It’s Time to Register for the 40th Annual Meeting!

By Kristi Smith, CMD, and Keitt Mobile, CMD
Annual Conference Committee Co-Chairs

On behalf of the 2015 Annual Conference Committee (ACC) and the AAMD Board of Directors, we invite you to attend the landmark 40th Annual Meeting! Not only will you be able to earn more than 35 continuing education credits, but you will also have the opportunity to network with over 500 fellow dosimetrists and see the latest radiation oncology products in our exhibit hall.

Based on this year’s theme, The Magic of Medical Dosimetry – Planning the Impossible for 40 Years, presentations will range from tips and tricks and case studies to hands-on/interactive workshops with the intent of helping dosimetrists to continue planning the impossible and impressing our radiation oncologists. We will also be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the AAMD with some wonderful presentations to honor our past, treasure the present and shape our future.

We invite you to participate in our pre-conference workshop program, which includes a CMD Exam Review, Radiation Oncology Billing and Coding Workshop, and a Contouring Workshop. The CMD Exam Review is a two-day course beginning Friday, June 19. Those who are unable to join us in Orlando can participate in the review as a “virtual” student. On Saturday, June 20, there is an in-depth, four-hour Billing and Coding Workshop. The Contouring Workshop will be an interactive workshop that will include tips and contouring strategies for achieving optimal, consistent results.

Join us Sunday evening for networking, good food and great company at the Welcome Reception.
As winter’s end is near, I can’t help being excited by all that 2015 has in store for AAMD. The Board recently came together for two full days of inspiring sessions geared toward professional development, budgetary review and development, and a review of current goals for the organization with exploration of future initiatives.

One of the key efforts presented involves further development of AAMD legislative/government affairs and the proactive work being done to maintain a voice for the high standards for our profession as medical dosimetrists as well as our place within the healthcare arena.

A topic of great importance is the celebration of the 40th anniversary of AAMD. Yes, it was in 1975 that the AAMD was founded in an effort to bring dosimetrists/treatment planners from around the nation together to share skills and ideas and begin promotion of continuing education. Today, the AAMD is proud to be an international provider of outstanding member benefits like webinars, online CE modules, an outstanding professional journal, archives of meeting presentations, a new searchable Resource Database and much more to more than 3,200 members!

Bits of historical information can be read on the AAMD website throughout the year and in a special summer edition of the journal, Medical Dosimetry, dedicated to the historical events over the past 40 years. Thanks very much to the P40 Task Group for their tireless work in compiling the vast amount of historical information shared by many.

Of course a highlight of this 40th anniversary celebration will be the annual meeting June 21 – 25 in Orlando, FL. I speak for the entire Board of Directors and executive staff when I say we sincerely hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us for this fun-filled event chock full of historical events, storytelling, and of course continuing education, networking and exhibits!

Join us in Orlando in June to celebrate the contributions of many over the past 40 years and to take a glimpse into the future of the AAMD and our profession.

In celebration,
Susan Cagle, MS, CMD, RT(R)(T)
AAMD President
susancagleAAMD@comcast.net

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, which provide a great opportunity to learn a different planning system – or get advanced training on the system you already use! These workshops will be for beginners in the morning and for the more advanced user in the afternoon. During the week, there will be a daily breakout session allowing you to train on one of four treatment planning systems: Varian – Eclipse, Elekta – Monaco, Philips – Pinnacle, and RaySearch – RayStation. 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 for more details.

We are happy to announce that the AAMD’s corporate partners 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 Orlando!

Wednesday we will run 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! On Wednesday, you will also be able to participate in an additional hands-on image registration workshop that will run concurrently with the other workshops. This workshop is free to our attendees, but space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Come stay with us at our meeting hotel, the JW Marriott Orlando Grande Lakes – a contemporary retreat in a superb location just moments from Orlando’s best-loved attractions that inspires you to work, play, relax, and connect in this exciting city. Enjoy easy access to Orlando’s most popular attractions from the hotel, with shuttle service to Universal Orlando Resort, SeaWorld and Walt Disney World.

The AAMD Board of Directors, staff and all of us on the Annual Conference Committee look forward to seeing you in Orlando, where we will continue to learn how to Plan the Impossible.

We hope to see you there!

