ATTENTION ACCELERATOR ENGINEERS AND TECHNICIANS ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Sheraton Chicago ~~ 301 E. North Water Street
Saturday, July 22 -- 12:00 noon - 6:00 pm ~~ Sunday, July 23 -- 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

A meeting of linear accelerator engineers will occur at the beginning of the AAPM Annual Meeting (World Congress 2000) in Chicago. This gathering is scheduled for July 22-23, 2000 and will take place at the Sheraton Chicago in the Erie Room on the second level. The purpose of the meeting will be to plan for the formation of a professional society for individuals working to maintain the equipment used for radiation oncology. AAPM President Kenneth Hogstrom has formed an Ad Hoc Committee to help with this process. This announcement is being distributed to members of the AAPM to obtain your assistance in advertising this event. Please help us by passing this information on to all parties with an interest in the formation of this new group.

The meeting in Chicago will extend from noon on Saturday to the early afternoon on Sunday. Talks have been organized for the purpose of helping founding members understand the steps in establishing an association for machine engineers, and time has been designated for starting the transition from the discussion phase to the phase of incorporation as a new society. There will also be a networking reception on Saturday.

In addition to discussions aimed at clarifying the process for forming this new group, there will be formal presentations describing possible professional and educational aspects of the society. Issues like continuing education for engineers, the establishment of a proper support structure to sustain continued growth, and the organization of services for job placement and annual meeting coordination will be discussed.

Help is needed to move this process forward. A major goal at this point is to assemble a nucleus of individuals that are willing and able to take part in this effort. Please pass this announcement on to the individuals involved in maintaining the equipment in your department, and suggest that they consider attending the gathering in Chicago in July.

The registration fee includes coffee breaks, a social reception on Saturday evening, and continental breakfast and lunch on Sunday. Register by June 1 to receive the discounted registration fee of \$50. After June 1 the fee is \$100.

This Organizational Meeting is being held immediately prior to the Chicago 2000 World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering. For information on the Chicago 2000 World Congress, visit the web at http://www.wc2000.org/

Make your hotel reservations on-line or complete a housing reservation form via the Chicago 2000 World Congress web site. For additional information, please contact AAPM Headquarters at farhana@aapm.org or at (301) 209-3375.

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