Ready for an Adventure? 
Join AAMD in Atlanta for the 41st Annual Meeting!

By Keitt Mobile, CMD, and Madison Fletcher, CMD 
Annual Conference Committee Co-Chairs

Get ready to “Turn Up the Heat on Cancer” with your fellow medical dosimetrists at the AAMD 41st Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA! The meeting will be June 12-16, 2016 with pre-conference workshops June 10 and 11 at the Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center.

The 2016 Annual Conference Committee (ACC) has been working hard to put together an educational program to help dosimetrists advance to the top of their profession, and earn over 35 continuing education credits! Providing attendees with tips and tricks, case studies, and hands-on/interactive workshops you will gain information you can use in your clinic.

Plan to come early and attend our pre-conference workshops, which will include a CMD Exam Review, Radiation Oncology Billing and Coding Workshop and Contouring Workshop. The CMD Exam Review is a two-day course beginning Friday, June 10. Those who are unable to join us in Atlanta can participate in the review as a “virtual” student. On Saturday, June 11, there is an in-depth Radiation Oncology Billing and Coding Workshop. The Contouring Workshop, also on Saturday, will be an interactive session that will include tips and contouring strategies for achieving optimal, consistent results. The content will be focused on the pelvis.

On Sunday evening, after a full day of education, you will be able to relax, enjoy and network with over 400 radiation oncology professionals at the Welcome Reception. This will take place in the exhibit hall, where you will have time to visit with our corporate partners and possibly win some prizes!

Back again this year will be the Treatment Planning System (TPS) Workshops from Varian, Elekta, Philips and RaySearch. The workshops provide a great opportunity to learn a different planning system or learn more about the one you use every day. These are FREE workshops (with full meeting registration), but you may only attend one. Space is limited, so you will want to register early to guarantee your spot for the TPS of your choice. See the Workshops page on the AAMD web site for more details.

We are happy to announce that the AAMD’s corporate partners – .decimal,® Elekta, Philips and Accuray – will once again be offering BONUS credits through sponsored lunch symposia (Sunday through Wednesday). 125 box lunches will be provided as part of the sponsorship, but space will be available for additional people to attend. These are excellent opportunities to earn extra credits while in Atlanta!

Be sure to pre-register for these events when you register for the meeting.

Wednesday will feature a full day of concurrent sessions. Don’t worry about not being able to attend both sessions as they will all be recorded and made available for a fee of $50. And, YES, you will receive the additional continuing education credits!

The AAMD Board of Directors, staff and all of us on the ACC hope you will come along and help us “Turn Up the Heat on Cancer!”

Ready for an Adventure? 
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Greetings to my fellow dosimetrists! I hope you are having a great new year thus far.

The Board of Directors, along with the Headquarters’ Staff, just concluded our mid-winter meeting where we reviewed our organizational goals, explored new ideas for the future, and performed a budgetary review. The AAMD is very busy.

Here are just a few things that are happening within our organization:

• We just came through our busiest time of the year for membership renewal. The AAMD is still growing strong with over 3200+ members.
• We are striving to improve our relationship among our sister organizations.
• A new Salary Survey, for the 2015 tax year, is in the works. Members will be invited to participate in the survey later this spring.
• Planning for the Annual Meeting is in full swing. The 41st Annual Meeting: Turning up the Heat on Cancer will be held at the Omni Hotel at CNN Center on June 12-16, 2016 in Atlanta, Ga. The Annual Conference Committee is working hard to get the agenda set to bring a program that will not only provide the needed continuing education, but also give the opportunity to explore different treatment planning systems, improve your skills at a contouring workshop and give attendees a chance to expand their professional and social networks.
• AAMD will also partner once again with Roswell Park Cancer Institute for the 2016 Radiation Oncology Conference for Therapists & Dosimetrists, September 8 – 10, 2016. The date and location for the Region I Meeting are also being finalized for October 2016. So keep your eyes and ears open for more information about these events.
• We are in the middle of a website overhaul that will include an upgrade to the education platform. The new format will be a responsive design. This will improve the overall function of the website and make it more user friendly when accessed with either your smart phone, tablet or PC. You may have noticed that our new Annual Meeting website is already featuring responsive design.

Thank you for your continued support of the AAMD and its efforts. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, you can contact us at any time.

Hope to see you in Atlanta in June!

