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Summer 2021

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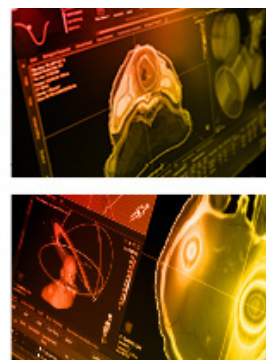
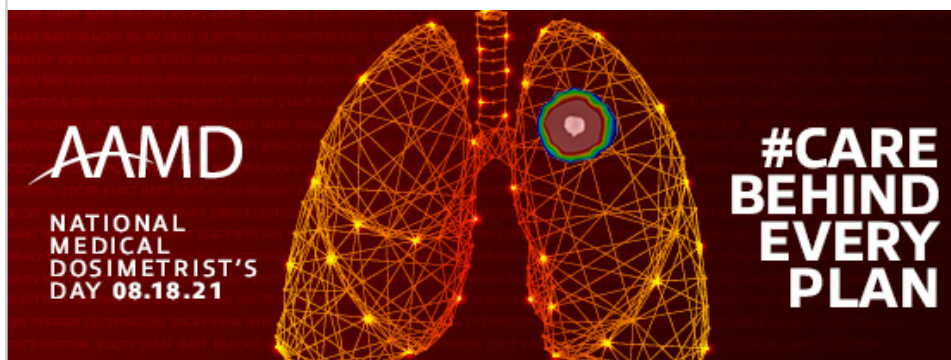
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## The AAMD Celebrates YOU on National Medical Dosimetrist's Day, August 18, 2021

Join the AAMD and the medical dosimetry community by celebrating [National Medical Dosimetrist's Day](#) all week long, August 16-20. AAMD is once again teaming up with our corporate partners to present a series of FREE webinars. Each webinar will offer one MDCB-approved CE credit (also valid for ARRT). These webinars are open to members and non-members. Members: Note that the webinars will NOT count toward your annual online CE allowance in the CE Center.

Here's the webinar line-up:

Monday, August 16, 2021; 1:00 PM EDT

[Efficiency and Automation with Raystation – Exploring New Heights in Everyday Planning](#)

Presented by: James "Chris" Henry, CMD

**Sponsored by RaySearch Americas, Inc.**

Tuesday, August 17, 2021; 1:00 PM EDT

[Enhancing the Roles of Medical Dosimetrists](#)

Presented by: Cheryl S. Turner, EdD, RT(R)(T) and L. Montreal Turner, MBA, MHA, CMD

**Sponsored by Legion Healthcare Partners**

Wednesday, August 18, 2021; 1:00 PM EDT

[Introduction to Robust Proton Planning with Eclipse](#)

Presented by: Reynald van der Staeten

**Sponsored by Varian**

Thursday, August 19, 2021; 1:00 PM EDT

[Best Practices for Implementing Deep Learning Auto-Segmentation](#)

Presented by: Jay Obman, MS and Matt Gerace, MS

**Sponsored by MIM Software Inc.**

Friday, August 20, 2021; 1:00 PM EDT

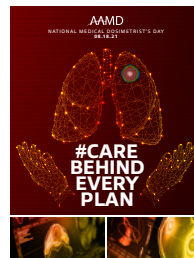
[The Use of Accuray Precision® VOLO™ Optimizer for CyberKnife® in Clinical Practice](#)

Presented by Sherri Cohen and Linda McCumber, MA, CMD, RT(R)(T)(CT)

**Sponsored by Accuray**

## #CareBehindEveryPlan

By Valerie Hoehner, CMD  
Communications Committee Co-Chair



Help us promote our profession! Be sure to download, print, and display the [2021 National Medical Dosimetrist's Day poster](#) in your clinic to help raise awareness to our patients and healthcare colleagues. This year's design inspiration was submitted by Cory Tuzzo, a medical dosimetrist at the UVA Cancer Center. Each year, the Communications Committee reviews designs submitted by our members and votes on a concept that will help

continued on page 2

celebrate our profession and all we do for our patients. This year's poster demonstrates the care and personal touch dosimetrists place on every plan we create for our patients. The 2021 poster is available for download on the [AAMD website](#).

Also, please post pictures and ideas on the AAMD social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter) showing how

you will be celebrating National Medical Dosimetrist's Day. Don't forget to use our hashtag: #CareBehindEveryPlan. This is a great opportunity to educate patients, family, and friends on what medical dosimetrists do and the integral role we play in Radiation Oncology. Thank you for all you do for our patients! Enjoy the day celebrating YOU and your hard work!