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, which provide a great opportunity to learn a different planning system – or get advanced training on the system you already use! These workshops will be for beginners in the morning and for the more advanced user in the afternoon. During the week, there will be a daily breakout session allowing you to train on one of four treatment planning systems: Varian – Eclipse, Elekta – Monaco, Philips – Pinnacle, and RaySearch – RayStation. 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 for more details.

We are happy to announce that the AAMD’s corporate partners 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 Orlando!

Wednesday we will run 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! On Wednesday, you will also be able to participate in an additional hands-on image registration workshop that will run concurrently with the other workshops. This workshop is free to our attendees, but space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Come stay with us at our meeting hotel, the JW Marriott Orlando Grande Lakes – a contemporary retreat in a superb location just moments from Orlando’s best-loved attractions that inspires you to work, play, relax, and connect in this exciting city. Enjoy easy access to Orlando’s most popular attractions from the hotel, with shuttle service to Universal Orlando Resort, SeaWorld and Walt Disney World.

The AAMD Board of Directors, staff and all of us on the Annual Conference Committee look forward to seeing you in Orlando, where we will continue to learn how to Plan the Impossible.

We hope to see you there!
As the AAMD says goodbye to the last 40 years of *Planning the Impossible*, the new leadership candidates will lead us into the future by preparing the path for our next great adventure. We are fortunate to have many explorers willing to take the lead for the coming years. Our election for the 2015 AAMD Board of Directors and Regional Representatives will take place in March and April. Each Full CMD Member in good standing will receive a ballot by email; those who do not have a valid email address will receive a formal ballot in the mail. The positions up for election this year are:

- **President-Elect**
- **Secretary**
- **Region V Representative**
- **Region VI Representative**

Each of the candidates is a Full CMD Member in good standing. All Full CMD Members will be asked to vote on the position of President-Elect and Secretary. For the Regional Representative positions, only members in those Regions will vote.

Region V includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Region VI includes Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, and Washington, DC.

**President-Elect**  
*Craig McKenzie, BS, CMD, RT(T)*

The AAMD is a professional society established to promote and support the welfare of the profession at large and the individual members who have earned the privilege to service as a medical dosimetrist. The AAMD has the continued opportunity of offering relevant education and professional development to anyone with the initiative to pursue it. Over the years I have presented several educational sessions at the Annual and Regional meetings while serving in leadership at a progressive academic Radiation Oncology center. 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 promote teamwork within the current Board of representatives for the AAMD while we work to develop the future leadership of our profession.

**Secretary**  
*Rachel Hackett, CMD, RT(T)*

I have enjoyed my 4-year tenure as Co-Chair of the AAMD Membership Committee, as well as the privilege of serving as a member on both the AAMD Education Committee and the AAMD Continuing Education Committee for several years. I feel that these experiences have taught me a great deal about the importance of developing and maintaining outstanding member benefits and high-quality educational opportunities for medical dosimetrists and treatment planners in our global, radiation oncology community. If you were to elect me as your secretary to the AAMD Board of Directors, it would be my honor to continue steadfastly in those efforts. My goal is to serve our AAMD membership with industriousness and integrity, persistently striving to make our association the best it can be. I will always look for your feedback to learn what is most important to you, and how improve your benefits and educational opportunities.

*Cara Sullivan, BS, CMD, RT(T)*

I have taken great pleasure in volunteering for the AAMD for the past several years. I have served the roles of Membership Committee Co-Chair, Annual Conference Committee Co-Chair, Nominations & Volunteer Committee Co-Chair, and Co-Chair for the 2006, 2009, and 2011 Region V Meeting. Currently I serve as Secretary on the AAMD Board of Directors. The years that I have spent volunteering for the AAMD has afforded me a wealth of knowledge, and I am very excited about the future of the AAMD. In the role of President-Elect I will work closely with the AAMD President, Board members, and the Headquarters staff. As we work together I am confident that we can advance the Medical Dosimetry Profession in the health care community, and also provide our members with the best education tools through webinars and meetings. I believe that each of us have a unique opportunity to make the difference in the life of a cancer patient. Just as curing cancer is a personal goal, I believe the AAMD strongly holds that goal too. It will be my honor to serve the AAMD members in the position of President-Elect. I will continue to build upon and strengthen the relationships and accomplishments that those before me have achieved.
Region V Representative

Adam Brown, BS, CMD, RT(T)

As a Clinician and an Administrator there are so many issues facing our specialty and it is imperative AAMD have representation on the front lines. I hope to be able to serve as a surrogate to all Dosimetrists by helping to set standards and expectations which will take our profession into the future. I also have the ability in my current position to bridge gaps between vendors and professional organizations due to previous roles and past speaking engagements.