Ray Lawson, CMD, RT(R)(T)
AAMD President
rlawsonjr@yahoo.com

Meet the New AAMD Treasurer
Brian N. Napolitano, MHL, CMD

The AAMD Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Brian N. Napolitano, MHL, CMD, to the position of Treasurer. Brian was appointed to the Board to fill the remaining portion of Craig McKenzie’s term as Treasurer after Craig was elected President-Elect in the 2015 AAMD Election. Brian’s appointment is effective January 2016 through July 31, 2017. He is employed as Senior Manager, Dosimetry and Physics Administration at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA and has served on the AAMD Task Group on Government Relations. As an experienced medical dosimetrist and radiation oncology administrator the Board is looking forward to his participation and expertise in dealing with the activities of the Board and the AAMD.
Electoral fever is in the air, and the AAMD has its own electoral fervor taking place. While we won't be holding debates, we do have candidate personal statements for which our members can base voting decisions. We are thrilled to have some great nominees willing to serve to help better our society. The positions up for election in 2016 are:

- President-Elect
- Member-at-Large #2
- Region I Representative
- Region II Representative

To help with your ballot decisions, get to know the candidates by reading their personal statements.

**President-Elect**
**Keitt Mobile, CMD**

I have been an active member of the AAMD for many years serving in many positions. I was part of the Board of Directors that brought the AAMD budget from the red into the black. During my previous tenure on the AAMD Board we moved from using a management company for headquarters staffing to have our own dedicated full time staff. I feel that my working in both the clinical and academic world provides me with unique insight as to where dosimetry stands at the moment and is moving to in the future. I still have much to contribute to our association as well as a desire to do so.

**Member-at-Large #2**
**Kristi Smith, CMD**

Through my volunteer involvement with the AAMD Annual Conference Committee and the Board of Directors, I have been immensely impressed with the forward thinking of this group. I would love to serve on the board of directors and continue to help our organization to make an impact on the future fight against cancer by providing wonderful continuing education opportunities to the members. I would love to be a voice for the membership regarding decisions about the profession that we have chosen and are passionate about.

**Region I Representative**
**Mary Ann Hagio, CMD**

As with most industries today, Radiation Oncology is constantly bombarded with the need to increase output, decrease costs, and keep up with new technologies. Hospitals and or clinics may have a rotating physicist to check charts periodically. Dosimetrists are often tasked to do some things previously done only by physicists. AAMD needs to be a strong advocate for continuing education. As a regional representative, I constantly encourage my colleagues to share their knowledge with others in the community. I am always available to answer questions or concerns the community may have. If I cannot answer a question, I will ask the appropriate person(s) to discover the answer.

**Region II Representative**
**Justine Love, CMD**

I am a full CMD member in good standing with AAMD. I am professionally employed as a full time CMD for a hospital in Boise, Idaho. I desire the position of AAMD member-at-large #2 to serve as an active participant on the executive committee of the AAMD. I accept the responsibilities as printed in the duties of the AAMD member-at-large #2. I am committed to the AAMD society and its members. My goal is to continue to promote and support the Medical Dosimetry profession. To promote professional conduct and provide the highest standard of patient care throughout the Medical Dosimetrists community.

**Rhonda Sabb, CMD**

It would seem to me that one issue facing the AAMD is communication. I talked to some dosimetrists for their opinions on the organization. One particular dosimetrist did not feel that they were getting their monies worth. Further clarification revealed that she was not aware of all the benefits, in particular, job announcements. For a member not to know that one of the simplest benefits is being offered tells me that we have to do a better job of communicating the benefits of membership. I am a supporter of the AAMD and would like to see the membership continue to increase. In order for this to happen, people need to know what they are getting for those annual dues, which is much more than webinars and job announcements. As a Member-At-Large, I will do my best to help educate members and prospective members about the organization and how it can help elevate the profession, as well as their careers.