## President's Corner



My name is Brian Napolitano and I have the privilege of serving as the President of the American Association of Medical Dosimetrists for this next year. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the AAMD, I would like to wish all of you a happy and healthy [National Medical Dosimetrist's Day](#). We recognize the dedication of our colleagues worldwide who provide #CareBehindEveryPlan. There are several webinars available throughout this celebratory week to grow your treatment planning knowledge, so please take this occasion to learn about some new technology and workflows. This is an exciting time for our profession, filled with both opportunity and challenge. In the past year since our last celebration, the AAMD has been hard at work on several considerations facing the field right now that I'd like to share with you all.

In early 2021, the AAMD released our most recent bi-annual [Salary Survey](#). This detailed review of medical dosimetrist compensation is a valuable tool for our membership to ensure our professionals and their employers recognize the unique value that medical dosimetrists provide in healthcare. Our profession continues to see increased demand for our unique skills and acknowledgement from our patients and colleagues of our significant contributions to healthcare. We appreciate the substantial participation of the medical dosimetry community, as your input ensures that the report is truly reflective of our profession's wages and compensation.

During the summer, the AAMD released the comprehensive results of our [2020 Workforce Survey](#). This robust evaluation of our profession is rooted in the desire to appraise our current state, while also prepare for the constant evolution the field continues to see. Part of what continues to inspire me about our field is the commitment to grow and advance in service to our patients, so the results of the various technical reports afford the AAMD solid information for consideration as we strategize towards the future. These reports are available to all AAMD members, so please review the various results that have been shared.

There are many considerations for how the field progresses as outlined in the results of our Workforce Survey, but a vital piece of our continued advancement is the support of our formal education. Our formally educated students are the lifeblood of our profession, but they need the wisdom and insight that clinical education provides. The rich subject-matter expertise among our membership is vast and the opportunity to share your clinical experience with those entering the field is extremely rewarding. I find great benefit to myself and my colleagues from hosting clinical students and encourage you to

consider the ability to support a student in your home institution. If you would like to discuss further opportunities to become involved, please do not hesitate to reach out to the AAMD directly at [aamd@medicaldosimetry.org](mailto:aamd@medicaldosimetry.org).

Our 46th Annual Meeting was a tremendous success, with our second effort in a virtual environment allowing us unique opportunities to share educational experiences. Although we were not able to meet in person, we were able to engage with over 700 colleagues across the globe to provide continuing education on a wide variety of professional aspects. We sincerely wish to see as many of you as possible next year in Baltimore and our preparations for next year's meeting are already underway. Our [call for abstract submissions](#) just recently went out, with a brisk response already underway. Presenting to our colleagues is a fulfilling way to grow your professional skills, so please consider submitting for a presentation or poster!

We appreciate that a virtual meeting is attractive to many of our members, while in-person meetings hold great value as well. The AAMD is committed to meeting the educational needs of our members wherever they may be, so we are determined to continue to provide platforms for both approaches to education for our members. Our annual meeting is on track for Baltimore in June 2022, with our expectations for a diverse educational program enhanced by the deep cultural experience that "Charm City" will provide. While this in-person experience is anticipated to be an occasion to reconnect and reengage with colleagues new and old, we will also be sharing more shortly on virtual chances to participate in education enriched by the vast experience of our profession.

The AAMD Board of Directors appreciates the ability to represent the needs of our profession. Your trust in us is a considerable responsibility, so we will continue to advocate for our profession as many others have done before. Our organization is fortunate to rely on the volunteers who give so freely of their time to the advancement of the medical dosimetry profession. Whether it is volunteer work, dedication to your clinic, energy exhibited in commercial endeavors, or other roles within the profession, our members continue to exhibit #CareBehindEveryPlan. Please celebrate National Medical Dosimetrist's Day in recognition of the many contributions we make to our communities! Best wishes for this next year and we look forward to more work to grow this unique profession.

Respectfully,  
**Brian Napolitano, MHL, CMD**  
President, AAMD



# 2020 AAMD WORKFORCE STUDY REPORTS

## GAIN INSIGHTS INTO THE MEDICAL DOSIMETRY PROFESSION

Under the direction of the MedDos Infinity Task Group, the AAMD undertook a comprehensive study of the Medical Dosimetry workforce in 2020. The overarching goal of the Workforce Study was to help the AAMD and other stakeholders understand the current state of the Medical Dosimetry workforce as the profession prepares for future growth and development. Data was gathered from Medical Dosimetrists and other Radiation Oncology professionals and analyzed in six reports.

### What did the AAMD gain from this research?

- Delineation of the current demographic makeup of the Medical Dosimetry workforce
- Expression of the Medical Dosimetrist role in the clinic
- Quantification of the work metrics of the Medical Dosimetrist
- A working assessment of the future supply and demand for adequately trained Medical Dosimetry professionals



Read the reports now at  
[www.medicaldosimetry.org](http://www.medicaldosimetry.org)



# Meet the 2021-2022 AAMD Board of Directors and Region Representatives

Congratulations to Brian Napolitano, CMD, as he steps into his presidency and to Adam Brown, CMD, who was elected to the position of President-Elect in the spring election. Their terms started on August 1, and they will be joining the other Board Members for the 2021-2022 term.

