We’re Celebrating YOU on National Medical Dosimetrist’s Day, August 16, 2017!

National Medical Dosimetrist’s Day is fast approaching! Each year, the third Wednesday of August is designated as the day for celebrating medical dosimetry professionals around the world. This is a day for us to recognize the importance of our profession. We contribute to cancer survivorship each and every day!

AAMD is once again teaming up with our corporate partners to present a series of FREE webinars, scheduled one each day, August 14 – 18. Each webinar will offer one MDCB approved credit (also valid for ARRT). Here’s the line-up:

Monday, August 14 at 1:00 PM EDT
Sponsored by ProKnow Systems
DVH Revisited: Everything you (probably) already know and maybe some things you don’t (but should)
Presented by: Ben Nelms, PhD
Click here to view the full abstract and register.

Tuesday, August 15 at 1:00 PM EDT
Sponsored by Philips
Pinnacle Head and Neck Planning - The Moffitt Cancer Center Experience
Presented by: Dawn Gintz, CMD, RTT
Click here to view the full abstract and register.

Wednesday, August 16 at 1:00 PM EDT
Sponsored by Varian Medical Systems
Dosimetric Effects of Using Generalized Equivalent Uniform Dose (gEUD) in Plan Optimization
Presented by: Ontida Apinorasethkul, MS, CMD
Click here to view the full abstract and register.

Thursday, August 17 at 1:00 PM EDT
Sponsored by Elekta
SBRT Lung Planning in Monaco
Presented by: Megan Tattersall, CMD
Click here to view the full abstract and register.

Friday, August 18 at 1:00 PM EDT
Sponsored by MIM Software
Deformable Image Registration and Clinical Implementation
Presented by: Matt Gerace, MS
Click here to view the full abstract and register.

NOTE: Participation in the live webinars is limited to 1,000 participants per webinar. Once capacity is reached for each webinar, GoToMeeting will not let anyone else log in. You must attend the LIVE presentation to receive CE credit. Recordings of each presentation will be posted in the AAMD Resource Library after August 31 for educational purposes, but no CE credit will be awarded.

IMPORTANT CE INFORMATION:
1. Both Members and Non-Members must have an AAMD ID # for CE credit tracking. To set up a Non-Member account, please visit http://www.medicaldosimetry.org/membership/join/
2. All webinar participants are required to watch the live presentation and complete a post lecture quiz in order to earn CE credit for their attendance.
3. After logging into the AAMD CE Center and adding the webinar to your library, the webinar will be FREE to all participants and NOT count against your annual CE credit allowance.
As we come to the start of a new year with me serving as your President, I have been reflecting on some of the things that have happened in 2017. The AAMD has celebrated its 42nd anniversary with multiple activities. We again had an outstanding Annual Meeting in Indianapolis with over 450 attendees, who earned more than 10,000+ CE credits throughout the week. With the support of our corporate partners, we were able to provide several preconference workshops, lunch symposia and various other hands-on workshops, offering our attendees a number of options to gain their continuing education hours.

We look forward to celebrating National Medical Dosimetrist’s Day with a week (August 14 – 18) of free webinars provided by some of AAMD’s corporate partners.

Looking ahead to the coming year, there are going to be many opportunities to further your knowledge in medical dosimetry and satisfy your continuing education needs. The 43rd Annual Meeting will be held at the JW Marriott in Austin, Texas, June 17 – 21, 2018. Plans are being made for two regional meetings in 2018, so keep your eyes and ears open for dates and locations. Member Plus will continue to offer an affordable way to earn additional online CE credits.

In 2017-2018, the AAMD will attempt to work more closely with our related societies, so that we are more in tune with each other’s agendas and programs, thereby reducing any confusion or concerns regarding future information affecting our members.

