy. The Finance Committee's recommendation to make this a mandatory annual payment was approved and this schedule will be phased in with completion by December 1999.

The Nominating Committee, Chaired by Mike Sullivan, presented a draft Charter and SOP to guide its operations. The Committee also nominated Ed Bailey and Kathy Pryor for an open position on the ABHP. The Executive Committee elected Kathy Pryor to fill this position. The Committee presented two nominations for Editor of CHP News. The Executive Committee selected Gary Kephart as Editor and Steve Rima as Associate Editor. Gary and Steve will be a great team for keeping Academy members posted on developing news. In addition, Gary Lautenschlager was appointed Contributing Editor in recognition of the valuable service he has provided with the annual salary survey.

The Professional Development Committee, Chaired by Tom

Essig, reported that our application for accreditation to the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards has been submitted and is undergoing review. We should receive the CEESB accreditation in February 1998. The Committee is working on a SOP for writing standards of qualification/practice and has initiated work on two standards. The Committee also assumed responsibility for setting up and staffing the AAHP/ABHP exhibit booth at HPS and other meetings.

Strategic Planning

Ken Kase, Past President, with the assistance of Carol Berger and Bob Casey, chaired three Strategic Planning Workshops in the AAHP Session at the HPS meeting in San Antonio. The purpose of the workshops was to obtain Academy member input to the strategic planning process.

Many good ideas were presented, discussed, and ranked for addition to the draft Strategic Plan. These are further detailed elsewhere in this edition *in hopes of engendering additional ideas from you*. The Strategic Plan will be finalized by the Executive Committee when it meets in Mobile on February 7, 1998. It is critical that you consider the draft (published in the June CHP NEWS) and contribute comments and ideas to an Executive Committee member.

We have already begun to implement the first three goals of the Strategic Plan. The ABHP has the lead on the first goal and has made substantial progress on the specific objectives (see the September 1997 issue of CHP Corner for news on these

objectives). The Continuing Education Committee has the lead on the second goal and they are developing SOPs that will establish mechanisms for meeting these objectives. The Professional Standards and Ethics Committee has the lead on the third goal and its first three objectives, which were initially met by the standards published in the October 1995 special edition of CHP News.

The Professional Development Committee has the lead on the fourth objective and is working on two standards of qualification/practice applicable to CHPs. As soon as the last three goals and their specific objectives are finalized, we will begin their implementation.

AAHP Awards Luncheon

The AAHP hosted an awards luncheon on July 1 in San Antonio, at which the 1996 class of new CHPs was recognized. Outgoing AAHP officers and committee members, as well as outgoing ABHP Board and Panel members, were also recognized with certificates. A plaque was presented to Ken Kase as outgoing President of the Academy. A special plaque was presented to Nancy Daugherty for her 7+ years of service as the Editor of CHP News and the CHP Corner. Finally, the William McAdams Outstanding Service Award was presented to Robert M. Ryan. Congratulations Bob! The members in attendance at the Awards Luncheon voted to continue the luncheon as an annual event at the summer meetings.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

(continued)

They also voted to provide complementary tickets to the new class of CHPs being recognized and to sell tickets to other Academy members at a subsidized cost. Next year's luncheon will be on July 14, 1998.

CHP Statistics

Nancy Johnson, AAHP Program Director, compiled the 1997 statistics on CHPs and ABHP exam applicants. There are now 1083 active CHPs and 178 Emeritus Members of the Academy.

The number of applicants for the 1997 exam was 531, down from the previous high of 706 in 1996, and 674, 642, and 562 in 1995, 1994, and 1993, respectively. This disturbing trend suggests that the pool of potential exam applicants is shrinking. We need help from active CHPs in recruiting new applicants. If you know of colleagues who are qualified to apply, encourage them to do so, and assist them by completing the professional reference forms and answering their questions. **Remember, the deadline for their applications is January 15, 1998.**

Meeting with HPS and NRRPT Officers

Ken Kase and I met with Rich Vetter and Otto Raabe at the Seattle and San Jose meetings to promote communications between the AAHP and HPS organizations. These meetings were so valuable that we decided to invite the Chair and Vice Chair of NRRPT to join us. Ron

Kathren and I met with Rich Vetter and Otto Raabe in San Antonio. We were joined by Mike Boyle and Bill Peoples of the NRRPT. Another valuable discussion ensued that included the following highlights:

- AAHP and NRRPT will be invited to "endorse" future HPS position papers
- The AAHP salary survey may be expanded to include HPS and NRRPT members
- The new HPS public relations program was described
- NRRPT is considering a continuing education program; AAHP assistance was offered
- The number of applicants for both the ABHP and NRRPT exams is down
- Both ABHP and NRRPT have received requests from Mexico to help develop a certification /registration program or offer the exams in Mexico
- Representatives of AAHP, HPS, and NRRPT were invited to attend each other's Board meetings to further enhance communications.

