

# Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine (ANZSNM) Physics Special Interest Group

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2011

**Date & Time:** 16 July 2011, 13:30-14:30

**Venue:** Darwin convention Centre, Darwin, Northern Territory.

**Attendees:** Matthew Griffiths (Chair), Dale Bailey, Peter Collins, Erin McKay, Graeme O'Keefe, Bruce McBride, Paul Marks, Roger Price, Steve Meikle.

**Apologies:** Richard Smart, Sylvia Gong.

### 1. Minutes from the last meeting (24 April 2010, Auckland New Zealand)

- 1.1. The minutes from the last meeting were accepted without amendment.
- 1.2. All matters arising were addressed in the planned agenda.

### 2. Financial report

- 2.1. The total fund approved for the expenditure last year (2010) was \$6,000. There was no Physics SIG Symposium income due the meeting being combined meeting with the EPSM.
- 2.2. We have submitted the annual budget proposal for this year (similar to last year) to the ANZSNM federal committee and waiting on final approval.
- 2.3. A draft balance sheet was submitted however the final financial report was not available from the federal committee.

### ANZSNM Physics SIG Treasurer's Report Nov 2010 - July 2011

Statement prepared by Chithra Sathiakumar

Budget approved on Nov 2010	\$6,000
Event Income	0.00
Sponsorship	0.00
Total Income	0.00
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Expenditure	
<b>Invited speaker for physics SIG – Air travel, Dec 2010</b>	<b>\$1482.00</b>
Invited speaker for physics SIG – Accommodation, Dec 2010	\$500.00
Physics SIG President – travel/expenditures, Dec 2010	\$507.63
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Total Expenditure	\$2489.63
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Balance on July 14th, 2011	\$3510.37
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### 3. Report from the Chair – Matthew Griffiths

- 3.1. The Physics SIG meeting was a trial joint meeting of the SIG and the EPSM-ABEC. The meeting was reasonably well attended with good speakers however it was a financial drain on the SIG and the attendees in comparison to a normal meeting. The concept was a partial success it is suggested that similar meeting be held perhaps every 3 years with the intervening meetings reverting to the standard meeting style. It is the intention of the Chair to stand down due as there has been poor attention to SIG duties due to work commitments.

- 3.2. Business arising. Joint meetings are worthwhile but future joint meeting should be conducted as satellite meetings at a low cost venue in the normal SIG style. It is recommended that the SIG is involved with any joint meeting organisation from an early stage.

#### 4. Report from the Technical Standards Committee (TSC)

- 4.1. A written report from Stefan Eberl was submitted.

A number of TSC initiated or sponsored activities have continued to occur:

- 1) New PET scanners installed in Australia are acceptance tested by suitably qualified persons to ensure that they meet the vendors' specifications and also the minimum requirements in the TSC document "Requirements for PET Accreditation (Instrumentation & Radiation Safety)". The suitably qualified person also assists in setting up an appropriate QC program. This approach has also been adopted in NZ.
- 2) Peter Collins has facilitated circulation and imaging of a SNM V/Q lung phantom and analysis of the imaging results.
- 3) A number of PET centres (mainly hospital based PET centres) have taken part in the SNM clinical trials network (CTN) scanner validation. While not specifically driven by the TSC, this is an area of increasing importance as PET scan requirements become increasingly part of clinical trials of anti cancer therapy agents.
- 4) On-going discussions with the Activity Standards Lab at ANSTO to expand their role in the calibration of dose calibrators.

Tasks on the Agenda for the TSC:-

- 1) Finalisation of the current terms of reference and expanded membership on the TSC.
- 2) Revision of minimum QC for gamma camera document – requested by the ANZSNM Council and also offered to support this financially.
- 3) Standardisation and consensus on minimum QC required for PET scanners in line with the "Requirements for PET Accreditation (Instrumentation & Radiation Safety)" document.
- 4) Explore the merits of setting up a QA Subgroup of the TSC as suggested by Peter Collins. This subgroup could also specifically explore and encourage use of software and physical phantoms for validation and QA.
- 5) Facilitate distribution of  $^{18}\text{F}$  standard developed by ANSTO for dose calibrator positron emitter accuracy checks.