I would encourage you to get more involved in your profession, whether through volunteering or sharing your knowledge as a presenter or author. Make 2018 the year you submit a case study to the journal or an abstract to give as a presentation at an AAMD meeting. Share your treatment planning experience and insights with your colleagues as this information is so valuable to all medical dosimetrists!

I am thankful for the 3,200+ members of the AAMD. I am thankful for the role we, as medical dosimetrists, play in the radiation oncology profession. I am thankful for the dedication of our members to make dosimetry the hub of information in our clinics. And lastly, I am thankful for the hard work of the AAMD volunteers and headquarters’ staff who work to promote the AAMD as the go-to organization for medical dosimetry education and professional resources.

Warm Regards,

Keitt Mobile, MS, CMD, RT(R)(T)
AAMD President
keitt.mobile@gmail.com

Things you need to know about the quiz process for the National Medical Dosimetrist's Day webinar series:

• Quizzes will be posted online in the AAMD CE Center the day of the event and can be viewed during the live event.
• You must visit the Course Catalog in the AAMD CE Center and add the event to your personal Course Library in order to take the quiz.
• All quizzes must be completed by August 31.
• The MDCB requires 10 multiple choice questions for each 1-hour lecture.
• Attendees will have 3 chances to pass the quiz with a 70% grade.
• Completed CE credits will be uploaded to the MDCB at the end of the month.

The AAMD is also offering a special National Medical Dosimetrist’s Day poster (pictured with this article) for you to print and display in your facility. See the website for your copy.

This annual celebration also presents the opportunity to educate others about the important work you do in combating cancer each and every day. This year, we’re asking you to use this hashtag, #ThisIsMedicalDosimetry, to post photos, technical images and text to explain what medical dosimetrists do. You can post using this hashtag on Twitter or Facebook. If you post in your own Facebook feed, you’ll really help with educating the general public about your role in fighting cancer. Then if you’d like to share your post to this AAMD Facebook group, our group members can see how you’re showing the world what you do. Help AAMD explain what medical dosimetry is during this special week! Get all the details on the AAMD website.
Annual Meeting Attendees Were Revving Up for the Future in Indianapolis!

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

The Annual Conference Committee (ACC) would like to thank all of the attendees that came to the 42nd Annual Meeting held in Indianapolis, June 11-15, 2017. More than 450 attendees helped make this meeting a huge success. We enjoyed seeing familiar faces while meeting new ones! Attendance certificates can be accessed on the AAMD website.

Thank you to everyone who completed the post-meeting survey. It is your feedback that helps us improve our meeting every year and lets us know what you want to hear about. The ACC strives to bring our members a meeting that is well balanced with a variety of topics and engaging speakers while also providing an atmosphere of camaraderie. Based on the excellent reviews we received this year, it is safe to say we were successful! Here are some of the comments we received:

- “The presenters were very skilled and did an excellent job of sharing and presenting information.”
- “The meeting was well organized and very professional. Thank you for your hard work!”
- “I thoroughly enjoyed meeting fellow dosimetrists and sharing our experiences.”
- “Great experience, tons of new topics and planning techniques to learn about and share with others.”
- “The most memorable element of the Annual Meeting was the keynote presentation; it reminded everyone of the impact of their work and the realities of patient experiences.”

All presentation PDFs are available on the AAMD website. Some of these presentations will be converted into Virtual Meeting presentations offering continuing education credits for those who were not able to attend the meeting. Please check the CE Center for more details.

Meeting Highlights:

- 469 registrants (includes attendees, speakers, and exhibitors)
- 36 educational sessions (more from workshops and symposia) - provided by excellent speakers
- Three pre-conference workshops:
  - Radiation Oncology Billing and Coding Workshop
  - Giving Scientific Presentations: Learn How to Stop Worrying and Start Contributing
  - Varian/Eclipse Workshop-Advanced Users
- Four lunch symposia provided by ProKnow, Elekta, Philips, and Accuray
- Treatment Planning System Workshops for new and advanced users sponsored by Varian, Philips, Elekta and RaySearch
- Three breakout workshops:
  - Image Registration Workshop
  - MIM Software Users Training
  - Career Development Workshop
- CAMPEP credits for medical physicists offered
- Successful day of concurrent sessions
- 26 exhibitors filled our exhibit hall
- 31 posters on display
- Excellent hotel and friendly staff
- Great prizes given out throughout the week
- Fantastic night out at Victory Field: Indianapolis Indians vs. Columbus Clippers