Midyear Meeting in Mobile

The Executive Committee will meet in Mobile on February 7, 1998. As always, AAHP

members are invited to attend and bring forward any new issues or concerns. Two AAHP continuing education courses are planned: "Statistics and Decommissioning: Practical Application of Statistics Used to Support Decommissioning Activities" by Eric Abelquist, and "Fundamentals of Air Sampling in the Workplace" by Mark Hoover and George Newton. Abstracts of the courses are provided on page 9 of the Preliminary Program which was published in the October 1997 HPS Newsletter. More detailed abstracts are provided on the AAHP Webpage at: <http://phantom.ebs.uiuc.edu/~aahp/courses>.

Annual Meeting in Minneapolis

The AAHP Program was expanded to a full day at the meeting in San Antonio. It will also be a full day at the next meeting in Minneapolis. Topics for the AAHP Session are being considered at this time.

If you have a suggestion for a topic that would be timely and of interest to the Academy membership, please let me know. Send your ideas to me at [jbmartin@arn.net](mailto:jbmartin@arn.net) or call at (806) 342-9954. There will also be three 8-hour continuing education courses offered in Minneapolis.

General

I am approaching the end of my year as President of AAHP. It has been an honor for me to serve as your President and to work with the dedicated professionals on the Executive Committee.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

(continued)

All of our Standing Committees are actively engaged in the business of the Academy and we have made excellent progress in developing and implementing the Strategic Plan. We are formalizing the Executive Committee policies and procedures as well as the committee Charters and SOPs. Administrative matters of the AAHP and ABHP are very effectively managed by the AAHP Program Director, Nancy Johnson.

Over the past several years we have modified the relationship between the Academy and the American Board of Health Physics. There was much concern about this relationship when the Academy was formed and when the ABHP was de-incorporated. I am happy to report that relations between the Academy and the Board are excellent. Communications have been enhanced and there is a free and thorough exchange of ideas between the two groups. The ABHP certification process is working well and the management of the Academy is running smoothly. In February, Ron Kathren will become President and I know you will give him your full support, as you have supported me.

### **LAST CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

The AAHP Nominating Committee has initiated the process of preparing a slate of candidates for both 1999 AAHP Officer and ABHP Board positions. Those interested in nominating or being nominated should contact:

Mike Sullivan (1997 Chair)

or

Ruth McBurney (1998 Chair)

### **Opportunities for AAHP Coordination with CRCPD**

Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD) is a professional organization made up of directors and staff of state and local radiation control programs throughout the country. The CRCPD mission is "A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection." Most of the activities of the CRCPD are focused on the sharing of information and experience to arrive at consistent approaches to radiation protection. In achieving a true partnership and gaining input on regulatory concerns from a broad base of expertise, the CRCPD has categories of membership other than for state and local regulatory personnel. Affiliate membership in CRCPD is open to anyone interested in radiation protection and wishing to be involved in addressing radiation protection issues, policies and standards.

The American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) has established liaison with the CRCPD in order to open new avenues of sharing of information between the two organizations. The CRCPD would consider Academy members interested in becoming involved in CRCPD committees as consultants or resources to be quite beneficial. The CRCPD has committees established to address regulatory and technical concerns in the areas of environmental radiation (e.g., radon, low-level waste,

emergency planning), healing arts (e.g., x-ray quality assurance, mammography), as well as the development of suggested state regulations for control of radiation, and general activities, such as Department of Energy oversight, training and laboratory accreditation.

Another area of mutual interest that was identified at the Academy Board of Directors meeting was that of encouraging more state radiation control health physicists to seek certification. I have found that certification adds a level of credibility and professionalism to any health physicist, and these are particularly important factors in the regulatory and public arena where many CRCPD members work. The AAHP Board of Directors expressed the need for more state regulatory physicists to become certified. This can also be encouraged by the two organizations working together more closely.