Laura Chambliss, BS, CMD, RT(T)

It is my desire to become more involved in the AAMD by not only being a liaison between AAMD and our regional membership but also by encouraging local involvement in our organization as well as grow our membership. I wish to lead a quality Region V meeting that provides shared knowledge that can used in the everyday clinic.

Region VI Representative

Rick Scherer, CMD, RT(T)

The field of radiation therapy is expected to grow much faster than average over the next decade and it is imperative to provide quality educational opportunities to medical dosimetrists everywhere. I was fortunate to volunteer at last year’s meeting and I learned a lot about the AAMD and also the people behind it all. I was truly impressed with their dedication, attention to detail and sincerity when it comes to providing for its members. As a solo dosimetrist this is very important to me. As Region VI Representative, I will do whatever I can to promote and support the Medical Dosimetry profession.

Eric Willis, CMD, RT(R)(T)

Medical Dosimetry I see as a principle, a practice, and a tool. From large institutions to small rural clinics, as a profession, we should continually educate, learn, teach, and train. As technology continues to evolve more responsibility is expected of the Medical Dosimetrist, but we as health care workers must be careful as not to rely on this technology to the point of diminished skills, innovation or continuous improvement. As a professional society we should contribute to all a general understanding of our responsibility and thus to a better policy, provision and practice of it.

Update on Project 40

By Christopher J. Moore, CMD
P40 Task Group Chair

Last Call for Photos

The Project 40 gang is still searching for pictures old and new that feature the AAMD and its many initiatives through the years. Annual or Regional Meetings, Board of Directors conferences, AAMD members enjoying the various social events associated with these meetings; anything that represents the organization and its members enjoying these gatherings. Please contact Chris Moore at cjmaamd@comcast.net should you have a photo that you think might be enjoyable as the plan is to highlight these shots at the upcoming 40th Annual Meeting in Orlando as the AAMD celebrates the 40th anniversary of its founding.

Project 40 Nears Completion!

No need for Area 51 and Roswell, NM images cluttering your mind. A Task Group of dedicated individuals has been working for well over a year to bring to the AAMD membership a comprehensive look at the history of the organization. Look for the results of our efforts in the upcoming Summer *Medical Dosimetry* journal, as well as a number of presentations at the 40th Annual Meeting in Orlando this June. Please plan on stopping by the Project 40 booth in Orlando to discuss the history and see various photos of the 40-year history of the AAMD!
LOOKING FOR TREATMENT PLANNING RESOURCES?

TRY THE NEW AAMD RESOURCE DATABASE!

As the leading resource for medical dosimetry and treatment planning professionals around the world, AAMD has accumulated a large number of educational PowerPoint presentations, Medical Dosimetry journal articles and recorded lectures on related topics. This vast Resource Database is now searchable by:

- Keyword or topic (i.e. Proton, IMRT, SBRT)
- Resource type (i.e. PowerPoint, Lecture, Article)
- Presenter Name (i.e. Matthew Palmer, Faiz Khan)
- Year or exact date of the presentation/publication

Visit the AAMD website at www.medicaldosimetry.org, then go to the "Resources" tab in the blue navigation bar and select “Resource Database” from the dropdown menu. Or go directly to the Resource Database: www.medicaldosimetry.org/resources/library/

Conduct a Simple Search by Keyword:

Or conduct an Advanced Search using multiple search criteria:

Your results will be displayed in an easy-to-review format.
Continue Your Education Online with AAMD in the Year Ahead

By Spencer Boulter
AAMD Director of Operations

Did you know that AAMD provides more than 100 MDCB/ARRT approved CE credits every year? After hosting our first webinar in 2010, AAMD now broadcasts over 20 webinars a year with attendance averaging 300 people per lecture with some reaching over 1,000 medical dosimetry/treatment planning professionals worldwide. 2015 is already off to a quick start with free sponsored webinars from Philips and MIM Software. Sponsored webinars are free to AAMD members and offer a new way for members to get up to date training on the newest products and refresher courses on the basics.