**AAMD 2016 Election – Vote for Our Next Leaders**

By Susan Gehr, CMD, and Adam Brown, CMD
Nominations & Volunteer Committee Co-Chairs
AAMD 2016 Election – Vote for Our Next Leaders

Region II Representative

Leslie Poteet, CMD
The AAMD is a professional society established to promote and support the welfare of the profession for those who have earned the privilege to serve as a certified medical dosimetrist of which I am proud to have been a part of since 1986. The AAMD has the continued opportunity of offering relevant education and professional development to anyone with the initiative to pursue it. I am passionate about encouraging every member to seriously consider sharing their knowledge and experience in a way that furthers our ability to help the patients that come to our centers for professional and compassionate medical care. I am confident I will serve and work with the Region II members of the AAMD at a capacity exceeding most expectations as well as encourage a cohesive environment within the current Board of representatives for the AAMD as we work to develop the future leadership of our profession.

Terri Ashley, CMD
I would like to increase the opportunities for CMDs to readily obtain CE credits and increase their knowledge base through collaboration and communication via the resources such as the Member Forum, DJR publications, regional and annual meetings that the AAMD provides.

Barry Showalter, CMD
As your representative, I am willing to listen to anyone who has an issue they feel needs to be addressed by the AAMD. In order to make the organization work better for everyone, we need to hear what the members of the represented have to say and act effectively where and when we can. I wish to help with that mission.

Terrilyn Mickelson, CMD
Medical dosimetry is a rapidly advancing field; ever changing with the advancement of technology. I feel a deep and personal responsibility to promote the advancement of our field through continual professional interaction and education. Quality regional meetings are a vital avenue for sharing advancements in our field and setting standards for planning and patient care. My goal is to be able to serve as a Region II Representative voice for all dosimetrists while helping to set the standards and expectations in our field that will continue to drive our profession into the future, especially with our rapidly advancement of technology.

All Full CMD Members will be asked to vote on the position of President-Elect and Member at Large #2. The regional representatives will only be voted on by the members in their respective regions.


Region 2 includes: Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Texas, Wyoming, Alberta (Canada), Manitoba (Canada), Saskatchewan (Canada).

This year’s election will be different, in that the board has decided to use a third party company, Survey and Ballot Systems, to handle the election process. More information regarding the new procedure will be forthcoming soon, so watch for e-mails announcing the election.
AAMD 2015 Salary Survey Is Coming Soon
By Mary Headley, CMD
Career Services Committee Co-chair

The AAMD will be launching the 2015 Salary Survey this year. The purpose of the survey is to gather the most accurate salary information and trends by demographic regions throughout the medical dosimetry community. The study will once again be conducted by Michael Mills, PhD, in collaboration with the AAMD Career Services Committee. The plan is to follow the 2013 Salary Survey questionnaire with a few minor modifications. The proposed timeline is as follows:

**May 1, 2016** – Surveys sent to all Medical Dosimetry professionals

**July 1, 2016** – Survey closed and analysis begins

**Fall 2016** – Final Report

Watch your email for the survey notification and a link to a questionnaire.

Your participation is very important to the AAMD and will allow us to provide you with the most accurate salary data.

Have You Renewed Your AAMD Membership For 2016?
By Elaine Bogner, CMD
Membership Committee Co-Chair

There is still time!

Your membership ensures that you can take full advantage of all the great benefits the AAMD has to offer:

• Access to the AAMD Resource Database containing journal articles and recorded lectures as well as educational PowerPoint presentations.

• A subscription to the *Medical Dosimetry* journal with Directed Journal Readings for CE credit.

• Discounted registration rates for annual and regional meetings.

• Automated upload of credits earned from AAMD offerings to your MDCB Learning Plan.

• Access to job listings through the Career Services Center.

• Upgrade to Member Plus for an additional $100 and earn a minimum of 20 credits per year – ten credits from online CE modules and ten from webinars and recorded sessions that can be viewed at your convenience for 3 months. That's only $5 per credit!! Five hundred of your fellow members have already signed on! Simply select “Membership” from the AAMD homepage at [www.medicaldosimetry.org](http://www.medicaldosimetry.org) and select “Join AAMD” from the dropdown menu. The option to upgrade can be selected at the top of the page.

A big thanks to all of you who renewed prior to December 31 and were eligible for the Membership Committee prize drawing. Congratulations to the winners!

Free Membership for 2017
Robert W. Hancock
Leonard M. Berbee
Michael Nicholson
Mary Ann A. Hagio

Free Annual Meeting Registration
Dana Heinzerling

To begin receiving your benefits, make time to join today. It's easy: Click on the AAMD Membership button on the right side of the AAMD homepage at [www.medicaldosimetry.org](http://www.medicaldosimetry.org) and then select “Renew or Upgrade” in the middle of the first three options. Be sure to update your record to reflect any changes to your contact information. If you need assistance with your renewal, please contact Spencer Boulter at sboulter@medicaldosimetry.org or 703-677-8071 x101.

