Special Session

New Horizons in Medical Health Physics

Health physicists have played a vital role in ensuring the safe and effective use of radiation to protect medical personnel, patients and their families. On the other hand, medical physicists are traditionally involved in diagnosis and treatments ensuring that radiation is delivered safely and effectively to patients. However, more so than ever before, the conventional responsibilities of these different professions are beginning to overlap. The use of novel therapeutic and imaging modalities has created a compelling need for stronger interaction between health and medical physicists in hospitals. Furthermore, research areas in the two fields are beginning to merge. Health physics research involving radiation shielding, instrument calibration, dose reconstruction, and risk assessment is beginning to gain appreciable interest among medical physics researchers in the US and around the world. In order to explore new educational and research directions in this emerging field, the Biology and Medicine and the Radiation Protection and Shielding divisions of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) are co-sponsoring a special session on new horizons in medical health physics during the 2013 ANS annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

The target audience for this session includes researchers, educators and professionals who are interested in learning about this exciting and quickly growing field. We have invited several experts whose research spans the multidisciplinary landscape of medical and health physics. Topics will range from emergency response planning in hospitals to shielding design for non-traditional medical isotopes to risk assessment using computational human phantoms. The goal of this session is to offer informative talks as well as to promote useful interaction between medical health physicists and other nuclear scientists in the American Nuclear Society.

For Invited Speakers: The ANS is a not-for-profit, international, scientific and educational organization. It was established by a group of individuals who recognized the need to unify the professional activities within the diverse fields of nuclear science and technology. December 11, 1954, marks the Society's historic beginning at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. ANS has since developed a multifarious membership composed of approximately 11,000 engineers, scientists, administrators, and educators representing 1,600 plus corporations, educational institutions, and government agencies. Note, as an invited speaker, ANS will waive meeting registration expenses as long as approval is granted prior to the meeting. For any questions, please contact:

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