The AAMD would like to express appreciation to outgoing Immediate Past President Cara Sullivan, CMD, and Secretary Rachel Hackett, CMD, who are stepping off the Board after serving in leadership positions for multiple terms. The AAMD is grateful for their passion and dedication to helping the medical dosimetry profession grow and evolve.



**President:**  
Brian Napolitano, CMD



**Regional Director:**  
Kristi Smith, CMD



**Region III:**  
Brent Buchanan, CMD



**President- Elect:**  
Adam Brown, CMD



**Member-at-Large:**  
Mark Littell, CMD



**Region IV:**  
Yasmin Ahmed, CMD



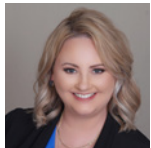
**Immediate Past President:**  
Lori Kasuske, CMD



**Member-at-Large:**  
Valerie Coffman, CMD



**Region V:**  
James Bell, CMD



**Secretary:**  
Crystal Bull, CMD



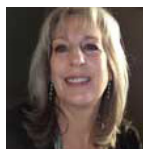
**Region Representatives:**  
**Region I:**  
Ezequiel (Zeke) Ramirez, CMD



**Region VI:**  
Sarah McKee, CMD



**Treasurer:**  
Ryan Moroosse, CMD



**Region II:**  
Gail VanDerbeck, CMD

# Get to Know the New AAMD Leaders

By Chavanon Apinorasethkul, CMD, and Akhil Tiwari, CMD  
Communications Committee Members

What do you know about the newly elected AAMD leaders, other than where they work and what they do for a living? We decided to ask each of them some intriguing questions. Enjoy learning fun facts and seeing their personalities shine through.



## Adam Brown, CMD – President-Elect

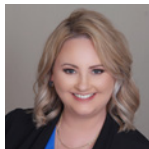
**Finish this sentence: On Sunday mornings, you can usually find me...** I am either at church, finding a new trail to hike, or hanging with friends.

**Do you have any skills or talents that most people don't know about?** I love to make salsa and use my smoker every weekend.

**If you could be anywhere other than here, right this minute, where would you be?** I think I would pick a beach somewhere relaxing in the sun.

**What was your dream job as a kid?** As a child, I always wanted to be a football coach of the Oklahoma Sooners.

**If you could be a character in a movie, who would you be and why?** I would be the donkey in Shrek. My aunt has always called me "Donkey" as we have similar personalities: a little sarcastic and mouthy. Donkey is always optimistic and has a good heart.



## Crystal Bull, CMD – Secretary

**Finish this sentence: On Sunday mornings, you can usually find me...** Well, since everyday at my house is "Caturday" - I can be found hanging out with my hairless cat, Kemo...we'll either be napping, watching Cardinals baseball, or out boating around the lake.

**Do you have any skills or talents that most people don't know about?** I'm an excellent pontoon captain (I've only hit one dock...so far!)

**If you could be anywhere other than here, right this minute, where would you be?** Australia

**What was your dream job as a kid?** Mortician. So much so that I was often called 'Morticia' in high school. The only reason I didn't pursue it was because I had a scholarship that had to be used for a 4-year degree, and then I discovered Radiation Therapy!

**If you could be a character in a movie, who would you be (name/movie title) and why?** Ricky Bobby / Talladega Nights - because "If you ain't first, you're last!"



## James Bell, CMD – Region V Representative

**Finish this sentence: On Sunday mornings, you can usually find me...** Driving to some unexplored hiking spot or drinking coffee. Probably doing both at the same time.

**Do you have any skills or talents that most people don't know about?** I'd say I bring a lot to the table when it comes to trivia or game night. Taboo (the card game) specifically.

**If you could be anywhere other than here, right this minute, where would you be?** A beach in Mexico

**What was your dream job as a kid?** Musician

**If you could be a character in a movie, who would you be (name/movie title) and why?** Ferris Bueller in Ferris Bueller's Day Off. It's an example of creating the life/day you want despite whatever obstacles may come your way.



## Sarah McKee, CMD – Region VI Representative

**Finish this sentence: On Sunday mornings, you can usually find me....**Having coffee by the pool, then church.

**Do you have any skills or talents that most people don't know about?** I make a mean chili!

**If you could be anywhere other than here, right this minute, where would you be?** Home or by the ocean

**What was your dream job as a kid?** Paleontologist

**If you could be a character in a movie, who would you be (name/movie title) and why?** ElastiGirl in The Incredibles because she is strong, takes matters into her own hands, and she's super stretchy!!