With your support, we are dedicated to helping you succeed. Thank you for your participation in AAMD… the organization that works for you!
How long have you been a dosimetrist and what made you want to become one?
I have been working as a solo dosimetrist at First Dayton Cancer Care since 2005 and have been certified since 2009. I worked as a radiation therapist from 1998-2005 before I moved into dosimetry. I went to the James Cancer Hospital at The Ohio State University and graduated in 1998.

My mom died from cancer when I was seven years old. My mom’s chemo nurse became very close to our family. She had lost her father about the same time as my mother. Months later, she introduced my dad to her mom. They ended up getting married, and now my mom’s chemo nurse is my step sister. When my mom was sick, that was a very difficult time for all of us, but seeing how her nurse really made a difference with my family made an impression on me as a young boy. I always thought that I would like to work in the oncology field helping patients get through a difficult time. I am so glad that I am able to make a difference every day. I have helped my own family and friends fight their cancer.

What do you find as one of the more challenging tasks of being a dosimetrist?
Billing and coding and dealing with insurance would be the most challenging and frustrating tasks!

What part of being a dosimetrist do you like best?
I love the challenge of creating the best treatment plan for each unique patient. The most rewarding part of my job is seeing patients when they come back for follow-ups years after treatment and they are cancer-free.

How did you first get involved in volunteering with AAMD?
I went to the Seattle Annual Meeting two years ago. I really wanted to network with other dosimetrists and keep up with what was going on in my field, so I contacted the senior co-chair, Lori Kasuske, and told her I would like to volunteer. She put me to work helping with the RFID scanners, and I had a great time, so I volunteered for Orlando, and they put me on the Annual Conference Committee (ACC).

In what ways have you volunteered with AAMD?
I helped with the RFID scanners in Seattle. In Orlando, I did that again plus helped out a little bit more. I did everything from stuffing bags before the meeting to introducing speakers. I’m currently the secretary of the ACC. I’m also a part of the website task group that is redesigning the AAMD website and I’m also a part of the Student Writing Competition Task Group.

What made you want to volunteer with the AAMD?
I really wanted to network with other dosimetrists so I could keep up with what was going on in my field, and I also wanted to learn more about the different treatment planning systems, techniques and protocols that other places utilize across the country.

Did you have any previous experience volunteering?
I have volunteered for the American Cancer Society and also Hospice of Dayton. I’m currently a volunteer for the Honor Flight Network, where we take veterans to see their memorials in Washington, DC.

How much time on a weekly/monthly basis does it take to help the AAMD?
We have monthly ACC meetings that last an hour. And now that I am secretary of the ACC, it can be a little more time consuming depending on the time of year. We just chose the speakers for this year’s meeting, and it takes time to read all the abstracts. It then takes time to contact all the speakers and get them all scheduled.

What techniques do you utilize to balance work, personal life and volunteering?
I make sure I keep a schedule and stay organized.

What do you find most rewarding about volunteering with AAMD?
Working with and getting to know other dosimetrists has been a blast! I have learned so much from each and every one of them. Being part of the ACC has been an amazing experience for which I’m so grateful.

Why do you think a membership professional organization such as AAMD is necessary for our profession?
For me as a solo dosimetrist at a free standing center, it’s vital because of the educational and networking opportunities. It’s a great resource to have, and it’s enabled me to obtain CEs with no problem. It’s helped me find other dosimetrists who are in my same situation. I like this because I can ask them questions about planning, billing and coding, treatment systems, etc.

Through the volunteering process, did you meet other professionals with whom you’ve formed friendships?
I’ve made many lifelong friends through volunteering with the AAMD! I highly encourage other dosimetrists to volunteer. They will love it.

What else keeps you busy in your life?
I’m married and have two daughters, 18 and 15. I have been a girls’ soccer coach for 10 years and before that I coached my oldest daughter in softball and basketball. I guess my current hobby is meeting up with old Marine Corps buddies across the country. I unfortunately lost a close friend I had in the Marines to cancer last year. He ended up being treated by a friend of mine.
Celebrating 30+Years with AAMD

AAMD would like to send a special thank you to those celebrating 30+ years of membership!