As ACC Co-Chairs, we would like to thank our committee members who volunteer their time and effort in order to help make the annual meeting a success! We would also like to thank the AAMD Headquarters Staff and Event Planning Concepts (our professional meeting planner) for all of the guidance, help and support they provided us this past year.

Lastly, we need to thank our corporate sponsors and exhibitors for their financial support that helps us continue to provide quality meetings at reasonable prices:

- .decimal, LLC*
- AAMD
- AAMD Education and Research Foundation
- Accuray*
- CDR Systems*
- D3 Oncology Solutions
- Elekta
- Huestis Medical
- Lifeline Software, Inc.
- Medical Dosimetrist Certification Board (MDCB)
- MIM Software Inc.*
- Mirada Medical
- Mission Search*
- Mobius Medical Inc.*
- Oncology Data Systems*
- Orfit Industries America
The ACC is already hard at work planning next year’s meeting in Austin, Texas. We are accepting abstracts for general education sessions, panel discussions, pre-event workshops and poster displays. The deadline for abstract submission is October 31, 2017. The poster deadline is March 15, 2018. Please see the AAMD website for more details.

We hope to see even more of you in Austin for our next Annual Meeting! Mark your calendars now for June 17-21, 2018! You will not want to miss it!
Do you have a topic that you’d like to present to your radiation oncology colleagues? AAMD is seeking presenters for the 43rd Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. We will accept abstracts for general education sessions, panel discussions, workshops and posters.

Specific topics of interest include:
- Review of clinical anatomy and contouring
- Practical tips for community-based dosimetrists
- Safety culture in radiation oncology departments
- Case studies on IMRT, VMAT, image registration
- SBRT/SRS treatment planning
- General interest – future of medical dosimetry, new technologies, reviews, professional development, leadership

Abstract submission deadline: **October 31, 2017**

See the AAMD website for complete details.
[www.medicaldosimetry.org](http://www.medicaldosimetry.org)
Nominations 2018: Calling All Leaders

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

What an exciting time to be a member of the AAMD! Once again, it is the time of the year when election fever is in the air! Share your passion and knowledge of medical dosimetry with your peers and become an integral part of the AAMD's success. Start by volunteering for one of the AAMD committees or task groups. For information, click on the Volunteer Opportunities link under the Membership tab on the website and begin volunteering for your profession. We are thrilled to already have some great nominees and expect more volunteers to come forward who are passionate about serving our society. The positions for which we will be accepting nominations for the 2018 calendar year are:

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

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 (clkgagne@gmail.com). You can also self-nominate for these positions.

To be eligible for nomination, the nominee must be a current AAMD Full CMD Member in good standing. For the Regional Representative position, the candidate must reside in one of the states covered in that region. All positions are three-year terms, beginning on August 1, 2018 and ending on July 31, 2021. Position descriptions have been recently updated and can be found on the AAMD website.

All nomination online applications need to be completed by December 31, 2017. Elections will take place in the spring of 2018.

Member Spotlight: Adele Philippides, CMD

Interview by Elaine Bogner, CMD, Membership Committee Co-Chair

What led you to your career as a Medical Dosimetrist?