As liaison from CRCPD to AAHP and newly-appointed liaison from AAHP to CRCPD, I encourage you to take an active interest in one or more of the issues and initiatives that CRCPD is undertaking. Your experience and expertise would be beneficial and welcome. Visit the CRCPD web site at:

<http://www.webpub.com/crcpd/>

To apply for Affiliate Membership, contact the CRCPD Office of the Executive Director, 205 Capital Avenue, Frankfort, KY 40601, phone: (502) 227-4543.

## From the Board

The hard work of the Part II Panel commences around Labor Day. That is when the copies of the candidates' Part II exams are distributed to Part II Panel and Board members for grading. With 143 candidates taking the Part II exam with an average 30 pages per candidate and three graders per question, there are 12,000 - 13,000 pages of exams to grade. These dedicated people deserve our heartfelt thanks for their efforts.

The Part I examination, which was taken by 217 candidates, is machine graded by the Assessment Resource Center at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Grading is a much easier chore for these multiple choice questions.

An earlier attempt by the Board to develop serial-multiple choice questions for the Part II exam has not met with a great deal of success. The obvious advantage of the ease of grading this type of question was the driving force for their development. The difficulty in writing this type of Part II question is a significant factor in their present disfavor.

The fall meeting of the Board will be held in McLean, Virginia, on November 21-22, 1997. The results for the candidates who took the 1997 exam will be reviewed. Announcement of these results will be forwarded to the candidates by early December both on the internet and by snail mail.

Another item for the fall meeting of the Board includes a discussion by a subcommittee on the Assessment Resource Center's report on the performance of the Part II exam. This report contains a psychometric evaluation of the performance of the 1995 and 1996 Part II examinations along with recommendations for improving the performance of the Part II exam.

Two additional Part II Panel members were appointed this summer. Herman Cember and Robert Fairchild will add their experience and expertise to the Part II Panel. John Serabian agreed to have his term on the Part II Panel extended by one year in order to keep the total panel membership at 30. Welcome to the new members and a "Thank you" to the extended member.

- Roger C. Brown, ABHP Chairman

### Use of the "Certified Health Physicist" Designations - Revision 1

In the June 1997 issue of CHP News, we published the SOP for Use of the "Certified Health Physicist" Designations. Section 3 of the SOP stated that the terms "Certified Health Physicist", "CHP" and the CHP logo could be used by persons certified by the ABHP. Shortly thereafter, we received a message from the late Wade Patterson pointing out some ambiguity in this wording. "Persons certified by the Board" clearly includes all active CHPs, but it was unclear about Emeritus Members of the Academy. The SOP has been revised as follows:

3. Standard Operating Procedure: The recurring function is the use of the terms "Certified Health Physicist", "CHP", and the CHP logo by ~~persons certified by the Board~~ authorized persons.
  - 3.1 Who may use the designations:
    - 3.1.1 Any ~~person currently certified by the Board is entitled~~ Active Certified Health Physicist or Emeritus Member of the American Academy of Health Physics is authorized to use the "Certified Health Physicist" and "CHP" designations.

## THE CERTIFICATION YEAR AT A GLANCE

*Nancy Johnson, Program Director, AAHP Secretariat*

January 15	Deadline for candidates to mail application for examination
Late January	Plaques and pins mailed to new CHPs
January/February	AAHP Executive Committee meets at the HPS Midyear Meeting
March 1	Nominations for William McAdams Outstanding Service Award
Late March	Acceptance letters mailed to examination candidates
Late March/Early April	AAHP election ballots are mailed
Late April	Recertification packets mailed to CHPs who are due for recertification
Late May/Early June	Entrance slips and final information mailed to exam candidates
June/July	Certification maintenance fee envelopes are mailed Certification exam is given on the Monday of the HPS Annual Meeting ABHP Board of Directors meets at the HPS Annual Meeting AAHP Executive Committee meets at the HPS Annual Meeting AAHP hosts luncheon to honor new CHPs at HPS Annual Meeting AAHP Open Meeting is held at the HPS Annual Meeting AAHP William McAdams Outstanding Service Award is presented
November	ABHP Board of Directors and Part I Panel meet
Early December	ABHP Certification Examination results are mailed

IF YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ACTIVELY MENTORING CANDIDATES INTO THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS, WHY NOT ??