Jill Caranto, CMD  
Ronald FitzGerald, CMD  
Carolyn Dicker, CMD  
Gregory Craycraft, CMD  
Peter Sanchez, CMD  
Margaret Peterson, CMD  
Laura Knezevich, CMD  
Sharon Arbo, CMD  
Thomas Devlin, CMD  
Alfred Roth, CMD  
Karen Stook, CMD  
Pamela Naplachowski, CMD  
Carolyn Johnson, CMD  
Kathleen Fong, CMD  
Sharon Bocaranda, CMD  
Preston Wakefield, CMD  
Joan Gignac, CMD  
Bruce Bucher, CMD  
Judith Turner, CMD  
Joseph Iannitto, CMD  
Catherine White, CMD  
Cynthia Audet, CMD  
Janet Protesto, CMD  
Rose Santangelo, CMD  
Theo Howard-Ames, CMD  
Martha LaFrance, CMD  
Robert Queen, CMD  
Edward Mannarino, CMD  
Valerie Radice, CMD  
Dawn Myers, CMD

Bonnie Geohagan, CMD  
Kirby Wittenbach, CMD  
Marvene Ewing, CMD  
Mary Hare, CMD  
Carolyn Turke, CMD  
Juan Jackson, CMD  
Richard Lloyd, CMD  
Neil Naples, CMD  
Robert Gelmetti, CMD  
Keith Moore, CMD  
James Picone, CMD  
Wendy Lipper, CMD  
Susan Rose, CMD  
Christopher Moore, CMD  
Brenda Wray, CMD  
Cynthia Ciriacks, CMD  
Ellen Kurdzio, CMD  
Kelly Brock, CMD  
James Bigbie, CMD  
William Braggs, CMD  
Jeffrey Yorty, CMD  
Evan Chapman, CMD  
Sigrun Bynum, CMD  
Jo Ann Robinson, CMD  
Anna Smith, CMD  
Edward Barnes, CMD  
Linda Schoenfeld, CMD  
Shelly DeSanti, CMD  
Linda Cayce, CMD  
Michael Mills, CMD

Mary Potenziani, CMD  
Edwin Sanders, CMD  
Karol Wynn, CMD  
Mark Reid, CMD  
Mary Jo Repasky, CMD  
Teresa Fischer, CMD  
Valerie Marable, CMD  
Montre Van Aken, CMD  
Jeffrey Whisnant, CMD  
Lawrence Farina, CMD  
Maryellen Kassab, CMD  
Patricia Barrett, CMD  
Louise Farraday, CMD  
Charlotte Prado, CMD  
Karen Stumph, CMD  
Ronald Zammuto, CMD  
Dina Brown, CMD  
Ellen Paghidas, CMD  
Paul Archer, CMD  
Claudia Quinton, CMD  
Ronald Froehlich, CMD  
Phyllis Titus, CMD  
Martha Picone, CMD  
Maurice LaChance, CMD  
Nancy Schecter, CMD  
Ann Kaydee, CMD  
Robin Gallardo, CMD  
Martha Hawkins, CMD  
Darrell Wolf, CMD

Read Medical Dosimetry via Mobile

Did you know you can now read Medical Dosimetry on your phone or tablet, without downloading an app? Your device will present an optimized view that makes it easy to scroll through and read the latest articles. AAMD members can easily set up an account by entering your AAMD ID number the first time you visit. Click here for more information.
AAMD and Roswell Park Cancer Institute Team Up for Another Fantastic Educational Event!

AAMD and the Roswell Park Cancer Institute will present the 2016 Radiation Oncology Conference for Therapists and Dosimetrists, September 8 – 10 in Niagara Falls. Mark the date on your calendar for this unique multidisciplinary conference that will offer insights into the latest developments in treatments, treatment planning and clinical support issues. The organizing committee is currently accepting abstracts for presentations at this meeting. Get all the details and submit your abstract by April 8. See you in Niagara Falls!

