

# NEWSLETTER

## WINTER 2020

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### President's Message

*Erica Cohen, DO, FACNM*



The year 2020 has brought many new challenges to nuclear medicine training and education on top of an already complicated era of evolving dual-residency programs. We hope you can join us at the upcoming 2021 SNMMI Virtual Mid-Winter Meeting wherein the Academic Council will be presenting novel strategies for effective teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In spite of these challenges, the need for qualified board-certified nuclear physicians continues. To support this end, the Academic Council will be revamping the SNMMI Board Review Course to include new lectures with the incorporation of board-style review questions. I also encourage you to visit the ABNM website to read the notice of

temporary modifications to training requirements which includes a decrease in the number of stress tests, pediatric studies, and therapies required for initial board certification.

As a new benefit for trainees and members of the Academic Council, we are creating a scholarship fund for those interested in health services and comparative effectiveness research. More information about this opportunity will be forthcoming. We are also reviving the Academic Council newsletter to keep our members current on the activities of the ABNM, ACGME, and NMPD, as well as some behind-the-scenes educational initiatives from the SNMMI.

Finally, I am excited and honored to announce the winner of the Academic Council Distinguished Service Award: our current Vice Chair, Dr Twyla Bartel. Dr Bartel has distinguished herself through a career dedicated to the advancement of patient care through academic achievement and education. We look forward to presenting her with this award at our upcoming meeting.

There has never been a better time to join the Academic Council. I hope to meet you on one of our upcoming virtual calls as we await the return of our in-person events.

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## Current AC Board and Interns

This year’s AC Board of Directors comprised of the following individuals:

Erica J. Cohen, DO, MPH, FACNM	President
Twyla B. Bartel, DO, MBA, FACNM	Vice President
Bital Savir-Baruch, MD	Secretary
Rustain L. Morgan, MD	Treasurer
Jay S. Hiller, MD	Immediate Past President
Katherine M. Binzel, PhD	Board of Directors
Esther Choi, MD, MS, CCD	Board of Directors
Shana Elman, MD	Board of Directors
Khushboo Gupta, MD	Board of Directors
James Tyler Middlebrooks, BS, NMTCB(RS), RT(N)CT	Board of Directors
Twyla B. Bartel, DO, MBA, FACNM	SNMMI Board Liaison
David H. Lewis, MD	Committee Member

Our current interns are:

Summer Khairi, CNMT, MBA  
 Assistant Professor, College of Health Professions  
 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
 Little Rock, Arkansas



Current Project: A questionnaire will be sent to technologist AC members to determine what benefits the AC can provide them.

Domnique Newallo, MD, RT (R) (CT)  
 Nuclear Medicine Resident  
 Emory Healthcare  
 Atlanta, Georgia



Current Project: A survey will be sent to SNMMI residents-in-training with a focus on quality improvement.

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## 2021 AC Tom Miller Memorial and Distinguished Service Awardees

Congratulations from the AC to Dr. Paige Bennett for being selected as the 2021 Tom Miller Memorial Award. The award was created to recognize the late Tom Miller, MD, PhD, who had served as one of SNMMI's Scientific Program Committee Chairs for many years. His dedication to the Society and the field were outstanding. The award recipient will receive a plaque and be expected to present a lecture during the Tom Miller session during the SNNMI Annual Meeting.

Paige Bennett, MD  
Professor, Radiology  
Wake Forest School of Medicine  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina



The AC congratulates Dr. Twyla Bartel as the recipient of the 2021 Distinguished Service Award. This award was established to recognize individuals within Nuclear Medicine who have distinguished themselves through a career dedicated to the advancement of patient care through academic achievement and education as well as dedication to the AC Council.



Twyla Bartel, DO, MBA, FACNM  
Co-Owner  
Global Advanced Imaging, PLLC  
Little Rock, Arkansas

## Behind the Scenes SNMMI Projects/Updates

*Teresa Ellmer*

*Associate Director, SNMMI Governance*

Congratulations to Dr. Erin Grady who has recently been appointed as the Chair of the Nuclear Medicine Program Directors Group.

Following is a brief summary of the purpose and work being done by the Graduate Medical Education (GME) Radiopharmaceutical Task Force of the Therapy Strategic Planning Committee as related to training and education for Nuclear Medicine residents and fellows.

- This task force is comprised of members of the Academic Council (AC), Nuclear Medicine Program Directors' (NMPD) Group, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Residency Review Committee (RRC), Early Career/Residents Group, and other key clinical experts.
- The task force has been created to conduct a thorough educational needs assessment for Nuclear Medicine residency training programs.
- Three (3) subgroups have been created within the task force to work on these specific topic areas:
  - Curation of current clinical content (Drs. Kirk Frey, Jen Kwak, and Jon Baldin)
  - Identification of clinical experts for lectures and development of appropriate clinical content (Drs. Phil Koo, Heather Jacene, and Richard Wahl)
  - Assist in development of a basic sciences curriculum to include medical physics, radiation biology, dosimetry, and radiation safety (Drs. Erica Cohen, Twyla Bartel, and Pat Zanzanico)
- Based upon the topics identified, this group will either utilize relevant educational content currently available on the SNMMI Learning Management System (LMS), webinars, and/or create new content with a primary goal of creating enduring content that can either be paired with the live lectures and/or can be used by NM residency programs to create their own study guide.
- Once developed, this model curriculum will be widely disseminated using SNMMI communication channels and will also be added to the SNMMI Therapy web portal

PIDSC COVID-19 Remote Viewing Guidance Document Coming Soon

The COVID-19 pandemic has created new realities with increasing number of Nuclear Medicine physicians having to read remotely from their homes to comply with social distancing mandates. Several recent publications have described specifications and tips on how to set up viewing stations to allow reading from home, but none of these focuses on Nuclear Medicine imaging. In this document, the Physics, Instrumentation, and Data Science Council (PIDSC) of the SNMMI provides guidelines on setting up a remote viewing station that is specific to Nuclear Medicine imaging. The intention of the document is to highlight components and specifications of a reading station that are necessary when setting up a remote viewing station for this purpose and is in response to a request from the SNMMI COVID-19 task force to that effect. This document expands upon previous guidance from SNMMI on remote Nuclear Medicine viewing

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## AC Session at Virtual January 2021 SNMMI Mid-Winter Meeting

At this meeting, the Academic Council (AC) and General Clinical Nuclear Medicine Councils are co-sponsoring the following CE Session. We look forward to you joining us for this!

**“COVID-19: Effects on Clinical Care and Education”**

**Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:45 am – 1:15 pm, ET**



[Click Here to Register](#)

### JOIN THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

*Council membership is voluntary. Society members are eligible for council membership, and can belong to as many councils as they wish. The Academic Council dues are \$15.00.*

*You can join online at [www.snmmi.org/join](http://www.snmmi.org/join) or send an email to [memberinfo@snmmi.org](mailto:memberinfo@snmmi.org)*