# JAZZED ABOUT DOSIMETRY

AAMD **VIRTUAL**  
46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
JUNE 6 - 10, 2021

## Timely Topics, Live Contouring and Exhibits Highlighted the Virtual 46th Annual Meeting

By Jeff Antone, CMD  
Annual Conference Committee Co-Chair

The AAMD Board of Directors and the Annual Conference Committee (ACC) would like to thank all of the attendees who virtually joined the [46th Annual Meeting, "Jazzed about Dosimetry," June 6-10, 2021](#). We had 767 attendees who participated in this online educational event. There were a variety of subjects ranging from the evolution of our practice, lessons learned during COVID-19, and how dosimetrists can be future leaders in radiation oncology. The virtual platform enabled us to have active engagement and networking throughout the meeting. In addition, the Plan Study: Thorax showed how we can think outside the box to achieve optimal treatment plans. It was also an enlightening experience to learn from our international treatment planning panel. We hope our relationship with our global colleagues continues to grow in the future. All [presentation handouts](#) are available on the AAMD website for reference.

Cheers to everyone who completed the post-meeting survey. The feedback helps us make the necessary improvements to bring quality topics for the following year. We strive to bring a well-balanced event with wonderful speakers.

A special recognition to the ACC members who took the time out of their busy clinics to produce an outstanding virtual meeting. We would also like to thank the AAMD Headquarters Staff and the meeting planning team for their guidance. Finally, many thanks to our corporate sponsors and exhibitors for their financial support.

The ACC looks forward to being live for the 47th Annual Meeting, June 19-23, 2022, at the Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor in Baltimore, MD. We invite all medical dosimetrists, physicists, radiation oncologists, therapists, and students to join the event. If you have any topics that you'd like to present, please [submit an abstract](#) for the general session or case presentations by November 4, 2021. We hope everyone continue to stay safe during these times and are excited to meet in person next year!



## Medical Dosimetry Students and Educators Gathered this Summer to Learn and Celebrate Writing Competition Winners

By Jamie Baker, CMD, and Lori Simmons, CMD  
Formal Education Committee Co-Chairs

The Formal Education Committee hosted 110 students and 21 educators and recent graduates during the annual Student Gathering on June 2, 2021. Varian Medical Systems generously sponsored the students' registrations to the Annual Meeting again this year, and President of the Americas John Kowal spoke to the students about developments in radiation oncology. Lori Kasuske, AAMD president, welcomed the attendees and encouraged the students to become involved with the AAMD. MDCB President Michael Manteuffel provided updates on the MDCB exam, and recent grads Danielle Siegel and Richard Corbett provided the students with valuable tips on studying for the MDCB exam and landing that first job. Ottmar Lezama and Lauren Wilson discussed initiatives in progress to engage students in discussions on the [AAMD Student Facebook page](#), and Natasa Knab encouraged students to sign up for the mentoring program. Twenty-six students have been matched this year with mentors.

Seventy-six students participated in the Quiz Bowl, answering timed questions on topics ranging from clinical radiation oncology to radiation physics. Mabel Lim, Ottmar Lezama (both from MD Anderson), and Robert Hayward (Grand Valley State University) took home the top prizes. And Mellonie Zacarias-Brown announced the winners of the [AAMD Student Writing Competition](#):

### **1st Place: Dose accumulation of daily adaptive plans to decide optimal plan adaptation strategy for head-and-neck patients treated with MR-Linac**

**Authors:** Shin Yun Lim, Anh Ngoc Kieu Tran, Alan Tran, Jinzhong Yang, Angela Sobremonte, Lori Simmons

**Institution:** The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

### **2nd Place: Limiting Dose to the Lumbosacral Plexus for Pelvic-Paraortic Cases with VMAT**

**Authors:** Elizabeth McGinnis, Thomas Sutherland, Michael Wheatley, Nishele Lenards, Ashley Hunzeker, Karen Lang, Ashley Fellows, Sabrina Zeiler

**Institution:** University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

### **3rd Place: A comparison of robustness of volumetric modulated arc therapy and dynamic conformal arc therapy for lung stereotactic body radiation therapy**

**Authors:** Kathlina M. Teague, BS; Daniel C. Miller, BS; Jacqueline A. Nyamwanda, MS, CMD; Hugh A. Prichard, BS, CMD; Michael C. Kirk, PhD, DABR