It wasn’t a very direct route. My first career, if you can call it that, was in archaeology. As a young person, I wanted to be outdoors, active and immersed in history, and archaeology was the only way I could think of to fulfill those needs. And although I've had lots of great experiences in that field, much of the time I was not doing any of those three things at all, and the pay and benefits were impractical as well. In looking for a new career, I became more open-minded about all the fascinating options that exist as a profession. Medical imaging, and all the technical advances and methods of visualizing the interior of the body, piqued my interest. I went for a degree in x-ray, and in obtaining it, found that I had a talent for math and physics, even tutoring peers in those classes. I also had a semester internship at a radiation therapy facility, where I learned about dosimetric side of the treatments. It seemed to be a great match for my personality, but I was concerned about “skipping” the therapist portion of the career track. Fortunately, I was able to gain a place at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia – one of the few accredited dosimetry schools at the time that would accept students from outside of a therapy background. I felt like it was a bold move, to go directly into dosimetry. But it’s becoming more commonplace now that the rules for taking the boards have changed. I do worry about what I miss by not having more experience in the treatment room. I believe that dosimetrist who have taken the therapy route have a better visualization of how well a plan can work in reality.

Which AAMD activity do you volunteer your time for?

I am a very new volunteer for the AAMD Membership Committee. To be honest, it isn’t exactly what I had in mind when I filled out the volunteer form. I could more easily see myself creating CE questions or proofreading written material. But in thinking about what is necessary to run the organization as a whole, I believed I should try to fill in wherever the greatest need lies. And although it sounded dry to me at first, I have to admit the first meeting was actually very interesting. It is a science in and of itself to try to find out what can be done to increase membership and fill the needs of our members, such as what we can do to capture the interest of students and to see how we can best serve our international community.

What was the main reason you decided to become involved with the AAMD?

Our profession develops at such a rapid rate that I think it’s necessary to have a society to share information about new technology, process improvements, and planning methods. It especially creates a framework of connectedness for those who work as sole dosimetrists at stand-alone institutions. And I feel that if I enjoy the benefits of being a member, to make sure that it continues to be an effective organization I should be able to give back in some regard.

Have you taken advantage of any AAMD sponsored webinars or regional or national meetings?

I have not been able to attend any meetings so far, but I hope to in the future. I love to listen in on webinars to hear about developments in the field, but actually the most beneficial communications to me are the articles and other written materials that are published online. The nature of written material is that it becomes easy to refer back to it when needed. I was particularly impressed with the poster submissions for the last annual meeting, which were thoughtfully added to the AAMD webpage. It’s valuable information in a bite-sized format.

What do you value most about your AAMD membership?

There was a time not too long ago when the employment information was the most valuable thing. I feel fortunate to be past that stage and settled in a spot that is right for me. Then for a while it was obtaining the CE credits needed – I was happy that ASRT accepts MDCB credits as well since my coursework started doing double-duty. Now I feel like I’ve hit a more relaxed point in my career where I can use AAMD resources at my leisure and choose what resources apply to my clinic.

Outside of your career, what is your life like? What do you do for fun?

It’s very family-oriented. I have two little girls, a two-year-old and a five-year-old, and they’re at that great age where they are developed enough to participate in more interesting activities but young enough to like hanging out with mom. I remember a time when I was able to be involved in more serious pastimes and between the whirlwind of going back to school and starting a family, it seems that got pushed to the side. But I’m sure it will cycle back through again.
This year, the AAMD Formal Education Committee (FEC) hosted three events for the students and educators at the AAMD annual conference in Indiana.

The first event was the Student Gathering on June 12 where 45 students from various medical dosimetry programs attended. This provided an opportunity for the students to network with their future colleagues, exchange information, and learn from informative presentations. MDCB President Elect, Paige Dalton, BS, RT(T), CMD, gave a short talk about the MDCB certification and answered students’ questions. Glen Dimick, MM, AS, RT (T), CMD, spoke about MDCB exam and gave great tips to the students on how to prepare for the board exam. Christopher Johnson, BS, RT(T), CMD, shared some interview and job searching tips with the students. This event ended with a quiz bowl where students enjoyed showing off their knowledge and answering the questions while receiving prizes.