APPLICATION INFORMATION AND RELATED CANDIDATE RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SECRETARIAT'S OFFICE OR ON THE AAHP WEBPAGE AT:

**<http://phantom.ehs.uiuc.edu/~aahp/>**

# THE 1997 CHP SALARY SURVEY

## Introduction

This report presents the results of the 1997 CHP Salary Survey, directed by Gary Lautenschlager, CHP, with the assistance of the American Academy of Health Physicists. This year's survey form was included with the annual AAHP maintenance fee notice, which was mailed near the end of August. The response was very good, with more than 400 completed surveys received by the end of September. Questions about this survey should be directed to Gary Lautenschlager, email: glauten@gte.net Telephone: (630) 840-8360 (W) or (815) 748-4539 (H).

## Data Analysis

The salary ranges checked by CHPs on the completed survey forms were rounded to the midpoints of those ranges before statistical calculations were performed. For example, if a CHP checked the box for the salary range \$50,000 to \$54,999, their salary was rounded to the midpoint value of \$52,500.

The salaries for the medical physics CHPs were higher on average than the majority of the other CHPs as a group. To avoid skewing the results for the majority of CHPs, data from the medical physics CHPs were analyzed separately. There was also one CHP who indicated that they earned more than \$240,000 per year. That data point was excluded from the data analysis as an outlier. Responses from CHPs who were either part time or retired were not analyzed, since the data did not appear to allow meaningful comparisons to be made.

## Tabulation and Presentation of Results

In an effort to make the results of the survey as interesting and useful as possible, CHPs were grouped in several different ways by education, primary job responsibility, years of experience, years with current employer, and in combinations of these categories. Readers are cautioned that for statistical validity, results are usually given for the CHP categories only if there were 10 or more CHPs within that category. However, some exceptions were made for general interest.

Tables present results for full-time CHPs who received health, vacation, and retirement benefits from their employer.

## Tables

Tables 1 through 13 present the 1997 CHP Salary Survey results for all CHPs that work fulltime, receive vacation, retirement and health benefits from their primary employer, and excludes those CHPs who indicated that their primary job responsibility was medical physics. The results for the medical physics CHPs are presented in Table 14.

**Table 1: All CHPs**

CHPs	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
All CHPs	331	\$77,168	\$142,500	\$32,500	\$18,518

**Table 2: CHPs by Level of Education and Field**

Level of Education and Field	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
Bachelor's Health Physics	21	\$70,119	\$112,500	\$42,500	\$14,968
Bachelor's Other Field	35	\$73,786	\$107,500	\$52,500	\$13,413
Master's Health Physics	160	\$75,375	\$127,500	\$42,500	\$16,688
Master's Other Field	41	\$79,329	\$137,500	\$32,500	\$22,521
Ph. D. Health Physics	32	\$87,813	\$142,500	\$47,500	\$22,681
Ph.D. Other Field	33	\$79,924	\$127,500	\$42,500	\$19,410

**Table 3: CHPs with 15 - 25 Years Experience, and Level of Education**

CHPs with 15 - 25 Years Experience, and Level of Education	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
Bachelor's Health Physics	9	\$73,611	\$112,500	\$62,500	\$15,366
Bachelor's Other Field	16	\$73,750	\$102,500	\$52,500	\$12,583
Master's Health Physics	78	\$75,256	\$127,500	\$47,500	\$15,154
Master's Other Field	18	\$76,667	\$117,500	\$32,500	\$19,270
Ph. D. Health Physics	12	\$87,500	\$142,500	\$72,500	\$21,742
Ph.D. Other Field	13	\$85,577	\$127,500	\$57,500	\$20,263

**Table 4: Education and NRRPT Certification**

Education and NRRPT Certification	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
Bachelor's Health Physics	11	\$65,227	\$77,500	\$52,500	\$6,842
Bachelor's Other Field	9	\$69,722	\$87,500	\$52,500	\$10,341
Master's Health Physics	12	\$65,833	\$82,500	\$47,500	\$11,934