**Institution:** Suffolk University

The FEC also hosted 33 educators for the Educators' Meeting on June 15, 2021. Lori Simmons presented the results of the 2020 Educators' Survey ([available on the AAMD website](#)), and Mahsa Dehghanpour and Jamie Baker discussed their findings on students' perceptions regarding the effectiveness of their educational programs' responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. Anne Marie Vann presented her experiences using ProKnow contouring and planning tools with her students, and Michael Manteuffel discussed updates to the MDCB exam. Mahsa Dehghanpour, in her capacity as a JRCERT board member, informed the attendees that JRCERT will distribute its 2020 Annual Report in July, and JRCERT CEO Leslie Winter discussed the implications of a bill introduced in the California Legislature (Earn and Learn) that proposes that colleges and universities pay healthcare students who work in clinical internships. JRCERT urged the attendees to write to the sponsoring legislator to oppose the bill. AAMD Immediate Past President Cara Sullivan asked for volunteers to work on the International Outreach Committee to help develop educational collaborations abroad. She also introduced the results of the AAMD Workforce Study, noting how the survey ties into the educational challenges facing the field, in particular the lack of clinical sites for students.

The FEC bids a fond farewell to Jacky Nyamwanda as her co-chair term expired in July 2021. Jamie Baker and Lori Simmons welcome Mellonie Zacarias-Brown as the Co-Chair in-Training and look forward to working with her. Mellonie will be introduced to the FEC during the next committee call in September.

## Meet the Newest AAMD Fellow: Matt Tobler, CMD, RT(T), FAAMD



Matt Tobler is a Utah native who learned about radiation therapy through a medical occupations class in high school. After graduation he attended the certificate radiation therapy program at the University of Utah and started working as a radiation therapist in 1984. In 1986, he transitioned into an on-the-job training position in medical dosimetry at the University of Utah where he continued working as a dosimetrist and educator for 20 years. He worked for a year at the Radiation Oncology Centers of Las Vegas and then returned to Utah to work at the Huntsman Cancer Hospital. In 2011, Matt took his current job at the Renown Hospital Institute for Cancer in Reno Nevada as a senior dosimetrist.

From early in Matt's career, he was encouraged to be professionally involved in all aspects of the radiation therapy field. As a researcher, Matt was a frequent participant in the annual AAMD Writing Competition. This work not only led to several awards but also numerous publications in the *Medical Dosimetry* journal as well as presentations at regional and annual AAMD and other professional meetings.

As an educator, Matt has been involved in the education and training of countless radiation therapy and dosimetry students and medical residents. Besides serving as a clinical educator in the University of Utah's radiation therapy and medical residency programs, Matt also taught

for 13 years in the radiation therapy technology program at Weber State University in Utah and is currently serving as a clinical coordinator and educator at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Medical Dosimetry Program.

Matt was also strongly encouraged to be involved in the AAMD organization. This started with attendance at the annual meetings but quickly evolved into service in the organization itself. Over the years, Matt has served in multiple AAMD positions, including 4 years on the Membership Committee, 6 years on the Bylaws Committee, Co-host of the 1994 Annual Meeting, 2 years on the Human Resources Committee and current service on the Career Services Committee. Matt also served for 6 years as Editor of the *Medical Dosimetry* journal and two 3-year terms as Region I Director on the AAMD Board of Directors. Additionally, Matt served on the Medical Dosimetrist Certification Board (MDCB) and received the AAMD Award of Excellence in 2008.

Matt credits many of the accomplishments that have led to his acceptance as a Fellow of the AAMD to the support and contributions of the amazing radiation therapists, dosimetrists, physicists and physicians he's had the privilege of working with over the years. In his words: "It's interesting to consider the many people that touch our lives and contribute to our success. In part, this honor is due to their great work."

## Take Your Career to a New Level with the AAMD Fellows Mentoring Program

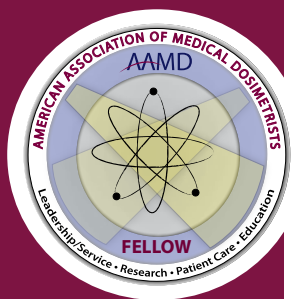
By Paula Berner, BS, CMD, FAAMD  
AAMD Fellows Chair

Being named a Fellow of one's profession is the highest honor that can be bestowed on a member of that profession, or in the words of the AAMD's newest Fellow, Matt Tobler: "Being named a Fellow is like a lifetime achievement award in my profession." The AAMD Fellows program bestows the honor of being elevated to Fellow to those members in good standing who have made outstanding contributions to the profession of medical dosimetry and to the AAMD.

To assist members in good standing who desire to apply for elevation to AAMD Fellow, the Fellows have established a mentoring program. The primary focus of this mentoring program will be to provide mentoring in developing presentations and in writing scientific articles that are suitable for submission to peer-reviewed journals in the medical dosimetry profession.

