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 2012 SNM Midwinter meeting in Orlando, the Academic Council presented a four-hour session. The first portion was “Organizations in Nuclear Medicine – What Are They, What Do they Do, Why Should I Care, and How Can I Get Involved?” This was presented in four parts by Drs. Lorraine Fig, Darlene Metter, Leonie Gordon, and Bennett Greenspan. The second portion was “Radiation Exposure in Nuclear Medicine and National Dose Reduction Initiatives”, presented by Dr. Metter. Both portions were given as SAM sessions, and both were interesting, instructive, and well-attended.

At the 2012 Association of University Radiologists (AUR) annual meeting in San Antonio, March 19-22, the AC sponsored a session on “Training and Certification of the Molecular Imager of the Future”. This was organized by Dr. Jay Harold, and featured presentations by Drs. George Segall, representing SNM, Elizabeth Oates, representing ACR, Henry Royal, representing the ABNM, Milton Guiberteau, representing the ABR, Larry Davis, representing the Radiology Residency Review Committee (RRC), and Chris Palestro, representing the NM RRC. The session stimulated a lively discussion and a number of questions.

Communications within the Academic Council remain excellent, including a superb newsletter, due to the efforts of our Secretary, Tracy Brown, MD. The Council is stable financially. Membership also appears to be relatively stable from last year.

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 valuable information and support.

The intern program is doing well in the Academic Council. The current intern, Erin Grady, MD, has been working on a project to develop teaching modules. She has also been serving as the first Robert E. Henkin Government Relations Fellow.

The Academic Council is also developing Online Teaching File Cases, under the leadership of Dr. Leonie Gordon.

The Nuclear Medicine Program Directors, through the Academic Council and the SNM, provided comments to the ACGME regarding the proposed changes of the Radiology RRC for the Nuclear Radiology Fellowship.

Several Academic Council members have continued to contribute in various ways. Dr. Greenspan serves on the SNM Board of Directors and House of Delegates, and will moderate a session at the 2012 SNM annual meeting. Dr. Leonie Gordon co-chaired one of the subcommittees of the 2020 Task Force, serves on the House of Delegates, has been working on developing the Online teaching File cases, and will moderate a session at the 2012 SNM annual meeting. She has also been serving on the ABNM Board of Directors and the NM RRC. Dr. Lorraine Fig has done an admirable job as Treasurer, and also serves on the NM RRC. Dr. Tracy Brown has job a superb job of editing the AC newsletter. Dr. Darlene Metter has done an outstanding job as Chair of the Nuclear Medicine Program Directors Association (NMPDA), and has also been involved in the Milestones project of the ACGME.
Looking Forward

There will be several changes in the officers of the Academic Council at the conclusion of the AC/NMPDA meetings at the 2012 SNM annual meeting. Dr. Greenspan will finish his term as President, and Dr. Gordon will assume the Presidency. Dr. Fig finishes her term as Treasurer. Dr. Brown is finishing her term as Secretary, and is running for re-election. Dr. Metter’s term as Chair of the NMPDA will be ending, and we will be welcoming the new Chair, Dr. Daniel Lee, of Emory University.

The Academic Council will be sponsoring two sessions at the 2012 SNM annual meeting in Miami. One of these will be the Tom Miller Memorial Lecture – “Artificial Intelligence Systems in Medicine and Diagnostic Imaging”, organized and moderated 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, Dr. Henry Royal and Tony Knight, MBA, CNMT, RT(N), NCT. The AC is in the early planning stages for the 2013 SNM Midwinter meeting and the 2013 AUR annual meeting.

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.

Officers 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.