Students and Educators Will Convene for Special Sessions in Atlanta

By Jacky Nyamwanda, CMD, and Mellonie Brown-Zacarias, CMD

Formal Education Committee Co-Chairs

The AAMD Formal Education Committee (FEC) would like to highlight events for educators and students at the AAMD Annual Meeting in Atlanta in June 2016. The student event is tentatively scheduled on Monday, June 13 from 2:15 to 5:00 PM. We plan on having a student bowl with prizes, presentations focused on job searching and career options, and an opportunity to network with students from other programs.

The educator event is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 14 from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. We will have two presentations with CE credits as follows: It’s Not the Lottery: Best Practices for Medical Dosimetry Student Selection, by Jamie Baker, PhD, MEd, CMD, and Medical Dosimetry Education: Launching Programs into the Future, by Paula Berner, BS, CMD, FAAMD. We also expect to have representation from the MDCB and the JRCERT at the meeting for general discussions on topics pertaining to formal dosimetry programs. Detailed information will be provided once the agenda is finalized.
The Student Writing Competition 2016 Is Underway

This is a writing competition for students currently enrolled in medical dosimetry programs.

Sponsored by the AAMD for 2016, First Prize is $500, Second Prize is $250 and Third Prize is $125.

All participating authors will find information for electronic submission of abstract and manuscript on the AAMD website.

The deadline for abstracts is April 1, 2016. The deadline for manuscript submission is May 1, 2016.

Students don’t delay – get your manuscripts done today!

Contact the Writing Competition Task Group with questions at aamd@medicaldosimetry.org.

From the Editor

AAMD welcomes your comments about the content of the eMonitor. Let us know if you have ideas for articles too. Please email your feedback to the Editor: Stacey Wilson, AAMD Director of Marketing, swilson@medicaldosimetry.org

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Job Hunting Tips for Medical Dosimetrists

By Ashley Walsh, CMD
Career Services Committee Co-Chair

Job hunting can be an intimidating and daunting task whether you are a new grad or a seasoned dosimetrist. Having a structured job hunt regimen can help with getting you motivated and organized. A great starting place is to gather all resources needed to apply for a new job. This can be started very simply with your resume, be sure it is updated and flawless. It’s a good idea to keep a running list of things that you would like to add, and update your resume once a year regardless if you are actively on the job hunt or not. It can be overwhelming to try and summarize the past X number of years if you have not touched your CV since accepting your last position. It’s easy to forget some of the nice additions that can help set you apart, such as attending a training seminar or a leadership activity at your current workplace.

Another option that is becoming more popular is to create an E-Portfolio. This is where you create a website to house an online collection of your work in the field. You can include school work, projects and published or unpublished papers. It gives you an opportunity to demonstrate what you can bring to a new department through your achievements. Viewers can learn about your organization, communication, and strengths. Like your resume, an E-Portfolio should be well organized, free of errors, easy to read and navigate.

If you are not currently working, finding motivation can sometimes be difficult, experts suggest to make job hunting your career. Every day get dressed as if you were going to work and set a certain number of hours you will dedicate to searching for your next position. While on the job hunt don’t forget to use the free tool provided by the AAMD Career Service Committee, “Interview Stream.”

Interview Stream is a wonderful tool that is available to you through your annual AAMD membership. You are able to set up an account and practice your interview skills, which truly is a skill that needs to be practiced. There is a bank of questions you are able to pick and choose from, you can then record yourself answering them to better evaluate your responses. You are able to cater the questions to your needs and specify them to a new graduate or senior dosimetrist. Once completed you have the option to evaluate the responses yourself, send them to a friend or have the Career Service Committee evaluate them and provide feedback. A reviewer is able to stop the video at any point to add a specific comment to your response or mark how many times one uses filler words such as “um.” The goal is when you are called for that in-person interview you will have practice and some of your anxiety will be eased and you can be successful!

Socialize with AAMD on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter

By Mark Littel, CMD
Communications Committee Co-Chair

As 2016 rolls on, there has been a lot going on in social media for Medical Dosimetrists, and even more exciting developments will be coming on board throughout the year.

If you haven’t already, be sure to subscribe and join the American Association of Medical Dosimetrists Facebook page. It’s the easiest and most convenient way to reach out to over 1,300 dosimetry colleagues and get updates from AAMD Headquarters. Frequent conversation has focused on treatment planning tips and tricks, advice on continuing education courses, and other clinical topics. Billing questions and human resources topics have recently been discussed as those subjects can vary geographically and across different types of facilities. The Facebook page is also a source for prospective dosimetrists to seek advice on the profession and possible education venues. Some students in online and distance-learning programs are also seeking clinical sites. Be sure to check out the AAMD Facebook page.