The process for being part of this mentoring program is as follows:

- 1) Download the Fellows application. The application is on the [Fellows page of the AAMD website](#) under the Membership tab. The application is free and available to all.
- 2) Read through the application, then sit down with the application and a pencil, and work through the application to determine the categories where you are lacking points.
- 3) Once you have determined the categories you are lacking points in, contact the current Fellows chair, and let them know you are interested in the Fellows mentoring program. The current Fellows chair is identified on the [Fellows page](#), along with their contact information.
- 4) Once you have contacted the current Fellows chair, you will be connected with a current AAMD Fellow who will become your mentor.



## 2021 AAMD Outstanding Achievement Award Recipient: Mahsa Dehghanpour, EdD, MS, CMD



The AAMD is extremely proud to present the 2021 Outstanding Achievement Award to Mahsa Dehghanpour, EdD, MS, CMD. Mahsa earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Physics in 1997, Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering in 2000, and Doctorate in Education in 2011. She is also a graduate of the Medical Dosimetry program at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and earned her Certified Medical Dosimetrist (CMD) credential in 2005. She has worked at the MD Anderson Cancer Center since 2004. Currently, she is the program director and professor for the Medical Dosimetry Program at MD Anderson.

In her role, she has educated numerous medical dosimetry students and participated in the education of students in the Master of Science Program in Radiologic Sciences. Since 2005, Mahsa has directed, organized, and hosted an annual Medical Dosimetry Review Course preparing more than 550 students and medical dosimetrists for the board exam.

Mahsa has been an active member and volunteer for the AAMD for almost 20 years. In her role as an active member and former co-chair of the Formal Education Committee, she has participated in the development and revisions of the AAMD Curriculum Guide for Medical Dosimetry Programs, participated in the mentorship program for students, organized and hosted the student

gathering and educators' meetings, and participated in numerous discussions about the education of medical dosimetry students.

Mahsa has served as a site visitor for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) for 10 years before being nominated by the AAMD to serve on the JRCERT Board in 2019. Currently, she serves as a board member and the second vice chair of the JRCERT Executive Committee.

Her research interest is improving students' learning outcomes and critical thinking skills through active learning and the use of technology. She has made numerous presentations at state and national professional conferences concerning the best practices for the education of allied health professionals and has published in various journals. Her latest research investigates the perception of medical dosimetry students on effectiveness of programs' immediate response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on students' education. She will share the results of this study during the 2021 AAMD Educators' Meeting.

The AAMD would like to congratulate Mahsa for being a successful educator and leader in the field of medical dosimetry!

To learn more about the AAMD Outstanding Achievement Award and how to nominate someone, [visit the AAMD website](#).

## Going, Going, Gone!

### *Take Advantage of Your AAMD CE Credits before They Expire*

By Sandra John-Baptiste, CMD, Continuing Education Committee Co-Chair, and Linnae Campbell, CMD, Continuing Education Committee Member

Have you used all of your CE credit allotments that you have access to with your AAMD member benefits? Do you still need [CE credits](#) for your MDCB certification? Don't worry. There are a lot of recorded presentations, Directed Journal Readings in the CE Center for you to choose from, and there are new Recorded Sessions added monthly. Remember to check in for [National Medical Dosimetrist's Day](#) activities in August, as there will be 5 free webinars offering free CE credits. Just make sure you complete all sessions before they expire!

The Continuing Education Committee (CEC) would like to welcome several new members to the committee. This summer we had five new volunteers join the CEC. Welcome to Taeyoon Kim, Antoinette Connor, Mabel Lim, Yun Yang, and Elizabeth Therezo.

Lastly, the CEC would like to thank Lee Culp for many years of service and for all of the support and direction he has given the CEC both a Co-Chair and committee member.

If you have any new ideas for recorded webinars, please feel free to contact the CEC Co-Chairs with your suggestions or recommendations. The committee is always open to new ideas and presentation requests. Please contact:  
Jessica Stanulus: [Jessica\\_stanulus@hotmail.com](mailto:Jessica_stanulus@hotmail.com) or  
Sandra John-Baptiste: [sjohnb@mdanderson.edu](mailto:sjohnb@mdanderson.edu).

## 2022 Call for Nominations & Volunteers

By Catherine Gagne, CMD, and Melissa Nolet, CMD  
Nominations & Volunteer Committee Co-Chairs

Are you looking for a rewarding experience and an opportunity to share your passion and knowledge of medical dosimetry with your peers? Consider throwing your name in the hat for an AAMD leadership position. We are anticipating some great nominees for the 2022 AAMD Election and hope you will be one of them! The positions for which we will be accepting nominations are:

- President-Elect
- Regional Director
- Member-at-Large
- Region I Representative
- Region II Representative

All positions are three-year terms, beginning on August 1, 2022 and ending on July 31, 2025. Position descriptions have been recently updated and can be found on the [AAMD Call for Nominations web page](#) along with complete nomination details.

