Renew Your Membership for 2017 and Take Advantage of New Online CE Activities

By Elaine Bogner, CMD
Membership Committee Co-Chair

Membership renewal is underway! At more than 3,200 members strong, AAMD members gain special access to educational opportunities to develop treatment-planning skills, and opportunities to network and share best practices with medical dosimetrists across the nation and around the world. There are some exciting changes to the membership benefits for 2017!

New for All Members in 2017: Choose Any AAMD Online CE Activities to Earn 10 CE Credits

As part of your membership dues, you will now be able to select from a variety of activities in the AAMD CE Center to earn 10 CE credits. Options include: Journal SAMs, Recorded Presentations, Virtual Meetings and Live and Recorded Webinars. Topics being developed for the 2017 online curriculum include: SBRT, anatomy, VMAT, proton planning and more. Members will also have the ability to purchase additional CE activities at a reduced rate of $20 per credit. Check out all that's currently available in the Course Library in the CE Center.

Member Plus Fee Reduced for 2017: Earn 15 Additional CE Credits for Just $75 More

Need to earn more CE Credits in 2017? Member Plus provides the best value for earning online CE credits. Member Plus Members will now be able to earn 10 CE credits PLUS 15 additional CE credits (for a total of 25) through the CE Center. Choose from any of the CE activities available to members.

International members (from any country outside the US) can join AAMD at $150 and take advantage of the Member Plus online CE credits — and receive a subscription to the AAMD journal, Medical Dosimetry. Remember that the AAMD will also track your credits for you and automatically transfer them to the MDCB.

In addition to the online and in-person educational opportunities at annual and regional meetings, AAMD also offers professional development resources, including:

- Career Services Center with links to current employment opportunities
- Use of Interview Stream — a web-based mock interview site where members can polish their skills
- Salary and workforce surveys
- Networking advice and opportunities

Renew by December 31st to be entered into a drawing for a free annual meeting registration or one of three Member Plus upgrades. Visit www.medicaldosimetry.org and go to the Member section to renew.

Your dedication to your career as a medical dosimetrist allows the AAMD to flourish! Thank you for your continued support.
President’s Corner

I hope that you all had a Happy Thanksgiving and some time to slow down to focus on what is most important in your lives. For me it was spending time with my family. And as this Holiday Season approaches I am reminded of the many things I am grateful for, including the opportunities our profession offers us, such as a chance to give our best to help others. Whether motivated by compassion or responsibility, the work we are doing can help achieve improved quality of life and extended time with loved ones. The profession of Medical Dosimetry also provides us with challenges that when accepted can result in us developing new skills or mastering some we already know. I am also grateful for the AAMD, which provides us with a forum where we can share useful knowledge and build strong friendships with other dosimetrists in order to encourage one another in our work. May we not take these opportunities for granted.

We will be in a New Year in just a few weeks, so this is the time of the year for AAMD membership renewal too. By renewing your membership, you will continue to have access to many tools and resources to help you in your daily planning as well as your professional development. You can earn CE credits online, at the Annual Meeting, at one of our Regional meetings, and by sharing your valuable knowledge and experience by giving a presentation at one of these educational meetings. Be sure to check out all that is now available to you as a Member in the ever-expanding AAMD CE Center. The AAMD is also supportive of advancing medical dosimetry through participation in efforts such as the ASTRO RO-ILS program, task groups with the AAPM and international outreach to treatment planning professionals around the world. I encourage you to take an interest in your AAMD by seeking to volunteer wherever your passion leads you or wherever the opportunity presents itself. You will be rewarded for your effort and commitment by the growth you experience and the new friends you make. Please let other volunteers or HQ staff know if you are interested. We look forward to working with you!

Happy Holidays to you and your family!
Best wishes,

Craig McKenzie, BSRT, CMD
AAMD President
cmckenzie@medicaldosimetry.org

Election 2017: Your Chance to Take a Leading Role in AAMD!