The second event was the Educators’ Workshop where 20 educators associated with different medical dosimetry programs attended. This workshop began with a talk by Drs. Mahsa Dehghanpour and Jamie Baker, both from the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. They discussed six strategies for using a student response system in medical dosimetry education that include discussion warm-up, contingent teaching, teaching sensitive subject, critical thinking exercises, review sessions, and assessment.

The second talk was given by Crispen Chamunyonga from Queensland University in Brisbane, Australia, on the use of VERT (Virtual Environment for Radiotherapy Training) for training RT students on IMRT and VMAT prior to clinical placement. He discussed how using this system the educators can better prepare students to enter the actual clinical environment as students learn and practice their skills in a simulated linear accelerator environment.

Diana Baacke, MDCB President, gave an update on key items related to the MDCB exam, including legal requirements, scoring of the exam using a cut score, the process of exam question development, some key highlights from the current exam matrix, and an overview of what is involved in administering the exam.

Laura Borghardt, JRCERT board liaison to the AAMD, provided updates on JRCERT and the progress of standards revision.

This event concluded with an open forum where educators discussed topics such as “advance practice” dosimetrists and filling the gap between dosimetry and physics.

The third event saw the FEC host a JRCERT Outcomes Assessment Workshop for the first time at an AAMD meeting. This workshop was attended by 25 educators from different programs including medical dosimetry, radiation therapy and radiography. Attendees learned about best practice in outcomes assessment and also had a chance to share and learn from one another.

All events received positive feedback. The FEC continues to use this feedback to make improvements to the future events to better serve the community of medical dosimetry educators and students.

Students and Educators Enjoyed Special Events at the AAMD Annual Meeting

By Mahsa Dehghanpour, EdD, CMD; Mellonie Brown-Zacarias, MET, CMD; Jacky Nyamwanda, MS, CMD

Formal Education Committee Co-Chairs
**Congratulations to the Winners of the 2017 AAMD Student Writing Competition!**

1st Place ($500): Functional Liver-Image Guided Hepatic Therapy (FLIGHT) – A Technique to Maximize Hepatic Functional Reserve  
**Author:** Yukie Furukawa  
**Institution:** Indiana University

2nd Place ($250): Fine Tuning Eclipse’s Normal Tissue Objective Dosimetrically for Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy of the Lung  
**Author:** James Phillip Bell  
**Institution:** Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

3rd Place ($125): Dosimetric Comparisons Between Pinnacle Auto-Plan and Manual VMAT for Lung Cancer  
**Authors:** Kenneth B. Agbayani, Ana M. Estrada, Roberto A. Gongora, Yen H. Ngo, Dung H. Nguyen  
**Institution:** University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, School of Health Professions

See the [AAMD website](https://www.aamd.org) for information about the 2018 Student Writing Competition.

---

**Special Thanks to Our 2017/2018 Sponsors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diamond</th>
<th>Diamond</th>
<th>Diamond</th>
<th>Diamond</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Varian Medical Systems</td>
<td>ProKnow</td>
<td>decimal</td>
<td>Philips</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Platinum</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elekta</td>
<td>Accuray</td>
<td>MIM Software</td>
<td>RaySearch Laboratories</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Bronze</th>
<th>Bronze</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Cycle</td>
<td>CDR Systems</td>
<td>Mission Search</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2017 Radiation Oncology Conference for Therapists & Dosimetrists, presented by Roswell Park Cancer Institute and AAMD

September 7 - 9, 2017
Conference & Event Center Niagara Falls
Niagara Falls, NY

Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI), and the American Association of Medical Dosimetrists (AAMD) are pleased to present the 2017 Radiation Oncology Conference for Therapists and Dosimetrists. This is the third year RPCI and AAMD are partnering to present this leading edge, educational event which will expand your knowledge of:

• Increasingly complex treatments
• Treatment planning
• Clinical and administrative support issues
• Patient safety
• Quality assurance

Be inspired learning about innovative breakthroughs and changing cancer treatments. You won’t want to miss the special SBRT Lung Cancer Symposium being offered, which will provide comprehensive knowledge from physician, dosimetrist and radiation therapist perspectives. An MRI-Guided radiation therapy session is included in the program. Learn what the future may hold for potentially transformative technologies!