There are more and more opportunities for students through social media as well. A student specific Facebook page is currently in the works as an open, yet more intimate group for current and prospective students to connect across dosimetry programs. Students, don’t forget about the 2016 AAMD Student Writing Competition— you could win up to $500 for your paper.

AAMD also has a Twitter account. Those who use Twitter are encouraged to follow and tweet news articles and updates from vendors, and share information about what is going on in your departments. The Twitter account will also be a great place for members to connect and interact during the 2016 Annual Meeting in Atlanta. Follow us: AAMDMedicalDosimetry @med_dosimetry

With access to so many fellow dosimetrists at your fingertips, now is the best time to join the discussion!
During the past year the Foundation has made big strides in raising over $10,000 from the Foundation Webinar Series and securing $100,000 in scholarship grants from Varian Medical Systems. As members of the AAMD many of you took the opportunity to join in this success and donate to the Foundation in conjunction with your dues renewal. However, donations are accepted at any time and can be made throughout the year, allowing the Foundation to support the future of the medical dosimetry profession.

In 2016 the Foundation will be active in launching the following programs:

• Awarding over $50,000 in new scholarships to medical dosimetry students
• Providing new graduates with the opportunity to attend the Varian’s Eclipse/IMRT training
• Giving three travel grants to dosimetrists to attend AAMD’s 41st Annual meeting in Atlanta, GA

Descriptions of the programs and application materials can be found on the AAMDERF web site and listed below.

Applications for the 2016 must be received between midnight March 2, 2016 and 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time on May 1, 2016. Letters of recommendation and transcripts must be received by post marked by May 1, 2016. Scholarship recipients are typically notified in June by email.

The scholarship descriptions below are brief summaries of the terms and conditions established by the AAMD Education and Research Foundation Board of Trustees. These descriptions may not include complete selection criteria and are subject to change without notice. Each scholarship has a specific applicant packet that must be completed and submitted with your application. Each packet contains the following information:

- Scholarship Instructions
- Application Checklist
- Enrollment Verification Form
- Scholarship Terms and Conditions
- Applicant Resume Packet

Only apply for those scholarships for which you qualify.

These AAMDERF Foundation scholarships are provided thanks to individuals and corporations who understand the importance of highly skilled professionals and the power of education to create a brighter future.

Annual Meeting Education Travel Grant
Sponsored by Mission Search and the AAMD

Purpose
AAMD Education and Research Foundation has established the Education Travel Grant program to subsidize the costs of meeting attendance for members who could not otherwise participate in an AAMD event. Travel awards will not exceed $2,000 for the 41st Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. The total amount awarded will be based on the financial needs of the applicant.

What’s Covered
Grant funds will be used to cover meeting registration, flight or ground travel and hotel reservations for up to 6 nights (if attending the preconference workshops). Food and incidental charges from the hotel are not covered by grant funds.

Criteria
Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria to apply for an Education Travel Grant.

- Maintain active AAMD member status (during application and award process)
- Demonstrate financial and CE credit need
- Endorsement of their current Administrator

Varian Eclipse Training Grant

Purpose
AAMD Education and Research Foundation has established the Varian Training Grant to help recent medical dosimetry graduates to gain or enhance their skills in order to become a practicing medical dosimetrist. This grant provides two weeks of training at the Varian Las Vegas Education Center.

What’s Covered
The education courses that will be covered include one week on Eclipse 11 and one week on IMRT. Along with the training grant provided by Varian each attendee will receive up to $2,000 in travel reimbursement. Reimbursable expenses are limited to airfare, ground transportation and lodging. If you are awarded the grant and still cannot attend the courses due to additional costs you MUST decline the award.
Criteria
Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria to apply for an Education Travel Grant.
- Maintain active AAMD member status (during application and award process)
- Demonstrate financial and employment need
- Complete the training within the calendar year of the award
- Only recent (within 12 months) graduates of a JRCERT accredited program looking for employment

Applications CANNOT be employed by a company that currently uses Varian treatment planning equipment. (Violation of this criteria would cause a federal kickback violation for Varian and revoke this program for all future use.)