**Table 5: Nuclear Power Facility as Primary Employer**

Nuclear Power Facility as Primary Employer	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
Bachelor's Health Physics	9	\$69,167	\$87,500	\$52,500	\$10,000
Bachelor's Other Field	9	\$71,389	\$87,500	\$57,500	\$8,580

**Table 6: National Laboratory as Primary Employer**

National Laboratory as Primary Employer	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
Ph. D. Health Physics	10	\$88,000	\$122,500	\$62,500	\$19,643
Ph.D. Other Field	8	\$80,625	\$97,500	\$62,500	\$11,934

**Table 7: Government Contractors as Primary Employer**

Government Contractors as Primary Employer	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
Master's Other Field	11	\$83,409	\$127,500	\$57,500	\$22,452

**Table 8: Master's Health Physics and Primary Employer**

Master's Health Physics and Primary Employer	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
Government Contractors	24	\$80,833	\$122,500	\$57,500	\$17,977
Federal Government	20	\$77,250	\$117,500	\$52,500	\$17,432
National Laboratory	21	\$73,214	\$97,500	\$52,500	\$11,323
Nuclear Power Facility	31	\$77,500	\$112,500	\$52,500	\$14,491
Commercial	20	\$80,500	\$127,500	\$62,500	\$16,575
Consulting Firm	12	\$84,167	\$107,500	\$57,500	\$15,275



**Table 9: Master's Health Physics and Primary Job Responsibility**

Master's Health Physics and Primary Job Responsibility	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
Administration	18	\$89,167	\$122,500	\$57,500	\$19,251
Applied Health Physics	41	\$71,037	\$127,500	\$47,500	\$14,968
Dosimetry	11	\$72,500	\$92,500	\$52,500	\$11,619
Environmental	16	\$75,938	\$122,500	\$52,500	\$19,809
Radiation Safety Officer	18	\$67,500	\$87,500	\$42,500	\$14,552
Reactor's Other	11	\$84,772	\$112,500	\$72,500	\$12,321
Regulations/Standards	9	\$73,056	\$102,500	\$52,500	\$16,853
Waste Management	9	\$75,278	\$102,500	\$52,500	\$16,223

**Table 10: Master's Health Physics and Years Experience**

Master's Health Physics and Years Experience	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
6 - 10	14	\$61,429	\$77,500	\$42,500	\$8,810
10 - 15	38	\$70,526	\$122,500	\$47,500	\$15,489
15 - 25	78	\$75,256	\$127,500	\$47,500	\$15,154
>25	26	\$91,731	\$117,500	\$62,500	\$14,608

**Table 11: Master's Health Physics with 10 - 15 years experience, and years with current employer**

Master's Health Physics with 10 - 15 years experience, and years with current employer	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
0 - 4 years with current employer	12	\$72,083	\$87,500	\$52,500	\$9,404
5 - 11 years with current employer	17	\$72,500	\$122,500	\$47,500	\$18,286

**Table 12: Master's Health Physics with 15 - 25 years experience, and years with current employer**

Master's Health Physics with 15 - 25 years experience, and years with current employer	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
5 - 10 years with current employer	26	\$74,423	\$122,500	\$47,500	\$15,367
10 - 16 years with current employer	14	\$71,786	\$92,500	\$52,500	\$13,567

**Table 13: Master's Health Physics with >25 years experience, and years with current employer**

Master's Health Physics with >25 years experience, and years with current employer	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
15 - 30 years with current employer	12	\$97,500	\$117,500	\$77,500	\$13,314

**Table 14: CHPs with Medical Physics as Primary Job Responsibility**

CHPs with Medical Physics as Primary Job Responsibility	Number in Category	Average Salary	Maximum salary	Minimum Salary	Standard Deviation
All Medical Physics CHPs	24	\$100,833	\$192,500	\$42,500	\$44,200
All Medical Physics CHPs with American Board of Radiology (ABR) certification	11	\$110,227	\$192,500	\$47,500	\$44,066

### The Optional Question

This year's optional salary survey question asked "What do you feel is the most important issue facing the health physics certification process today?" There were a number of comments received, for which there appeared to be three major areas of concern that were shared by several CHPs. These concerns were: recognition and meaningfulness of the CHP designation with employers and regulatory bodies, maintaining the high standards for certification, and dwindling job opportunities.

