

Unforgettable Events with AAPM and IOMP in the last 28 years

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83 years old

- 1981 Inviting Dr. John R. Cameron (President of AAPM, 1968) to visit China attending the Establishing Meeting of the Chinese Society of Medical Physics (CSMP) and giving lectures on Medical Physics in Guangzhou, Shanghai, Hangzhou, and Beijing for 4 weeks.
- 1983 I was invited to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of AAPM by Dr. Nagalingam Suntharalingam (President of AAPM, 1983) in New York meeting Drs. Sternick, Fullerton, St. Germain and many AAPM members.
- 1983 I invited Drs. Ned Sternick and Andrew Wu going to Guangzhou Medical College to give lectures on MRT, CT, and Radiotherapy on November 1983 and touring in Shanghai and Beijing.
- 1984 I was invited to attend the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of AAPM by Dr. Edward S. Sternick (President of AAPM, 1984) on July in Chicago meeting Dr. Lawrence H. Lanzl (President of IOMP, 1984). Dr. Sternick introduced me to join AAPM as a Full Member.
- 1984 I was invited to go to Boston, New York, and Washington D.C. with the President of Guangzhou Medical College Dr. Lin and Vice President Dr. Liu to sign the Agreement of Cooperation between Tufts University – Medical School and Guangzhou Medical College for teaching and scientific exchanges.
- 1985 I was invited to go to Espoo, Finland attending the World Congress of Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering by President of the International Organization of Medical Physics (IOMP) Professor Lawrence H. Lanzl. I represented the Chinese Society of Medical Physics (CSMP) to talk with President Lanzl about CSMP joining IOMP as a Country Member and was accepted with pleasure by Dr. Lanzl.
- 1986 I was invited to go to Lexington, Kentucky attending the 28<sup>th</sup> AAPM Annual Meeting by Dr. Edwin McCullough, President of AAPM (1986) who had given me the honor to present a 15 minute talk “The status of Medical Physics in China and the Scientific Exchanges between CSMP and AAPM”. I thanked Dr. McCullough forever.
- 1986 I was invited by IOMP to go to Bombay, India attending “The First Asian International Conference on Medical Physics”. Drs. Madhvanath, the President of the Indian Association of Medical Physics (IAMP). Alexander Kaul (Past-President of IOMP), Lawrence Lanzl (President of IOMP), John R. Cunningham (President- Elect of IOMP) had given special speeches at the Conference. I had the honor to present “The Status of Medical Physics in China” at the Conference and met many Indian Colleagues too.
- 1988 I was invited by IOMP going to San Antonio on 1988 attending the World Congress on MP & BME. I represented CSMP as an IOMP country member at the council of IOMP and was elected as the Chairman of IOMP Developing Countries Committee (1989 – 1991)
- 1991 AAPM & IOMP leaders Drs. John Laughlin and John Cunningham and many AAPM members Drs. Melvin Siedband, Raymond Wu visited Guangzhou Medical College and helped me build up the IOMP–AAPM library in Guangzhou and then we went to Kyoto, Japan attending the World Congress on MP and BME. In the council of IOMP, I met many old friends of IOMP and AAPM Drs. John Cameron, John Laughlin, John Mallard, John Cunningham, Lawrence Lanzl, Colin Orton, Edwin McCullough, Melvin Siedband. I was elected again as the Chairman of IOMP–DCC (1992–1994).
- 1992 Since 1983, I had been working on Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (MRM) in China researching, teaching and writing books on MRI, MRA, and MRS. I was invited to go to Berlin, Germany to attend the “92<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of MRM”. I met Dr. Fullerton and his wife Nancy and many medical physicists, and radiologists from different countries and learned that the development of MRI & MRS was moving ahead very rapidly worldwide.