Online education is available in three different categories: General Public, Members Only and Member Plus Subscription. We are currently in the process of upgrading the education system on the website to break out these activities better so that members and non-members will be able to see the entire curriculum for the year and know which activities are available.

Current confirmed webinars include:

- February: Spine SRS
- March: Is It Prime Time for Auto-Planning? The Cleveland Clinic Experience
- April: Brachial Plexus Dose Limits
- May: Lung SBRT
- July: Craniospinal Treatment Planning
- August: Five National Medical Dosimetrist's Day Webinars
- October: Proton Planning Case Study
- November: Breast Brachytherapy

The Continuing Education Committee is always interested in hearing from members the topics of interest that could potentially be presented as a webinar. In addition, we would like to hear from you if you have experience and are interested in presenting an important educational topic in an online module or webinar format.

Submit topic ideas or volunteer to present using the online contact us form at the top of the AAMD homepage or email aamd@medicaldosimetry.org.

2015 Is Going to Be a Great Year to Be a Member of AAMD!

By Rachel Hackett, CMD, and Elaine Bogner, CMD
Membership Committee Co-Chairs

Have you renewed your AAMD membership for 2015? Why not try out the Member Plus option this year? Even if you have already renewed your membership, it is not too late to add the Member Plus option to your membership. Simply select “Membership” from the home page at www.medicaldosimetry.org and then navigate to “Join AAMD” in the drop-down menu. Then select the upgrade option near the top of the page.

Why try Member Plus? Because over 500 of your peers are enjoying its benefits and rave about the quality continuing education opportunities it provides. You will have access to a minimum of 20 extra online CE credits in the calendar year, at a cost of only $5 per credit hour! Where else can we find such good education at such a low cost? Some of the topics for this year include Rapid Arc Breast Planning, Anatomy Topics, Constraint Criteria for SBRT, PET, Patient Safety, and Proton Therapy, just to mention a few.

We would also like to congratulate these AAMD members for winning the AAMD membership renewal drawing:

Joe Andreas – Free Membership for 2016
Michael Le – Annual Meeting Registration for 2015 or 2016
Antishca Leven – Member Plus Upgrade
Christine Allgeier – Member Plus Upgrade

As always, please feel free to contact us regarding any membership issues or ideas for membership improvement you may have. Thank you for your continued support and contributions to the AAMD.

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
Celebrating 30+ Years with AAMD

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

Sharon Arbo
Cynthia Audet
Edward Barnes
James Bigbie
Sharon Bocaranda
Dale Bonham
William Braggins
Kelly Brock
Bruce Bucher
Sigrun Bynum
Jill Caranto
Bruce Bucher
Sigrun Bynum
Jill Caranto

Aspire to Greatness in Medical Dosimetry: Become a Fellow of AAMD

By Nishele Lenards, CMD, FAAMD
Fellows Committee Member

There have been many milestones marking the development and growth of the AAMD and medical dosimetry profession over the past 40 years. We have seen the progression of AAMD member services with the growth in membership numbers. Other professional organizations, such as ASTRO, have partnered with AAMD to further recognize the medical dosimetry profession. Education/training of medical dosimetrists has shifted from on-the-job training to formal accredited educational programs and the minimum requirement of a bachelor’s degree.

In 2010, the AAMD inaugurated a Fellows elevation program. A Fellow is an honorary category that is bestowed upon members of the AAMD who have made outstanding contributions to the AAMD and to the profession of medical dosimetry. This is not a ‘popularity contest’ and these individuals are not nominated. This is a lengthy process in which individuals must apply and meet minimum eligibility requirements to be recognized for outstanding contributions in the field of medical dosimetry.

The application is evaluated in four pathways: Leadership/Service, Research, Patient Care, and Education. The eligibility for elevation depends on the following: (a) leadership/service – demonstration of leadership and service that has advanced the medical dosimetry profession as a whole; (b) research – significant research (grants, authorship) guiding influence in aspects of the medical dosimetry profession; (c) patient care – significant contribution to patient care and clinical excellence; and (d) education – significant contribution to the advancement of education in the profession.