If you would like to nominate someone for one of the open positions, please contact the AAMD Nominations and Volunteer Committee Co Chairs: Catherine Gagne ([clkgagne@gmail.com](mailto:clkgagne@gmail.com)) or Melissa Nolet ([mnolet08@gmail.com](mailto:mnolet08@gmail.com)).

To be eligible for nomination, the nominee must be a current AAMD Full CMD Member in good standing. For the Region Representative positions, the candidate must reside in one of the states covered in that region.

All nomination applications need to be completed online by **December 31, 2021**. Elections will take place in the Spring of 2022.

### **Not ready to run for an AAMD office, but still want to give back?**

Volunteer on an AAMD Committee! The success of the AAMD thrives on ideas, projects, and dedication from our committee members. To join a committee, visit the [Volunteer Opportunities page](#) to review committee descriptions and get started.

## Special Thanks to Our 2021/2022 Sponsors



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## Finding Common Ground – “Treatment Planning Around the World in 60 Minutes”

By Felita James-Christie, CMD, and Adele Philippides, CMD  
Membership Committee Co-Chairs

At this year’s Virtual Annual Meeting, attendees were given an opportunity to hear from a panel of international treatment planners. Moderated by AAMD members Adenike (Niki) Olanrewaju and Cara Sullivan, the panel of five included Taeyoon Kim (S. Korea), Bryan McLoughlin (Australia), Yasmin McQuinlan (U.K), Peter Rotich (Kenya), and Adriana da Silva Santos (Brazil).

The panelists shared insightful details regarding education and training pathways to dosimetry, treatment planning techniques, types of equipment, QA and safety regulations, and other common tasks performed by treatment planners in their respective countries. This information gave everyone a chance to reflect on our shared experiences in a world that continues to battle the global burden of treating its citizens afflicted with cancer. The take-home message of “finding common ground” means bringing our countries closer together by sharing resources and information to help break down the systemic barriers that have led to health care disparities around the world. We look forward to seeing the innovative activities the new AAMD International Outreach Committee (IOC) will bring to global health efforts, and KUDOS to the AAMD for leading the charge! If you are interested in volunteering on the IOC, please contact Niki Olanrewaju at [aolanrew@mdanderson.org](mailto:aolanrew@mdanderson.org).

## Back By Popular Demand: Student Virtual Forum

Building on the success of our previous [two virtual forums](#) for AAMD student members, another forum is in the works! Coming this fall, we will offer a virtual forum focusing Tips and Tricks for Planning Comprehensive Breast & Chest Wall Cancers. Our experienced panelists will share their advice and helpful images from their respective treatment planning systems: Eclipse, Monaco, Pinnacle, and RayStation. Stay tuned for more details.



## Inside the Mind of a Hiring Physicist

By: Cara Sullivan, CMD, Career Services Committee Co-Chair,  
and Tayla Brodin, Career Services Committee Member

Most often, as a medical dosimetrist, you will be interviewed by multiple individuals: department director, other dosimetrists, therapist, physician, and of course, the physicist. The Career Services Committee (CSC) interviewed four physicists from different types of oncology clinics to see what they look for when choosing a dosimetrist to join their team. You may be surprised by what we discovered! Physicists look primarily at skill level and those who show initiative. Communication is also very important in their decision. Do you blend well with the staff? Are you able to effectively articulate your thoughts? Read the full summary of the interviews on the [AAMD Career Resources webpage](#).

## Meet Journal Associate Editor Robert Rodgers, MS



The *Medical Dosimetry* journal is very fortunate to have an engaged group of Associate Editors that have various backgrounds and experience. Associate Editors are responsible for assessing a manuscript's relevance and make publication recommendations based on independent reviews. I would like the AAMD membership to be introduced to each of these editors. I asked Robert Rodgers to provide some insights into his background and career path.

– **Cory Neill, Editor-in-Chief, *Medical Dosimetry***

I would like to introduce myself and share a little about my professional background and involvement with the *Medical Dosimetry* journal. I've been a practicing clinical medical physicist for 25 years; the first 20 years, I served in the United States Air Force working in several medical physics specialties while earning multiple board certifications (i.e., diagnostic imaging, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine, and radiation safety), in addition to serving 10 years as the medical physics representative to the Air Force Radiation Safety Committee that provided oversight on all non-nuclear weapon radiation applications for operational support to environmental, medical, research and military activities. I also served in numerous leadership positions where I directed radiology departments, radiation oncology clinics and physics groups that supported military facilities worldwide. I particularly enjoyed teaching medical and physics

residents and technologists, where sharing technical information and experiences, and teaching how to communicate effectively was key to achieving successful mission results.

