Center Report to the SNMMI HOD

January 2020

ADVANCED ASSOCIATE COUNCIL

Council Mission: The mission of the Advanced Associate Council is to:
- Aid those who are interested in developing a Nuclear Medicine Advanced Associate program at their facility.
- Support the practice and policy needs of the NMAA and other areas of technologist advanced practice.
- Aid with activities associated with nurturing and growing the NMAA, including effecting the necessary culture change to allow this designation to function properly.
- Provide a central source for monitoring practice and educational issues for NMAAs.
- Collect and analyze financial information related to NMAA practice.

Council Mission and SNMMI’s Strategic Plan: The work of the Academic Council applies to the following goals and objectives in SNMMI’s Strategic Plan:

Goal A: SNMMI members are known for high-quality, value-driven performance and delivery of patient-centered nuclear medicine practice

Objective 2. (I) Ensure the development of value/quality metrics for nuclear medicine.
   a. Identify existing appropriate quality measures (outcomes and processes) for nuclear medicine.
   AAC conducts a survey of Nuclear Medicine Advanced Associates (NMAA) and Residents to evaluate clinical supervisory and interpretive roles – to be published in the JNMT

Objective 3. (I) Standardize best practices to enhance operational efficiency.
   a. Streamline collaborative guideline development with other organizations – Collaborate with NMTCB on development of recognition guidelines for new NMAA educational programs.

   Work with educators for long range planning for implementation of future NMAA educational programs

Objective 5. (M) Facilitate new service lines in nuclear medicine clinical settings.
   b. Educate nuclear medicine physicians and other colleagues.
      Current NMAAs demonstrate evolving and expanding value as physician extenders

c. Develop roadmaps for the nuclear medicine clinic of the future.
   The Nuclear Medicine Advanced associate is accepted and endorsed as a physician extender by the SNMMI
Goal C: There is an appropriate number of qualified professionals working in the field of nuclear medicine.

Objective 1. (I) Increase the supply of physicians qualified to practice nuclear medicine. a. Increase collaboration with stakeholder organizations in nuclear medicine and radiology to develop training program pathways
   h. Increase the awareness of NM/MI in medical schools: create resources, provide information about the value of NM/MI professions—that the field is important, viable, exciting, and new.
   
   Recruit and assist educators in the development and implementation of NMAA educational programs. One program currently under consideration

   AAC is currently reaching out to NMT Program Directors to provide information about future NMAA careers for NMT students.

Objective 3: Increase recognition of SNMMI as the professional home of all nuclear medicine professionals.
   a. Ensure that educational programs provide value to current and potential members.
      Collaborate with fellow SNMMI councils on integrated program for the June 2019 annual meeting

   b. Use innovative and novel methods for providing educational content to members and non-members.
      Develop innovative team-based educational content involving multiple imaging professionals for annual June 2019 topic

   c. Support professional development and member engagement in the society.
      AAC leadership holds regular and informative conference calls with AAC membership regarding practice changes, updates, and council initiatives

Objective 5: Increase recognition of nuclear medicine technologists as the technologist experts in performing nuclear medicine imaging and therapy.
   d. Support efforts of SNMMI Technologist Section to standardize nuclear medicine technologist training.
      AAC works with SNMMI Technologist Section to demonstrate how NMAA professionals are a valuable part of imaging practice

Goal E: Patients and the medical community recognize the value of nuclear medicine, molecular imaging and radionuclide therapy.

Objective 4: (M) Increase SNMMI’s outreach efforts and resources within the imaging community.
   a. Offer presentations at chapter meetings, at the Annual and Mid-Winter meetings, and via webinars.
      AAC members make clinical presentations and information sessions at the SNMMT annual meetings

   b. Disseminate information about current initiatives to smaller NM/MI chapters to reach those who don’t attend the Annual Meeting.
      AAC members make clinical presentations and information about the budding profession and pathway for technologists at chapter meetings
Goal F: SNMMI has the organizational strength and sustainability to lead the field in a dynamic healthcare landscape.

Objective 1: Strengthen membership numbers.
   b. Attract members from other primary specialties.
      i. Membership Committee to create working groups to drive growth in other specialties.
      AAC membership includes SNMMI physicians, educators, and technologists

   c. Attract the next generation.
      i. Create value for next generation at SNMMI events and related events and in publications.
      AAC reaches out to NMT Program Directors and students to inform about new opportunities for NMAA pathway for new NMT grads

   d. Ensure enthusiasm.
      iii. Create a sense of community and networking opportunities among our members.
      AAC leadership communicates efficiently with council membership via newsletter, email, and voice conferencing

Academic Council President: Darko Pucar, MD PhD

Date of Last meeting: December 2020

Date of Next meeting: February 2020

Update on Council Programs:

2019 SNMMI Annual Meeting CE Session:
   • Tackling Diversified Clinical Management Questions

2020 SNMMI Annual Meeting CE Session
   • Nuclear Medicine Advanced Associates in Nuclear Medicine Therapy

2020 SNMMI Annual Meeting Categorical Seminar
   • Pearls and Pitfalls of Common Nuclear Medicine Procedures

Action Items in Progress/Pending:

• Preparation for 2020 Mid-Winter and Annual Meeting

Action Items Completed: See programs above

Recommendations/Questions for the Board of Directors: N/A

Other Comments: N/A