There are six major components of the application that are evaluated: the applicant’s professional experience, education, professional activities, professional contributions, awards/scholarships/grants, and membership. There are a minimum number of points required for each section of the Fellow’s application as well as a total minimum number of points required.

Becoming a Fellow is a personal decision. If you are interested, use the guidelines and application as a roadmap to becoming a Fellow. If you are not qualified now, start working towards the end goal by making contributions to the medical dosimetry profession. If you are eligible, simply reach out to a current Fellow and ask them to be a sponsor.

For detailed information, visit the AAMD website.
Call for Abstracts

AAMD Region IV Meeting in conjunction with the
Roswell Park Cancer Institute 2015 Radiation
Conference for Therapists and Dosimetrists

Conference and Event Center Niagara Falls
Niagara Falls, NY
September 10 - 12, 2015

Here’s your chance to present your work at the AAMD Region IV Meeting, being held in conjunction with the 2015 Roswell Park Cancer Institute Radiation Conference for Therapists and Dosimetrists.

Do you have a topic that you’d like to present to Dosimetrists and/or Therapists? Roswell Park Cancer Institute and the American Association of Medical Dosimetrists are currently soliciting abstracts for presentations to be given at this joint venture. We are looking for topics that will help Dosimetrists and Therapists with everyday tasks and cutting edge techniques that are relevant to a unique and challenging patient population.

Click here for complete abstract submission details.

Questions? Contact Lee Hales at: Lee.Hales@RoswellPark.org
Government Relations: AAMD Gives You a Voice
By Chris Gainer, CMD
Government Relations Committee Co-Chair

AAMD Membership:
It is a great privilege to be given opportunity to address the membership of the AAMD. Over the course of the past year, there has been a grass-roots effort to establish a Government Advocacy of Awareness campaign, not as an attempt to become political but as a way to create a purposeful and intentional oversight of government action both on the Federal level as well as the State. This campaign is designed to promote the profession of medical dosimetry as a critical and valuable position on the radiation oncology team, gain insight and knowledge into the influential members of Congress and Committee Groups and highlight the voice of the membership of the AAMD during times of opportunity and necessity to influential members of society as well as sister organizations within the medical professions.

A membership survey was conducted in November of 2014 to determine the desires of the members concerning this type of effort. Those results will soon be presented in a formal fashion, but a preliminary review shows that 96% of the respondents believe that medical dosimetry would benefit from legislative distinction. The survey also shows that the process of professional certification and licensure requirements remain paramount issues among AAMD members followed by a strong desire to have an awareness of health regulations and the impact that they might have in our profession.

In partnering with Morford Drulis Associates, an experienced government relations and association management firm, the AAMD is well positioned to begin the processes of monitoring government action as well as the movements associated with respective health care organizations. There will continually be an environment of learning and understanding as this effort continues. As members, you are encouraged to know your personal districts as well as your State and Federal congressional representatives so that, in any event, we can reach out to those that should be a reflection of our voices and desires. We would like to thank the membership for responding with your thoughts through the survey as well as expressing your interest in making government affairs a priority through your participation in the AAMD.

Educators’ Update
By Colleen Brogan-Raasch, CMD, and Jacky Nyamwanda, CMD
Formal Education Committee Co-Chairs

Greetings from the AAMD Formal Education Committee! We continue to work on several exciting projects. The Educator Needs Assessment Survey is being analyzed and the results should be back soon. We have had an excellent response from the educators and look forward to seeing the final results. Thank you, Anne Greener and Paula Berner, for all your hard work in doing the analysis. As of the first of this year, the committee will begin to review sections of the Curriculum Guide for any needed revisions or updates. If anyone knows of anything that they feel needs to be updated, feel free to contact one of the co-chairs with your suggestions. The goal is to keep the guide as up to date as possible to be a valuable resource for new Medical Dosimetry Programs or existing JRCERT accredited programs. We will begin reviewing and suggest needed revisions of the Scope of Practice and Standards of Practice in Medical Dosimetry. This process follows the cycle of the MDCB Job Task Analysis Study.

We are looking forward to the AAMD 40th Annual Meeting in Orlando, where we are hosting a breakout educator session and also a student reception. More information about these should be available in the spring. JRCERT officials have also graciously offered to host an accreditation seminar during the meeting. It is going to be an exciting meeting and we look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones!