Share best practices with your radiation oncology colleagues, meet with current and potential vendors and take in the sights and sounds of Niagara Falls!

Get all the details and register now!
The Call for Abstracts is now open for this meeting! If you have a topic of interest to present to your medical dosimetry colleagues, submit an abstract for the program. Speakers receive complimentary meeting registration, one night of lodging and up to 2 MDCB CE credits for a one-hour presentation. Get more details and submit your abstract by September 11.

Plan now to join your medical dosimetry colleagues for cutting-edge continuing education this fall. 14 MDCB credits (also valid for ARRT Category A) are anticipated for this meeting.

- Educational Sessions — Learn new techniques and build your skills
- Networking — Share best practices with your peers
- Exhibits — See the latest products in radiation oncology

Meeting registration will open in September.

The AAMD room rate at the DoubleTree Suites is $149 per night plus taxes and fees. Hotel reservations can be made online by clicking here or by calling 800.525.2430 and asking for the “AAMD Fall Meeting” rate. Reservations must be made by October 13, 2017 to secure this room rate.
Meet Medical Dosimetry Advocate Ben Nelms, PhD

You’ve heard Ben Nelms present at AAMD meetings and in AAMD webinars. Now learn how he got interested in radiation oncology and what keeps him motivated to contribute to continually improving processes in the profession.

Why did you pursue a career in Radiation Oncology? Where has that career path taken you today?

Huh, good question. The truth of the matter is that I didn’t “pursue” medical physics as much as it found me. I started undergrad at Mizzou as pre-med, but I was also taking a bunch of advanced math and physics classes because I had an innate knack and interest there. In my 2nd semester, the Physics Chairman found me and basically told me, “Listen, be a doctor later if you want, but you need to be a physics major now.” I agreed, though I knew I wanted to marry my medical interests with whatever I did in physics, and was eventually introduced to the field of medical physics.

I got my PhD at the University of Wisconsin, where I had two very ambitious and spirited advisors – Rock Mackie (Medical Physics) and Michael Gould (Human Oncology) – and they let me throw myself into this very interesting but difficult side project that at the time nobody was brave enough to touch. It was radiation biology, really. I spent a few years irradiating single cell layers to soft x-rays at the UW Synchrotron, then studying DNA damage and repair mechanisms. Goodness, it was cool! I must admit, I had absolutely no idea what I was doing at first, which was great because I had to get guidance from so many different talent pools – mechanical engineers, cell biologists, physicists, geneticists – and ultimately I just had to learn new things and invent new solutions with every new challenge. (Side note to all the newcomers out there: embrace your ignorance! Why? Because it gives you the opportunity to go find people who know what the heck they’re doing and ask them a hundred questions!)

I guess in the process I got hooked on invention and design, and working with people of various skillsets. That led me to industry. I designed TPS software for a few years, then became an executive, then a senior executive, then I eventually broke away and started my own company called “Canis Lupus” in 2005. I spend my time inventing new stuff and working with a variety of commercial, clinical, and research partners. No two days are ever the same, and new doors fling open all the time while others close. I wouldn’t have it any other way, truthfully. I’m weird that way.

Can you name some products you have designed? Do you have a “favorite” or one that has made the most impact?

Okay, wow, well I invented and built 3DVH, MotionSim, and PlanIQ, all owned by Sun Nuclear Corporation. There’s StructSure (Standard Imaging). In the early years on my own I worked with .decimal to help them get solid IMRT, electron bolus, and proton range compensators and apertures integrated with every major TPS via software called “p.d.” Most recently, of course, there is ProKnow. I’m a co-founder of ProKnow but we’re a startup and deep in the red as most startups are, so I’m not even an employee there, at least not yet. Do I have a favorite? No, they’re kind of like kids or pets – each one special for different reasons.