Many CHPs felt that not enough was being done to promote the status of CHPs as a recognized and/or desirable qualification in the regulations and with employers, especially for certain specialties in the medical field. They felt that the CHP designation was gradually being undermined by competing certifying organizations, and some CHPs felt that the AAHP should increase efforts to promote the value of certification more aggressively with regulatory bodies and employers. If the status of CHPs in medical and other fields is allowed to decline further they stated, then the importance of the CHP designation will begin to diminish as well. There were also a number of responses indicating a perception of a decline in the value of certification with employers or a lack of understanding by employers of the need for certification. Some of these responses included: employers not encouraging and supporting re-certification efforts, and management not recognizing the meaning and value of certification.

A second major group of comments were related to the certification process itself. The vast majority of the CHPs commenting on this issue felt that it must continue to reflect the highest standards of qualification and that the AAHP should resist efforts to make the process less stringent and difficult, thus preventing certification from becoming a "minimum" qualification for health physicists. Indeed, a few respondents felt that the standards for candidate selection were not high enough now! They also felt that the examination must continue to strive for consistency from year to year, and that more efforts should be taken to screen unqualified candidates from sitting for the examination. One respondent suggested that CHPs themselves could help the process by being more judicious in their sponsorship of candidates.

A number of responses were received that stated a concern over a perceived decline in the number of employment opportunities, as well as a decline in position opportunities advertised as requiring a nd what jobs (are there that) require a CHP.

The other comments received are also being considered by the AAHP. Thanks to all of you for your contributions, your participation was most important to the success of this survey.

With appreciation to all the respondents! - Gary Lautenschlager

## VERIFY CERTIFICATION!

Attainment of ABHP Certification is increasingly viewed as a required or desired credential for the assignment of some radiation protection responsibilities. As the value of certification increases, so, too, does the potential for fraudulent claims of CHP status. The AAHP and ABHP encourage licensing/regulatory agencies, employers and contract officers to verify the certification status of current employees or contractors. In addition, the AAHP and ABHP also encourage anyone contemplating securing the services of a health physicist who claims to be certified by the ABHP to verify the certification status of the applicant. Verification can be performed by consulting the list of Active Certified Health Physicists in the *Radiation Protection Professional's Directory & Handbook* (the HPS membership handbook) or on the AAHP Web Page:

<http://phantom.ehs.uiuc.edu/~aahp/>

Awards of Certification or reactivations of Certification that are too recent to appear on these lists may be verified by contacting Nancy K. Johnson, Program Director, at the AAHP Secretariat (703) 790-1745.

Jerome B. Martin, CHP  
1997 President  
American Academy of Health Physics

Roger C. Brown, CHP  
1997 Chair  
American Board of Health Physics

## Certified Safety Professional - To Be or Not To Be ?

Steve Rima, CHP  
CHP NEWS Assistant Editor

In these days of downsizing, layoffs, re-engineering, etc. many organizations are looking for ways to consolidate responsibilities. Health and safety professionals are not immune to this process, and must continually seek ways to stay viable. One means is through additional board certifications in related areas. The Certified Safety Professional (CSP) is one credible option.

The Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) defines a Safety Professional as "one who applies the expertise gained from a study of safety science, principles, and practices and other subjects and from professional safety experience to create or develop procedures, processes, standards, specifications, and systems to achieve optimal control or reduction of the hazards and exposures which may harm people, property, and/or the environment." The BCSP is sponsored by the American Industrial Hygiene Association, the American Society of Safety Engineers, the Institute of Industrial Engineers, the National Safety Council, the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, and the System Safety Society. It is accredited by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.

To qualify to take the CSP exam, a candidate must meet educational and experience requirements. The BCSP uses a point system, whereby points are given for education and experience, to determine a candidate's eligibility to sit for the exam. At the present time, the basic requirements are for a bachelor's degree in a safety-related discipline and four years of professional safety experience. Experience may be substituted for education and higher education may be substituted for

some experience. Effective January 1, 1998, all applicants must have at least an associate's degree "from an accredited university" and submit a letter of reference from a person holding the CSP, CIH, CHP, or PE credential.

The CSP exam is a two part exam, with both parts being multiple choice format. Part I is a "safety fundamentals examination" which covers basic knowledge appropriate to professional safety practice. Candidates meeting the academic requirement may sit for this exam. Part II is a "comprehensive practice exam" and may be taken once a candidate meets both the education and experience criteria.