Ask Questions and Get Answers from Your Medical Dosimetry Peers

AAMD's Facebook and LinkedIn groups provide both members and non-members with another forum for interaction. Check out what's going on in the world of medical dosimetry and talk with professionals who do what you do! Ask questions, share resources, talk about current events and more.

Facebook: American Association of Medical Dosimetrists
LinkedIn: American Association of Medical Dosimetrists
If you have been to a medical dosimetry meeting in the past two years, you may have met Mark Littell. Mark is a tall guy with a sunny disposition and a perpetual smile on his face. If you’ve had a conversation with him, you’ve learned that Mark is well known by family and friends to chat about travel with the ease of, and perhaps better than, a seasoned travel agent. He can give you hints on how to secure an airline upgrade, which hotels have the best deals, how to get a rental car discount and which airports have the best food. This is however, just a hobby as his passion is medical dosimetry.

Upon graduation from the Roswell Park Cancer Institute Medical Dosimetry program, Mark had the skill set of every good dosimetrist. What he didn’t have was a job. As we all know, the dosimetry job market has become extremely competitive. Instead of sitting and waiting for opportunity to knock at his door, Mark used his people and travel skills to think outside of the box and knock on opportunity’s door. He established mailing addresses in different regions, sent resumes and cover letters to over 400 centers even if they weren’t advertising an open position, and contacted centers both national and globally. His search enabled him to get the proverbial “foot in the door” and he was asked to interview in many centers that may have overlooked him due to his being fresh out of school. He interviewed in no less than 12 states, with some interviews on consecutive days of the week.

Understanding that networking is a key to success, Mark attended AAMD meetings in Seattle, Providence, Anchorage, and San Antonio, AAPM meetings in Denver and St. Louis and the ASTRO meeting in San Francisco. He also became a member of the AAMD Nominations and Volunteer Committee and served for two years. As if the above was not exhausting enough, he shadowed at Oakwood Cancer Center in Pennsylvania to learn another treatment planning system in an effort to make himself more attractive as a candidate. Mark made looking for a full-time job his full-time job!

By thinking outside the box and pursuing all opportunities, Mark was able to become a better candidate for a dosimetry position. The culmination of his efforts resulted in an opportunity to choose between several permanent and locum positions. His choice of a locum position at Anchorage Radiation Therapy Center in Alaska was the best fit for his personal and professional goals. What is next for this motivated and impressive young man? The sky is the limit! While that decision remains up in the air, one thing I know with certainty is he will be flying to his next meeting or interview with upgraded flights, hotel and rental car perks!
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 2015 the Foundation will be active in launching the following programs:

- Awarding over $50,000 in new scholarships to medical dosimetry students
- Providing new graduates and unemployed dosimetrists with the opportunity to attend the Varian’s Eclipse/IMRT training
- Giving four travel grants to dosimetrists to attend AAMD’s 40th Annual meeting in Orlando, FL

Descriptions of the programs and application materials can be found on the AAMDERF web site: http://www.medicaldosimetry.org/aamderf/index.cfm and listed below.

Applications for the 2015 scholarships will open on March 1. All applications must be received between midnight March 2, 2015 and 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time on May 1, 2015. Letters of recommendation and transcripts must be received by post marked by May 1, 2015. 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:**

**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 $2,500 for the 40th Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida. 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

2015 Scholarships for Medical Dosimetry Students

By Theresa M. Kwiatkowski, BS, CMD, RT(T), FAAMD
Chair, AAMD Education and Research Foundation
Varian Eclipse Training Grant

Purpose
AAMD Education and Research Foundation has established the Varian Training Grant to help recent medical dosimetry graduates and unemployed/underemployed dosimetrists 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
- Anyone is welcome to submit an application, but priority will be given to unemployed CMD’s and recent (within 12 months) graduates of a JRCERT accredited program looking for employment

Applicants 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.)

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 a JRCERT accredited medical dosimetry program as a first year student by April 1, 2015, maintain active AAMD member status (during application and award process) and demonstrate a financial and employment need

Two task groups were created by the AAMDERF which focused on the development of the 2015 Varian Training Grants and Student Scholarships. The individuals listed below have also agreed to assist in the evaluation of the applications for these grants. The Volunteers consisted of Jamie Baker, Liam VanBenthuysen, Jennifer Goins, Denise Dube, Shirley Ann Johnston, Mahsa Dehghanpour, Peter Paetzold, Stacy Anderson, Sandra John-Baptiste, Nicole McAllister, Mellonie Brown-Zacarias, Roslyn Dicks, Daniel Saulpaugh, Anjenette Mulligan and Rudi Bertrand.