How would you describe your current work setting?

My current work setting, sure that’s easy. I’m a pot and a half of coffee and a few hours into the new day and working out some DICOM integration issues for the latest ProKnow Plan Study. And, I’m in pajama pants.

You co-founded the company ProKnow, and one of the services offered there is the “Contouring Accuracy Program.” What is this program and how did it come about?

Many, many years ago – right about the time that the commercial wave of inverse-planning and IMRT started swirling, along with better models of dynamic MLC – I made a common sense observation. My observation was this: if you take this planning and delivery technology to its asymptotic limit of “best possible conformality” then you’re left with the glaring fact that what you are conforming to (and what you are avoiding) better darn well be drawn correctly! Of course, I was not (and am not today) alone in making the observation. But as the years progressed along with the planning and delivery technology, the industry was doing jack squat to enforce continual improvement in contouring. Sure, there is a continual trickle of “auto-contouring” and “atlas-based segmentation” software, but at best these algorithms seem to work only so-so and only for a sub-set of critical volumes. To boot, in the USA, everybody gets paid the same and it’s all based primarily on technology used, not based on quality of output or results. This means that if there is a doc who draws exquisite target volumes and a dosimetrist who is master of anatomy and contouring, they are doing it out avoiding) better darn well be drawn correctly!

Of course, I was not (and am not today) alone in making the observation. But as the years progressed along with the planning and delivery technology, the industry was doing jack squat to enforce continual improvement in contouring. Sure, there is a continual trickle of “auto-contouring” and “atlas-based segmentation” software, but at best these algorithms seem to work only so-so and only for a sub-set of critical volumes. To boot, in the USA, everybody gets paid the same and it’s all based primarily on technology used, not based on quality of output or results. This means that if there is a doc who draws exquisite target volumes and a dosimetrist who is master of anatomy and contouring, they are doing it out avoiding) better darn well be drawn correctly!

Continued on next page
Is ProKnow currently working on any other upcoming products to help dosimetrists continue to excel and achieve excellence in the field?

Oh, you better believe it! One thing we’ll be releasing late in 2017 is what we call “ProKnow Atlas” which will do for rad onc plan review what Vimeo (or in a sense YouTube) does for sharing videos. You will be able to upload your plan, we’ll scrub it to make it fully encrypted and HIPAA-compliant then host it on the cloud, then you can send a simple (and private) “link” to any colleague. When they click that link, it will open up a high-performance, fully interactive, and basically super-cool user interface where you can navigate and visualize images, structures, dose, beams, DVH, kind of like a mini-TPS on the cloud. We want to connect the world via case studies, and unchain them from their desktops!

Also, we’re toying with the idea of a fully interactive practice workspace for image registration, where docs, dosimetrists, therapists, physicists can practice image fusion and test their skills and accuracy. I think this is good for dosimetrists in terms of image fusion (e.g. CT + MR) as part of planning, but also for therapists in terms of IGRT (planning CT + CBCT, or planning CT + on board MR, etc.).

Outside of the dosimetry world, what is your life like? What do you do for fun?

I take life one day at a time, really. I find my “happy place” by having raw land (42 acres on the Wisconsin River to play on), working out a lot, having a brood of pets (mostly domestic but sometimes wild), and probably consuming too much sports. I also spend some time trying to figure out what I want to be when I grow up. I’m thinking a shepherd, maybe, with sheep, goats, and flying drones.

Student Volunteer Needed for Career Services Committee

By Brittany Stoller, CMD
Career Services Committee Co-Chair

Are you a dosimetry student looking to become more involved with the AAMD? The Career Services Committee is seeking a dosimetry student volunteer!

