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 2011 SNM annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas, the Academic Council sponsored the Tom Miller Memorial Lecture, which was presented by Leonie Gordon, M.D., Missy Fleming, Ph.D., and Milton J. Guiberteau, M.D., on “The Future of Nuclear Medicine Training”. The presentations provoked a lively debate. The Hal Anger Lecture is now a plenary lecture of the SNM annual meeting sponsored by the Scientific Program Committee, and is co-sponsored by the Academic Council. It will be presented in alternate years; the first was in 2011. An Academic Council Board meeting was held and followed by the Nuclear Medicine Program Directors Association (NMPDA) meeting, chaired by Dr. Metter.

The Academic Council sponsored two sessions at the Association of University Radiologists (AUR) annual meeting in Boston, April 12-15, 2011. One was again the two hour review of Radiation Safety, Radiopharmacy and NRC Regulations. This was presented by Steve Karesh, Ph.D. for the fifth consecutive year. The other was a panel discussion on integrating Nuclear Medicine and Radiology 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 Dr. Bennett Greenspan. Over the last five years, we have procured $17,000 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. Dr. Metter also organized a Nuclear Medicine Summit, with leaders in Nuclear Medicine and Radiology, on implementing the Maurer Pathway to encourage high quality Radiology candidates to pursue training in Nuclear Medicine.

Communications within the Academic Council remain excellent, including a superb newsletter, due to the efforts of our Secretary, Tracy Brown, MD.

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. She has continued to provide strong and innovative leadership, and has continued to provide the NMPDA and the Academic Council overall with vital and valuable information and support.

The Academic Council has successfully implemented the intern program. Myo Han, M.D., mentored by Lorraine Fig, M.D., did an excellent job as the first intern, and Erin Grady, M.D. is the current intern.

Looking Forward

At the 2012 SNM Midwinter meeting, the Academic Council will be presenting a session on Organizations of Nuclear Medicine. This will be a SAM session, and promises to provide interesting and useful information to the attendees. The session will also include information on radiation exposure in Nuclear Medicine, including aspects of radiation safety and dose reduction.
The Academic Council, along with APDR, AMSER, SCARD and APCR, is sponsoring a session at the 2012 AUR annual meeting on “Training and Certification of the Molecular Imager of the Future”. This is being organized by Dr. Jay Harolds and others.

The Academic Council will be sponsoring two sessions at the 2012 SNM annual meeting. One of these will be the Tom Miller Memorial Lecture – “Artificial Intelligence Systems in Medicine and Diagnostic Imaging”, organized by Dr. Greenspan, to be presented by Eliot Siegel, M.D. The other session will be “Item Writing and Developing SAMs – How to Do Them Well”, which is being organized by Leonie Gordon, MD, and will be presented by Dr. Gordon and Tony Knight, MBA, CNMT, RT(N), NCT.

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 by participating in the AUR meeting, in addition to providing multiple resources for Nuclear Medicine Program Directors.

**Offices of the Council**

President: Bennett S. Greenspan, M.D.
Vice President: Leonie L. Gordon, M.D.
Secretary: Tracy L. Y. Brown, M.D., Ph.D.
Treasurer: Lorraine M. Fig, M.D.
Chair, NMPDA: Darlene F. Metter, MD
Immediate Past President: vacant

**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.