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.
MDCB Maintenance Of Certification Reminders

By Felicia Lembesis, CAE
Executive Director, MDCB

MDCB 2015 Learning Plan Review Schedule

To assist CMDs in maintaining their learning plans, in 2015, the MDCB will be reviewing learning plans based on the schedule outlined below. The schedule can also be viewed in the “Continuing Education” section of the MDCB website.

Year 5 of Cycle: Continuous review for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2015.
Year 4 of Cycle: January, April, July and October for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2016.
Year 3 of Cycle: February, May, August and November for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2017.
Year 2 of Cycle: March, June, September and December for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2018.
Year 1 of Cycle: March, June, September and December for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2019.

If 2015 is the last year of your five-year cycle, the MDCB requests that you submit your learning plan by November 30, 2015.

As of February 6, nearly 20% of CMDs in the last year of their cycle have completed their learning plans.

Remember…..

Through collaboration with the AAMD, AAMD activities completed after November 2013 are now uploaded to learning plans monthly as “activity accepted.” CMDs do not need to upload these activities to learning plans.

Participate in Upcoming MDCB Events

Item Writing Workshop

The MDCB will be conducting an item writing workshop in conjunction with the 2015 AAMD Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 24th from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 pm. Workshop participants will be guided by MDCB exam administrator subject matter experts to learn how to develop well-constructed exam questions utilizing volunteer-submitted items.

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.
**MDCB Standard Setting Study**

The MDCB invites CMDs to participate in the standard setting study. The standard setting study – often referred to as a passing score or cut score study ensures test validity and sets the passing score for the certification exam. The performance of a cut score study follows the completion of a Job Task Analysis (JTA). The JTA, completed in 2014, ensures that the MDCB exam continues to reflect current dosimetry practice.

Approximately twelve participants will be selected. Participants chosen will reflect the diversity of the dosimetry profession with regard to gender, geographic location, job setting, job title and number of years working in the field.

The workshop will be conducted in person on Saturday, July 11th and Sunday, July 12th in Chicago, Illinois. For more details on participation, please view the MDCB website “MDCB News” section.

*The MDCB looks forward to your participation in these events.*

**Meet the AAMD Representative to the MDCB Board**

Allison Paige Dalton, BS, RT(T), CMD, was nominated to the MDCB Board to serve a five-year term as the AAMD Representative.

Paige is a graduate of the medical dosimetry program at MD Anderson Cancer Center. She now serves as lead dosimetrist at Georgia Regents University in Augusta, GA, formerly the Medical College of Georgia. In her position, Paige provides oversight and guidance to the dosimetrist in the department. In addition to her clinical and administrative duties, Paige has numerous teaching responsibilities. She teaches dosimetry concepts and planning to Dosimetry and Radiation Therapy students in their clinical rotations.
CAMRT UPDATE

2015 Joint Congress on Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences
Collaborative Care – Imaging and Treatment
Congrès conjoint sur l'imagerie médicale et les sciences de la radiation – 2015
Une approche collaborative - imagerie médicale et traitement

Collaborative Care – Imaging and Treatment
2015 Joint Congress on Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences
May 28-30, 2015
Palais des congrès, Montréal (QC), Canada

In 2015, four Canadian professional organizations representing radiologists and medical radiation technologists have joined together to develop this unique educational experience.

The theme, Collaborative Care – Imaging and Treatment, will be infused throughout provocative lectures, informative workshops and poster sessions and will carry on into the exhibit hall, a large showcase for today’s – and tomorrow’s – innovative products and practices.

This bilingual congress offers unparalleled opportunities for collaborative learning and professional networking among radiologists, medical radiation technologists and other members of the medical imaging team.

With a rigorous scientific program, exceptional speakers and an innovative exhibition of the latest technologies, this Congress proves to be a rewarding educational experience. Add plenty of valuable networking opportunities and social events and it is an event not to be missed!

Online registration is now available for the 2015 Joint Congress on Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences. Click here for more information.