The Career Services Committee provides members with job seeking information and resources in the field of medical dosimetry. Our services through the AAMD web site include InterviewStream for interview practice and evaluation, tips and tricks from resume writing to networking, a Salary Calculator for estimating compensation, and current dosimetrist job postings.

Since many job seekers are new graduates, we would like a student member to provide input so our committee can best meet the needs of students and new graduates. Our student member would participate in committee conference calls, help generate ideas, and work on projects for a one year term. If you are a student and are interested in volunteering on our committee, please email Brittany at check.brit@gmail.com or Ashley at aepyffer@gmail.com.
The AAMD Education and Research Foundation Announces 2017 Scholarship Winners

The AAMD Education and Research Foundation is the leading source of charitable funding for medical dosimetrists. Our work ensures students and professionals can pursue educational opportunities to enhance the quality and safety of patient care. We rely on the generous financial support of the community and sponsors to provide these scholarships. If you would like to donate, volunteer or learn more about our scholarships, please visit our website at: www.aamdfoundation.org.

The winners of 2017 scholarships are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First</th>
<th>Last</th>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brittany</td>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$2,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiva</td>
<td>Amariel</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$2,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine</td>
<td>Elizabeth Evans</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$3,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>Greco</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$4,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor</td>
<td>Jaclin Cicardi</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$2,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>Philip Bell</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$2,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>Andrew Stensil</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$3,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dung/Jessica</td>
<td>Hoang Nguyen</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$3,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>Alika Pohl</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$3,900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antonio</td>
<td>Martinez</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alecia</td>
<td>Ann Eliason</td>
<td>Varian</td>
<td>$4,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alecia</td>
<td>Ann Eliason</td>
<td>MDCB Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antonio</td>
<td>Martinez</td>
<td>MDCB Exam Voucher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>Alika Pohl</td>
<td>MDCB Exam Voucher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ian</td>
<td>Zoller</td>
<td>MDCB Exam Voucher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynneea</td>
<td>Ashley McCullough</td>
<td>MDCB Exam Voucher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
By Felicia Lembesis, CAE
Executive Director, MDCB

Exciting News!
The AAMD and MDCB have been collaborating to ensure a seamless process to transfer completed AAMD activities for continuing education credits to CMDs’ learning plans. The new interface between the two organizations’ website databases is nearly ready to be rolled out. We are currently in the beta testing phase. It appears that all data transfers of credit are populating learning plans as expected.
The scheduled completion date of this initiative is in early August. Once the interface is functioning, completed continuing education credits and activities will load to CMD learning plans on a nightly basis.
Look for more news on the inauguration date soon!

MDCB Scholarship Recipients
The MDCB is a proud supporter of the AAMD Foundation Scholarships. In 2017, four exam registration vouchers were presented to students of JRCERT accredited program:
• Antonio Martinez
• Ashley McCullough
• Alika Pohl
• Joseph Zoller
A $2,000 scholarship was awarded to Alecia Eliason.
To learn more about scholarship recipients, profiles can be viewed at www.mdcb.org.

Learning Plan Submission
CMDs whose five-year cycles end on December 31, 2017 are reminded to submit learning plans for completion by November 30, 2017. Once learning plans are completed, the annual credential fee can be submitted. Certificates for practitioners who have met the requirements for credential renewal will receive a new certificate in mid-January 2018.
ASTRO 2017 Annual Meeting

The American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) 2017 Annual Meeting takes place September 24-27 at the San Diego Convention Center. This year’s theme is “The Healing Art and Science of Radiation Oncology.” The meeting program includes the top research in the Plenary and Clinical Trials Sessions, new “Science Highlights” Sessions each morning, featuring the top abstracts by disease sites, and a full track on Radiation and Cancer Physics. An application has been submitted to the Medical Dosimetrist Certification Board for the designation of MDCB credits. Register by August 24 for advance rates. View the Online Conference Planner to view the program by day or track.