After the Berlin conference, I flew across the Atlantic Ocean to New York where Dr. Sternick was waiting for me at the airport. As a member of the New York Academy of Sciences, I visited the famous Academy for the first time with Dr. Sternick and learned about the history of the Academy that dates back more than 100 years. Dr. Sternick accompanied me to Calgary, Canada from New York to attend the AAPM and CAPM Combined Meeting. I was fortunate to witness Dr. Suntharalingam winning the Coolidge Award presented by Dr. John R. Cameron at the meeting. It reminded me of the presentation of the Coolidge Award to Dr. John R. Cameron by Dr. Suntharalingam in 1980. Twelve years later, the Coolidge Award was presented to Dr. Suntharalingam by his adviser, Dr. Cameron. It was very nice to remember.

After the Calgary Meeting, I flew to Los Angeles to visit Dr. James B. Smathers at the UCLA Center for the Health Sciences. He was very kind and friendly and showed me much new equipment of medical imaging and radiotherapy in the Department of Radiation Oncology. I was much obliged to him, hoping that he would be able to visit China.

- 1993 I attended the AAPM Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. I met many old AAPM friends, including some members from Taiwan. I was very happy to tour the White House and Washington learning more about the history of the United States.
- 1994 “The 94<sup>th</sup> Asian and Pacific International Conference on QA Testing Technology” was held at the beautiful White Swan Hotel by the side of Pearl River in Guangzhou. Drs. James B. Smathers, David Goodenough, Frank B. Atkins, K.Y. Cheung, Kuang Y. Chen and many Chinese Colleagues presented articles on QA testing of medical imaging and radiotherapy. Dr. Sternick, the Co-President of the QA Conference, representing Dr. Orton from IOMP, gave a congratulatory speech during the Opening Ceremony. That was the first QA International Conference held in China. It introduced new high-tech QA testing to Chinese medical physicists, biomedical engineers and medical doctors and improved the QA programs carried out in China by the Chinese Government.
- 1997 The 1997 AAPM Annual meeting was held in Milwaukee. I became an Emeritus Member of AAPM in 1996 and attended the AAPM Meeting free of charge for the first time. I met Drs. Larry Lanzl, John Cameron, John Cunningham, Ned Sternick and many old friends. I asked Dr. John R. Cameron to write an article on “The Future of Medical Physics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” for me to translate into Chinese for a Chinese Journal. He also gave me a copy of his new book “Physics of the Body”, which was of great interest to our Chinese colleagues.

I was invited to attend the World Congress on MP & BME held in Nice, France. There, I presented a paper called “The Development of Medical Imaging and Radiosurgery in China” and met Drs. William R. Hendee, Colin C. Orton and Gary D. Fullerton. We discussed the International Conference on Medical Imaging and Precision Radiation Therapy to be held in Guangzhou. Dr. Hendee promised to organize this conference with me as Co-president and accepted my invitation to visit China in 1998. Drs. Orton and Fullerton also promised to support the conference. We all believed that medical imaging and radiotherapy should be combined together in the clinic to make treatment-planning systems more accurate and improve patient care.

- 1998 In 1998, I invited Drs. Hendee and Siedband to visit Guangzhou Medical College to give lectures on Medical Imaging & Radiation Therapy and tour in Guangzhou for six days. They were warmly welcomed by Chinese radiologists, medical physicists and medical doctors. After the meeting, Dr. & Mrs. Hendee and I flew to Xian, touring for two days and enjoying this famous old city. Then we flew to Beijing to lecture and tour for six days. Dr. Hendee was especially welcomed by the head of Peking Hospital and gave a lecture of Functional MRI. He met the famous Professor Guozhen Li to talk about research of MRI with acupuncture. Dr. Hendee was invited to give a lecture on Medical Imaging at Peking University and dined with the Vice President of the University.

After celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of Guangzhou Medical College on November 8, 1998 with Dr. and Mrs. Sternick, who is an Honorary Professor of GMC. I flew to Chicago to attend the RSNA Meeting. There I met Drs. Hendee, Orton, Lanzl, Goodenough, Ibbot, Hasegawa, and discussed how to organize the International Conference on Medical Imaging, Medical Physics and Precision Radiation Therapy (ICMIMPPRT) to be held in Guangzhou on October 4~6, 1999.

- 1999 Dr. Hendee and I worked on the ICMIMPPRT for nearly a year. We were pleased to have nearly three hundred participants from Asia, America, Europe and Australia who submitted outstanding articles to the conference. The

Conference was successfully held in the China Hotel on October 4~6, 1999, Guangzhou. Many well-known professors presented special articles on Medical Imaging and Precision Radiotherapy and shared their experiences with their colleagues from different countries. I felt honored to have been supported by AAPM, IOMP, CSMP and all the participants from across four oceans.

2001 I went to Salt Lake City attending AAPM Annual Meeting on July and I thanked Dr. Ned Sternick to arrange everything for me. I was invited by Dr. Arthur Boyer to visit Stanford University to talk about developing Medical Physics in China in August. Dr. Boyer invited me to his home to take dinner and drink for friendship enjoying a beautiful night.

2002 I invited Professor Stewart Bushong and his wife Bettie to visit China in May. Dr. Bushong gave lectures on “Digital Imaging Technology” in Guangzhou Medical College and Tsinghua University and toured in the Yangtze River 3 gorges by ship and walked up to the top of the Great Wall. We are old friends and this was the second time they visited China.

I invited Dr. and Mrs. John Cameron and Dr. Ned Sternick to visit China on October to celebrate Dr. Cameron’s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in Guangzhou City. We were so happy to remember that Dr. Cameron was the first American Professor of Medical Physics to visit China giving lectures on Medical Physics in 1981. And after 22 years, John visited China again giving lectures on “Physics of the Body” in Guangzhou Medical College, Beijing Tsinghua University and Shanghai Communication University hospital. How nice and wonderful!

2004 Dr. Stewart Bushong and his daughter Leslie visited China for the third time. I invited him to go to the famous Taishan Medical University giving lectures on “Radiologic Science and Technology” and was warmly welcomed by the Chinese radiologists and medical physicists.

Dr. Bushong and his daughter walked up to the top of the famous Taimountain in China (1450 M high) and enjoyed the beautiful scenery. He had toured in the famous Confucius Temple too.

Dr. Bushong was again invited by Tsinghua University to give lectures and was warmly welcomed by the Chinese medical physicists too.

2005 I was invited to go to Seattle attending the 47<sup>th</sup> AAPM Annual Meeting and met many old friends. I was so lucky to attend the Memorial Meeting for Dr. John Laughlin and Dr. John Cameron and met Mrs. Laughlin and Mr. John Cameron with their relatives.

2007 I invited Dr. and Mrs. William Hendee to visit China in May to lecture on his new book, “Medical Physics, 2006”. We went to Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, Wuhan University, Taishan Medical University, Peking University and Tsinghua University (5 famous Chinese Universities) to give lectures and toured in West Lake, Wuhan Yangtze River Cruise, Taishan and the Great Wall. This was a 15-day long trip lectures and warmly welcomed by the five universities.

In August, “The International Conference on Medical Physics” was held in Huangshan Hotel, organized by IOMP, AAPM & CSMP. Professor Barry Allen, the President of IOMP, DR. Raymond Wu, the representative of AAMP and Dr. Yimin Hu, the President of CSMP hosted the conference. I met Drs. Allen, Raymond Wu very happily. More than 3 hundred participants from China, U.S., Australia, Korea, Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, and other countries presented papers and discussed new and up-to-date problems of Medical Physics. It was a very successful International Conference held in China.

2008 I feel honored to be invited to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting of AAPM when I am 83 years old. I have the chance to meet many many AAPM old friends. I write this paper to remember AAPM and IOMP in the last 28 years. Thank you!