**SNM: Academic Council**

January 2011

**Activities and Accomplishments**

The Academic Council continues to demonstrate vitality and activity in the tradition of service, innovation and support to education in Nuclear Medicine and to the Nuclear Medicine Program Directors.

At the 2010 SNM annual meeting in Salt Lake City, the Academic Council sponsored the Tom Miller Memorial Lecture and the Hal Anger Memorial Lecture. The Tom Miller lecture was presented by Darlene Metter, M.D. and Missy Fleming, Ph.D., this was a session on updating information regarding the ACGME, especially the new program requirements, which was primarily directed toward Nuclear Medicine Program Directors and also Nuclear Medicine faculty. The Hal Anger lecture was given by Tom Budinger, M.D., Ph.D. The Academic Council also co-sponsored a session given by NIBIB/NIH on Molecular Biology for Imagers as a Categorical Course. An Academic Council Board meeting was held and followed by the Nuclear Medicine Program Directors Association (NMPDA) meeting, chaired by Dr. Metter. At the Academic Council board meeting, the Distinguished Service Award was presented to Lorraine Fig, MD for exemplary service, and the Lifetime Achievement Award to Darlene Metter, MD, for exemplary service and vision. Leonie Gordon was selected to receive the Distinguished Service Award, however, she was unable to attend the annual meeting, and will be given the award at a subsequent meeting.

The Academic Council sponsored two sessions at the Association of University Radiologists (AUR) annual meeting in San Diego, March 23-26. One was again the two hour review of Radiation Safety, Radiopharmacy and NRC Regulations. This was presented by Steve Karesh, Ph.D. for the fourth consecutive year. The other was a panel discussion on the future of NM training, organized by Jay Harolds, M.D. It should be noted that the costs for the Radiation Safety sessions have not been in the budgets of the SNM or AUR, and were covered by outside grants through significant efforts by the immediate past-president Dr. Bennett Greenspan. Over the last four years, we have procured $15,500 in grant support for the Academic Council for these sessions. SNM is now listed as a co-sponsoring organization of AUR, equivalent to the other co-sponsoring organizations, and there are three SNM representatives on the AUR Program Planning Committee.

Communications within the Academic Council remain excellent, including a superb newsletter, due to the efforts of our Secretary, Lorraine Fig.

The Nuclear Medicine Program Directors Association (NMPDA) continues to be a vital part of the Academic Council, and contributes to dissemination of information to Program Directors. Dr. Darlene Metter has been Chair of the NMPDA since early 2008. Dr. Metter continues to be a vital and integral part of the Academic Council. Dr. Metter has continued to provide strong and innovative leadership, and she has continued to provide the NMPDA and the Academic Council overall with vital and valuable information and support.

We have successfully implemented the intern program in the Council. Myo Han, M.D., mentored by Lorraine Fig, M.D., has been doing an excellent job.

**Looking Forward**

At the 2010 SNM Midwinter meeting, the Academic Council will be co-sponsoring several sessions of the American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM). This joint session will focus on the leadership, health care reform and the job marker issues, targeting Nuclear Medicine Program Directors, faculty, and as the audience.
We are again sponsoring two sessions at the AUR meeting. The Radiation Safety presentation will again be given by Dr. Karesh. There will also be a panel discussion on the future of Nuclear Medicine training, organized by Dr. Jay Harold.

The Academic Council will be sponsoring sessions at the 2011 SNM annual meeting and the details of these activities will be outlined later.

The Academic Council will continue to provide information and support for Nuclear Medicine Program Directors, in part by providing sessions at the SNM annual and Midwinter meetings, and also by participating in the AUR meeting.

**Officers of the Council**

President: Lale Kostakoglu, MD  
Vice President: Leonie Gordon, MD  
Secretary: Lorraine Fig, MD  
Treasurer: Brown, M.D., Ph.D  
Chair, NMPDA: Darlene Metter, MD  
Immediate Past President: Bennett Greenspan, MD

**Mission**

The Academic Council is dedicated to the scientific interchange of ideas among SNM members who have an interest in training and education of undergraduates and graduates in Nuclear Medicine (which includes general Nuclear Medicine, Cardiovascular Nuclear Medicine, PET/CT imaging and Molecular Imaging). The overall mission of the Academic Council is to:

(a) promote medical education, research and patient care related to Nuclear Medicine,

(b) provide to membership expertise in the training and education of undergraduates and graduates in Nuclear Medicine, including in mentoring and leadership,

(c) provide a forum for members for discussion of issues and problems of mutual interest and concern within the Nuclear Medicine community, as well as an informal exchange of ideas and programs,

(d) provide outreach to other professionals and organizations,

(e) nurture new membership into the society,

(f) serve as a resource to Young Professionals in career development, and

(g) serve as a resource to SNM leadership.

Within the Council there is a subgroup of Program Directors/Associate Program Directors of Nuclear Medicine residency programs (the Nuclear Medicine Program Directors Association, NMPDA). The Academic Council is an advocate for Nuclear Medicine education and training to organized Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, as well as providing an avenue of communication for Program Directors and Coordinators to the ACGME, ABNM, other societies, and government agencies.