During 2016, I retired as a Lieutenant Colonel and began my post-military career in academia. I've been involved with medical residency, medical physics residency and graduate programs as faculty at Brown University, Rhode Island University and currently at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine where I serve as Director of Clinical Medical Physics for Radiation Oncology. I'm an active member of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM), where I serve on the Board of Directors and numerous committees.

It has truly been personally satisfying to support the *Medical Dosimetry* journal for 12 years as a reviewer and 11 years as an Associate Editor. I really enjoy reading the very promising research performed world-wide as it relates to the field of medical dosimetry, and especially when it's actually integrated into the clinic improving overall patient treatments and workflow. Keep up the solid work! I look forward to reviewing your manuscript for possible publication in *Medical Dosimetry* in the near future. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertrodgers1/>

## AAMD Foundation Announces 2021 Scholarship Winners

By Theresa Kwiatkowski, CMD  
AAMD Foundation Chair

The AAMD Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the American Association of Medical Dosimetrists that is dedicated to empowering students and medical dosimetrists in achieving their professional goals through higher education. Thanks to our generous donors and corporate sponsors, we distributed \$77,350 in financial aid, five MDCB exam vouchers, and seven treatment planning vouchers in 2021.

[Check out the winners' videos on our website](#)

We are delighted to announce this year's scholarships winners and look forward to them becoming integral members of our medical dosimetry community.

### **Eclipse Training Grant:**

*Made possible by a generous grant from Varian Medical Systems*

- Karina Dean
- Ottmar Lezama
- Alexis Woodlin
- Audrey Magnoni

### **RayStation Training Grant:**

*Made possible by a generous grant from RaySearch Laboratories*

- April Hardman
- Anthony Huynh

### **Legion Healthcare Partners Proton Medical Dosimetry Scholarship:**

*Made possible by a generous grant from Legion Healthcare Partners*

- Jeremie Oubda

### **Rudi J Bertrand Veteran Scholarship:**

*Created by Rudi J. Bertrand and made possible by support from AAMD Foundation Patrons and a generous grant donation from Rudi J. Bertrand*

- John Gonzales
- Jeremie Oubda

### **MDCB Voucher Winners:**

*Made possible by a generous grant from the Medical Dosimetrist Certification Board*

- Kelly Adams
- John Gonzales
- Jeremie Oubda
- William Rios
- Alexis Woodlin

### **Sullivan Family Scholarship:**

*Created by The Sullivan Family Foundation and made possible by the generous grant donation from Steve and Cara Sullivan, CMD*

- John Gonzales
- Jeremie Oubda

### **Varian Student Scholarship:**

*Made possible by a generous grant from Varian Medical Systems*

- Alexis Woodlin
- Dari Harlow
- Reyes Nino III
- Jina Lee
- Destiny Holder
- April Hardman
- Candace Ray
- Karina Dean
- Kimberly Kelly
- Fiorella Venuto
- Carlos Galindo
- Carrie Tam
- Enoch Sarkodee
- Kathlina Teague
- Whitnee Hallford

The Foundation couldn't do what we do without our volunteers and donors. Together, we're making a difference – and you can, too. Become a volunteer, do your part, or make your mark, there are many great reasons to volunteer, and the Foundation needs your time and talents.

Ways to get involved:

As the Foundation grows, we are looking for volunteers with expertise in social media marketing to help us raise awareness and fundraise. For more information, please email [info@aamdfoundation.org](mailto:info@aamdfoundation.org)

The Foundation has been fortunate that the AAMD has supported a matching Funds Campaign during the annual renewal period. If you donate during this time, your donation is matched dollar for dollar, doubling your donation.

If you have received an award, consider giving back to the Foundation. Make your tax -deductible donation or talk to your colleagues about the AAMD Foundation so together we can empower all medical dosimetrists!



## Certification News

By Felicia Lembesis, CAE  
Executive Director, MDCB

### Updating Your Profile Information

If your contact information has recently changed, you can update your MDCB profile accordingly:

- After logging in to the [CE Center](#), click on “My Account” in the upper right-hand corner of the web page.
- Click the “pencil and paper” icon next to the contact information you’d like to change.
- Once you’ve updated the information, click the orange “Save” button.

### Adding Personal Credits Requests to Your Learning Plan

CMDs can submit personal credit requests for the following activities:

Activities	Requirements
Academic Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Official transcript from the academic institution</li><li>• Course catalog description</li></ul>
Journal Authoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Final published article from a peer-reviewed journal listing authors and date published</li></ul>
Journal Editing & Reviewing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Letter from the publisher indicating the articles and dates reviewed</li></ul>
Speaker Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Letter from the activity provider confirming the presentation</li><li>• Presenters will only receive credit for activities that have been pre-approved by the MDCB for attendees</li></ul>