By Adam Brown, CMD, and Catherine Gagne, CMD
Nominations and Volunteer Committee Co-Chairs

What an exciting time to be a member of the AAMD! We are seeking volunteers who are willing to serve to help grow and enrich our organization. If you have ever had a desire to be a part of the leadership of this great organization, please consider these positions, which are open for nominations for the 2017 AAMD Board and Regional Representatives Election:

• President-Elect
• Treasurer
• Member at Large I
• Region III Representative
• Region IV Representative

To be eligible for nomination, you must be a current AAMD Full CMD Member in good standing. For the Regional Representative position, you must reside in one of the states covered in that region. All positions are three-year terms, beginning on August 1, 2017 and ending on July 31, 2020. Position descriptions have been recently updated and can be found on the AAMD website.

All nomination applications need to be completed online by December 31, 2016. The election will take place in the spring of 2017. In addition, the AAMD is always in need of great volunteers, so even if you are not interested in the above positions, there are many other ways to serve this great organization.

If you would like to nominate someone for one of the open positions, please contact the AAMD Nominations and Volunteer Committee Co-Chairs: Adam Brown (abrown@revenuecycleinc.com) or Catherine Gagne (ckgagne@gmail.com).
Save the Date for the 2017 Annual Meeting!

By Madison Fletcher, CMD, and Rick Scherer, CMD
Annual Conference Committee Co-Chairs

The AAMD Annual Conference Committee (ACC) would like to remind you to mark your calendars for the 42nd Annual Meeting to be held at the JW Marriott Indianapolis in Indianapolis, IN, June 11-15, 2017. There will also be additional preconference sessions held on Friday, June 9 and Saturday, June 10.

This year’s theme is “Revving Up for the Future.” Our goal is to provide attendees with tips and tricks, case studies and information they can use in their clinics.

Educational topics will include:
• General Interest - New Technologies, Reviews, Professional Development
• Back to Basics - Clinical Anatomy and Contouring
• Safety Culture in Radiation Oncology Departments
• Case Studies on IMRT, VMAT, SBRT, Image Registration
• Treatment Planning Tips and Tricks

Other 42nd Annual Meeting opportunities include:
1. Additional Saturday workshops: Plan to arrive in Indianapolis on Friday evening or early on Saturday to take full advantage! These workshops will possibly include Image Registration, Billing and Coding, Advanced Eclipse training, CMD Exam Review and more!
2. Opportunity to hear from the AAMD and the MDCB Boards of Directors
3. Special activities for students and educators
4. Additional time to spend in the Exhibit Hall with more than 25 Radiation Oncology vendors
5. Treatment Planning System Workshops: Watch the AAMD website and email blasts for more information about this exciting opportunity! More details will be coming soon…

Why come to Indianapolis for the Annual Meeting?
• Earn over 30 CE credits through general sessions, workshops and lunch symposia
• Expand your knowledge with five days of educational sessions
• Network with colleagues and cultivate new relationships (more than 500 radiation oncology professionals were in Atlanta for the 2016 meeting)
• Meet influential leaders in radiation oncology
• Experience all Indianapolis has to offer, including the World’s Largest Auto Racetrack, Indianapolis Zoo, Children’s Museum, historic memorials, great dining and much more!

Don’t miss this amazing educational opportunity – mark your calendars now. Registration will open in January 2017. More information will be forthcoming via emails and on the AAMD website. Hope to see you there!

Wanted: Poster Presenters

The call for poster abstracts for the 42nd Annual Meeting will remain open until March 15, 2017. To get all the details and submit your abstract online, visit the AAMD website.
Medical Dosimetrists and Radiation Therapists Met Up in Niagara Falls and Las Vegas this Fall to Learn and Share

2016 Radiation Oncology Conference for Therapists & Dosimetrists presented by RPCI and AAMD, September 8 - 10, 2016 in Niagara Falls, NY

By Lee Hales, CMD, AAMD Regional Director and Region IV Representative

I am pleased to report that the 2016 AAMD / RPCI Conference for Therapists and Dosimetrists was a great success. 192 attendees enjoyed talks on a variety of subjects, highlighted by our first ever multi-disciplinary symposium, featuring a discussion on Prone Treatment for Breast Cancer. We would like to thank our 11 exhibitors for their support, and look forward to next year’s gathering.

AAMD Region V Meeting, October 7 – 8, 2016 in Las Vegas

By Mary Ann Hagio, CMD, Region I Representative

Thank you to the sponsors, speakers and registrants – about 80 total attendees – for helping to make the Region I Meeting in Las Vegas a successful one! The meeting was packed with a lot of great information and offered 14 continuing education credits. Thanks to our sponsor, Varian Medical Systems, and exhibitors ProKnow, Oncology Data Systems and Mobius Medical Systems, met with attendees in between sessions.