Rudi J. Bertrand Veterans Student Scholarship
**Purpose:**
To provide assistance veterans starting or continuing their education in the medical dosimetry field.

**Eligibility Criteria:**
Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria to apply for the RJB Veterans Scholarship.
- Veteran of United States Military service branch (includes Reservists and National Guard personnel)
- Enrolled or accepted in full-time in a JRCERT accredited or applicant medical dosimetry program
- AAMD member in good standing
- 3.2 GPA or equivalent

Gunilla Bentel Scholarship for Practicing Medical Dosimetrists
**Purpose:**
This scholarship was established to promote leadership and academic excellence by providing practicing CMD’s with the opportunity to continue their education and improve the quality of service provided to our patients.

**Eligibility Criteria:**
Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria to apply for the Gunilla Bentel Scholarship.
- Certified Medical Dosimetrist
- AAMD member in good standing and enrolled in an advanced course of study

Varian Student Scholarship
**Purpose:**
This scholarship was created to help students entering their first year of an accredited medical dosimetry program by providing financial support for tuition, room and board and supplies

**Eligibility Criteria:**
Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria to apply for the Varian Student Scholarship.
- Accepted by or enrolled in an JRCERT accredited medical dosimetry program as a first year student by April 1, 2016
- Maintain active AAMD member status (during application and award process)
- Demonstrate a financial and employment need

Student Scholarship Review Committee
Each year the AAMD Education and Research Foundation supports dozens of students entering a dosimetry program for the first time and current CMDs going back to school for an advanced degree. Over the past 2 years these applications have tripled, and the Foundation needs additional volunteers to help review the application materials so that each student gets the attention they deserve. 2016 will be an even more exciting year as the Foundation will be giving away over $50,000. The activities listed below will describe what your duties would be on this committee.

The total time commitment for this committee is approximately 20-30 hours per calendar year.

- Review the current application process and make improvements
- Application submissions will be sent to the central office and compiled for committee review
- Each committee member will review between 10-15 applications. Applications are reviewed and scored based on predetermined rubric
- Application scores are submitted to the committee chairs and a slate of candidates and grant amounts are presented to the Board of Trustees for approval

The AAMDERF Board of Trustees would like to thank you for your commitment and dedication to the Foundation. Our scholarships would not be possible without support from companies and individuals who care about helping medical dosimetrists enhance their professional skills and education.
Item Writing Workshop at the AAMD Annual Meeting

CMDs are invited to participate in the MDCB Lunch and Learn Item Writing Workshop. The workshop will be held in conjunction with the 2016 AAMD Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 11 from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Join us for lunch.

Following lunch, attendees will be guided by MDCB Subject Matter Experts to learn how to develop well-constructed exam questions utilizing volunteer-submitted items. Presenters will demonstrate how to review items for technical accuracy, bias, correct and sound language structure while avoiding common pitfalls in item development and creating plausible distracter responses. Principles presented have universal application to all test writing.

To participate:

- Complete an item writer application.
- Complete a conflict of interest, confidentiality, copyright assignment agreement (to be provided on receipt of the application).
- Submit five (5) questions pertaining to the exam matrix in advance of the conference.

Credit will be granted for attendance at the workshop and for submission of accepted questions. Volunteers will be provided with a detailed item writing manual for guidance in the preparation of test questions.

Interested individuals should complete the application, available on the MDCB website, “About” section and submit either by scanned copy to info@mdcb.org or by fax to 856-439-0525.

Exam Application Opened on March 1

The exam application for the August 2016 Medical Dosimetry Certification Exam opened on March 1. Complete details regarding eligibility, application requirements and deadlines are provided in the exam handbook.

The exam will be administered on August 11, 12 and 13, 2016. The on-time deadline to submit an application is May 2.

Learning Plan Review Schedule for 2016

To assist CMDs in maintaining their learning plans, in 2016, the MDCB will be reviewing learning plans based on the following schedule:

- Year 5 of Cycle: Continuous review for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2016.
- Year 4 of Cycle: January, April, July and October for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2017.
- Year 3 of Cycle: February, May, August and November for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2018.
- Year 2 of Cycle: March, June, September and December for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2019.
- Year 1 of Cycle: March, June, September and December for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2020.

CMDs are reminded that completed AAMD activities will be automatically uploaded to learning plans as “Activity Accepted.”