How does this relate to a CHP? Even though there is no formal connection between the ABHP and the BCSP, any person holding the CHP credential is waived from taking the fundamentals [Part I] exam. The BCSP extends this recognition to a number of other recognized credentials as well as to parallel credentialing bodies in a number of other countries. Thus, for a current CHP, the BCSP application process is somewhat simplified in that the candidate exhibiting sufficient experience can essentially bypass half of the BCSP exam process. The application fee is \$80.00, and once approved the exam fee for the comprehensive [Part II] exam is \$230.00. Since the exam is multiple choice and given any time at certain Sylvan Learning Centers (see the related article previously published in the November 1997 *CHP Corner*) it can be a fairly quick process for a CHP to gain this additional certification.

A CSP candidate handbook, including application instructions and practice exams, can be obtained from:

Board of Certified Safety Professionals  
208 Burwash Avenue  
Savoy, IL 61874  
(217) 359-9263  
<http://www.bcsp.com/>

## The AAHP Strategic Planning Workshops

At the annual meeting in San Antonio, the Academy sponsored a series of sessions to collect membership input on three goals included in the draft AAHP Strategic Plan. The three areas of the plan -- which the leadership hoped to expand with additional implementation ideas -- were: *enhanced recognition, improved communications, and increased value.* Carol Berger, William Casey, and Ken Kase lead the three discussions and each was repeated in both the morning and afternoon meeting agendas. The attendance, interest and the enthusiasm of the discussions were encouraging. Among the ideas discussed for increasing the value of certification were:

- 1) Communicate the value of the CHP to employers, other societies, elected officials, and other organizations that may have need of the services of a CHP;
- 2) Develop a mentoring program sponsored by the AAHP to encourage and sustain non-certified and associate members of the Academy through the certification process;
- 3) Increase the information flow to all stakeholders of the Academy on all issues;
- 4) Expand options for continuing education.

If you have additional planning input, or if this brief summary of the summer's discussions has triggered an idea you think would benefit the Academy, please contact one of the AAHP Executive Committee members prior to the Mobile HPS meeting.

### Academy to Co-organize International Workshop

In keeping with the stated goals of raising the profile of the Academy of the CHP, as well as providing additional opportunities for professional education, the AAHP Executive Committee accepted an invitation from Dr. Victor Poyarkov, Executive Director of the European Centre for Technogenic Safety, to act as co-organizers for the proposed "International Topical Workshop on Radiological Emergency Response Planning: Learning from Chernobyl". The proposed workshop will be a week in duration and is planned for May 1999 in Kiev, Ukraine. Major topic areas include the Acute Emergency Response, Emergency Monitoring, Radionuclide Transport and Dose Evaluation, Mitigating Actions, and Education and Training of Emergency Personnel. Publication of the proceedings of the workshop is also planned.

Preliminary contacts for sponsorship support have been made by Dr. Poyarkov with the IAEA and FEMA and have been generally favorable; it is anticipated that funding will be available for a limited number of American participants. As co-organizer, the Academy will be responsible for selection of participants from the Americas and for management of funding received from U.S. sources. The co-organizer will also play an integral part in the development of the program and the selection of speakers, but will not incur any fiscal liability.

- reported by Ron Kathren,  
Academy President-Elect

## Editor's Notes:

Special thanks to all the contributors to this edition of CHP NEWS, and to Nancy Daugherty for her help in coming up the learning curve.

Many readers have had or will have an opportunity to hear Keith Dinger's assertions and proposed plans as he visits and surveys the HPS chapters across the nation during his term as HPS President-Elect. In this context, he mentioned to the Midwest Chapter that some 10% of CHPs are not also members of the Health Physics Society. He has suggested that one proposed plan for the Society during his term of office should be to better understand why these CHPs do not find value in HPS membership and to promote the HPS as an umbrella for all associated disciplines. I think it is appropriate that we use this newsletter to share the various views of the Academy membership about our relationship and reliance on the HPS. There are some interesting organizational relationship dynamics playing out among the professional organizations in industrial hygiene that we as HPS may also gain some insights from. I challenge you to contribute to the evolution of the health physics profession by sending me your thoughts for publication.