The current chair has signalled his intent to step down and has nominated Darin O'Keefe. If there are further nominations a ballot will be held.

Business arising: Peter Collins further discussed suggestion of a Quality Standards subgroup within the TSC. Additionally the TSC agenda could be included to investigate non standard camera geometries, e.g. multi pin hole SPECT, cone beam collimators etc.

The SIG supports the activities of the TSC.

Actions: SIG Chair to canvas SIG members for further nominations to TSC

#### 5. Report from the ACPSEM Accreditation Panel Chair - Leighton Barnden

A written report from the chair was submitted

##### 5 Year Experienced Program

Entry to his mode of accreditation expired at the end of 2010.

Two weekends for examination of 11 applicants have been arranged, one on July 2,3 in Sydney, the other on July 30,31 in Brisbane.

##### TEAP

The first applicant to complete the Nuclear Medicine program will be examined on July 31 in Brisbane.

Examiners for both were drawn from the accreditation panel: Leighton Barnden, Marissa Bartlett, Andrew Campbell, Stefan Eberl, Roger Fulton and Richard Smart.

The DIMP TEAP has been finalised and is expected to be open for enrolment in 2012.

This is nominally a 4 year program that includes the Medical Physics MSc (2 years), basic modules common to both Nuclear Medicine and Radiology (1 year with overlap in MSc), and a final year of modules dedicated to either NM or Radiology. Graduates will be expected to be able to do QA in both modalities.

- 5.1. There was a reminder for accredited physicists to register with the ACPSEM.
- 5.2. There was discussion on the lack of tangible support for NM TEAP physicists given the fee structure. Chair the SIG members to consider sharing any in house teaching material with ACPSEM for placement on website or circulation to trainees. Peter Collins to investigate what sort of material may be suitable.

## 6. IDL users group

- 6.1. Leighton Barnden submitted a written report

Usage - Several, but not, all departments performing software development continue to use IDL. Code from Robbie Barnett, Erin McKay and Leighton Barnden is available via the Society website. NM TEAP modules require some IDL programming.

Can cost nothing - A freely available 'virtual machine' is downloadable for PC, Mac or Linux/Unix. You will need to ask the program's author to generate an executable "Save" file for you however.

IDL on the Net - The College has purchased a floating license for IDL for use by NMMP and DIMP TEAP trainees. The CDs are languishing on Leighton's desk though. His IT department precludes his hospital being the server for this. The College office is keen for this to be made available through them. Can someone in Sydney be volunteered into setting this up in the College office? (?Robbie, Erin). Contact Leighton for the CDs if you can.

## 7. ACPSEM liaison

- 7.1. No report

## 8. Software Validation

- 8.1. Peter Collins talked about the ANZSNM website that he and Robbie Barnett are developing for performing audits of clinical software (for example, GBPS). A presentation will be given at this meeting. It should go "live" soon. This software, and audits, could be managed by a QA Subgroup of the TSC (as mentioned in 4.1 above).

## 9. Web committee

- 9.1. No report

## 10. Election of officer bearers

- 10.1. Chair - Darin O'Keeffe had indicated that if there were no nomination he could fill the role however this may conflict with his nomination as TSC chair.
- 10.2. Secretary - Sylvia Gong.
- 10.3. Treasurer - Chithra Sathikumar

## 11. Physics SIG Symposium 2011

- 11.1. The topic of PET - MR was proposed with a meeting style using the traditional low cost model.

## 12. Other business

- 12.1. Steve Meikle wish to bring to members attention the Multi-modal Australian ScienceS Imaging and Visualisation Environment (MASSIVE) ([www.massive.org.au/](http://www.massive.org.au/)) high performance imaging computing resource linked to Monash U. and the Aust. Synchrotron. There is proposal from the NIF + MASSIVE to work with the NeCTAR project ([www.nectar.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.nectar.unimelb.edu.au)) to support reconstruction algorithms and assist the provision of data for a virtual lab. See Steve for more details.

The society of molecular imaging has suggested creation of Australian Chapter. This could be either a standalone chapter or work the Asian groupings.

### 13. Meeting close

#### Action summary for review at the next meeting

Action No.	Summary of action	Action by:
16/7/11:1	Actions SIG Chair to canvas SIG members for further nominations to TSC	Matthew Griffiths