We are always looking for input for new meeting locations in Region I as well as speakers for future meetings. If you want to challenge yourself but feel the annual meeting is too intimidating to start, Regional Meetings are a good way to get your feet wet, maybe even working your way up to an annual meeting.
2015 Salary Survey

Thank you for your participation in the 2015 Salary Survey conducted in 2016! This voluntary survey conducted by Michael Mills, Ph.D. was open May 8, 2016 to July 1, 2016. Results are available on the AAMD website for members.

Salary Calculator

The AAMD Career Services Committee is now helping members estimate their salary range and compare their salary to certified medical dosimetrists with similar backgrounds. Information such as education, experience, employer and location are factored into a personalized salary range. With this information, the calculator provides a 25th, 50th and 75th percentile as well as mean salary using data from the 2015 Salary Survey.

To access the calculator, visit the Salary and Workforce Surveys page of the AAMD website. A link to download the calculator is available on this page. You will need to enter your AAMD username and password. Once you have downloaded the file, be sure to enable editing and content when prompted. Please direct any suggestions you may have to the Career Services Committee!
Did you know there’s a worldwide network of over 1,500 dosimetrists, all collaborating together daily to promote the advancement of quality radiation oncology care? The AAMD Facebook group has blossomed into an international hub discussing topics from linac hardware upgrades to planning tips/techniques and so much more.

**Recent Facebook postings include:**

- Updates and highlights from the Niagara Falls and Las Vegas regional meetings
- Several job postings
- Billing/reimbursement discussion
- New software reviews & questions
- Global collaboration/outreach
- Interesting & relevant new publications
- Open plan studies

Don’t forget about the official LinkedIn and Twitter pages. There are always plenty of articles abuzz on Twitter and plenty of connections being made through LinkedIn.

Check out these awesome resources next time you have a question or idea. We’ll see you there!
The AAMD Education and Research Foundation would like to congratulate the recipients of the 2016 Scholarships

**Varian Student Scholarship**
- Erika Bowers
- Yacinthe Dorsainvil
- Morgan Ennis
- Tim Ford
- Yukie Furukawa
- Cody Helderman
- Michael Keim
- Beverly Meyer
- Melissa Mitchell
- Travis Tyson
- Brianna Zeheren
- Katherine Zehr Walker

**RJB Veterans Scholarship**
- Michael Gibson

**Gunilla Bentel Scholarship**
- Christopher Wohlers
Call for Nominations
Applications for MDCB board service are accepted yearly between December 1 and February 1. CMDs interested in board service or wish to nominate a fellow colleague can view details regarding board service and the nominating process here.
The MDCB encourages eligible candidates to submit an application.

Credential Renewal for 2017 is Now Available
• Log in to https://mdcb.learning builder.com
• Click on the My Learning Plan button under the My Cycle tab at the left hand side top of the page, once logged in.
• Select the (orange) Pay Fees button on your learning plan.

If your learning plan ends in the current year or you passed the exam in the current year:
• Click on the Learning Plans button under the My Cycle tab at the left hand side top of the page.
• Click on the View or Begin button. The plan is locked from adding activities until the start of your new cycle, but you can view it to pay your credential renewal.
• Select the (orange) Pay Fees button on your learning plan.

MOC Updates
Need assistance with updating your learning plan? You can download complete illustrated instructions here.
• Credential Renewal Reminder & MOC Updates
• Scholarship Contribution.

If your five-year cycle ends on December 31, 2016, please remember to submit your learning plan for completion by November 30, 2016. Credential renewal is not available until your learning plan has been completed.

Scholarship Contribution
Annually, the MDCB provides a contribution to the American Association of Medical Dosimetrists Education & Research Foundation scholarship fund. Beginning in 2017, four scholarships will be distributed in the form of vouchers for exam registrations to students attending Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) medical dosimetry programs. Candidates for the scholarship award are selected by the Foundation. The Foundation considers three criteria for candidate selection, need, merit and military service.
The MDCB thanks the foundation for their support in determining scholarship candidates!