In the next edition of CHP Corner, we intend to include the call for nominations for the McAdams award, and notes from the November ABHP Directors and Part I panel meetings.

- Gary Kephart

**PHOTOS FROM THE  
"ANNUAL" AAHP  
LUNCHEON**



**LEFT:** Robert Ryan addresses gathered CHPs and guests after receiving the William McAdams Outstanding Service Award.

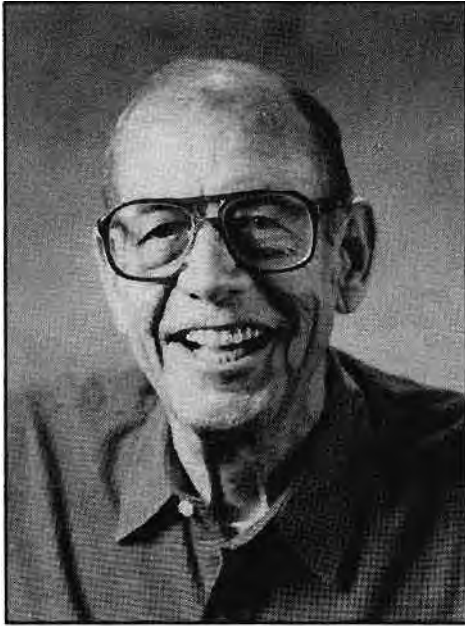
**RIGHT:** Jerry Martin presents a special appreciation plaque to Nancy Daugherty for her years of service as AAHP Editor.



**BELOW:** New CHPs were the honored guests; anyone who can correctly identify all of them in this photo gets their lunch free next year !



## HENRY WADE PATTERSON 1924-1997



It is with great sadness that I report that our colleague and friend, former American Board of Health Physics Chairman Henry Wade Patterson, died from cancer of the spine in Lakeview, Oregon, on October 7, 1997. In a career that spanned a half century, Wade made numerous important contributions to the science, art and professional practice of health physics, rightfully earning a place as one of the foremost and respected members of the health physics community known not only for his scientific contributions, but for his honesty, integrity and leadership contributions to the profession.

Wade began his career in health physics in 1945 while still an undergraduate at the University of California, Berkeley, serving as a part time film badge technician at the Radiation Laboratory. After earning his degree in 1947, he was invited by the late Burton Moyer to join the newly established Health Physics Group at the Radiation Laboratory, ultimately serving as its head from 1965-73 before moving on to assume the responsibilities of leading the Radiation Safety Division and then the Hazards Control Department at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

While at Berkeley, Wade was instrumental in the development of all aspects of the field of Accelerator Health Physics. In conjunction with his long time colleague Ralph Thomas, he literally wrote the book on the field, the well

received text Accelerator Health Physics, as well as documenting the history of accelerator health physics in another book. Between 1967 and 1971, he organized and served as an instructor in the Berkeley Accelerator Health Physics Training Course which served as a training ground for accelerator health physicists from all over the world.

Despite his strong interest and numerous contributions to accelerator health physics, Wade was by no means one dimensional. He made important contributions to environmental health physics, including measurements of areas of high natural background radiation and of the neutron energy spectra in the earth's atmosphere. And, he participated in studies of the pyramids in Egypt, using natural background radiation to search for hidden rooms in these ancient mystifying relics.

Professionally active throughout his career, Wade served as member or chair of numerous scientific and technical committees, which benefited greatly from his strong background in the basic sciences underlying health physics and from his oft times unique insights and solutions to vexing problems. He was a prime mover in the establishment of the Accelerator Section of the HPS, and served with distinction as Editor-in-Chief of *Health Physics* and as Chairman of the American Board of Health Physics. His fellow CHP's recognized his extraordinary contributions to the profession by naming him the second recipient of the William McAdams Award, the highest recognition bestowed by the Academy. He was elected Fellow by both the Health Physics Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and in 1992 was the recipient of the prestigious Arthur F. Humm, Jr. Award of the National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists.

Wade Patterson will live on through the numerous scientific and professional contributions that he made, and in the memories and hearts of the many health physicists and others for whom he served as friend, colleague, and mentor. So long, old health physics warrior, rest in peace.

- Ron Kathren

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF HEALTH PHYSICS  
ADMINISTRATIVE ROSTER - 1997

NOTE: Term expires at the end of the year indicated.

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