**MINUTES**

**Education Council**

**AAPM Meeting**

**Chicago Hilton**

**9:00 am – noon, November 26, 2012**

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, George Starkschall, at 9:01 am.
2. Present at meeting:

Members: Starkschall (Chair), Barnes, Bayouth, Bloch, Massoth, Sprawls, Rzeszotarski, Pfeiffer

Absent: Hamilton, Pipman

Guests: Mower

AAPM Staff: Sullivan, Hunter, Oronsaye (incoming HQ Comptroller)

1. The minutes of meeting of 7/29/2012 were approved as posted on <http://www.aapm.org/org/committees/committee/article.asp?id=4542>
2. Time of future meetings

If we want refreshments served at our meeting, we need to start the meeting before 9 am. Next year’s meeting will begin at 8:30 am and run to 11:30 am.

1. Follow up on Strategic Planning Retreat action items
   1. Board Priorities
      1. Medical Physics Residencies

* Status of Residency Programs:

Therapy – 59 approved, 16 in process, 23 incomplete (~147 residents[[1]](#footnote-1))

Imaging – 6 approved, 4 in process, 6 incomplete (~24 residents)

Future staffing needs (as per M Mills):

Therapy - 125-150 per year

Imaging - 20-25 per year

We’re making good progress.

* Status of residency workshop – Bayouth

The hub and spoke workshop is being organized for Feb 15-16 in New Orleans. It will be split over 2 days (Friday evening and Saturday ending early afternoon) very similar to the self study writing workshops that were held last year.

* Initiative for funding of imaging physics residencies – Starkschall

AAPM is budgeting $560K over a five-year period to partially support new imaging physics residencies. The purpose of the funding is that AAPM provide 50% support of several imagine physics residency positions, and the awardee institutions will provide the other 50% support. After the period of the award is over, the intent is that the awardee institutions will continue to fully support the imaging physics residencies.

Timeline:

Nov 28, 2012 – AAPM Board of Directors approves funding of program

Dec 1, 2012 – Program is advertised to the medical physics and radiology communities

Feb 1, 2013 – Applications are due

Mar 1, 2013 – Awards are announced

July 1, 2013 – First residents begin training

Award guidelines:

1. This award is designed to encourage the establishment of new imaging physics residency programs. Consequently only those imaging physics residency programs that have not previously submitted an application to CAMPEP for accreditation are eligible.
2. A letter of commitment from the Radiology chair must accompany an application. This letter must commit the Radiology Department to the following:
   1. 50% support of stipend for each resident
   2. Adequate resource to support an imaging physics residency program
   3. A commitment to support efforts to achieve CAMPEP accreditation
   4. A commitment to provide sufficient funding to sustain the residency program beyond the initial funding period.
3. The program must commit to applying for CAMPEP accreditation by the beginning of the second year of the award.

Role of Education Council:

AAPM Education Council, through the Education and Training of Medical Physicists Committee and the Medical Physics Residency Training and Promotion Subcommittee, is charged with developing the procedure for soliciting program proposals, evaluating these proposals, selecting the awardees, and administering the award.

Bob Pizzutiello is helping with the diagnostic residency initiative. He will be preparing a contribution for the newsletter (to be included in the regular EC contribution), and there will be an email blast as well, plus directed emails to diagnostic graduate program directors that do not yet have residency programs.

RSNA is likely to fund several residencies in this initiative, so we will also have to include their representatives at the table for program administration.

* Number of MS graduates vs PhD graduates – Approximately twice as many MS graduates are being produced as PhD graduates, yet approximately twice as many residency slots are going to PhD graduates than MS graduates. Consequently, many MS graduates are not finding residency positions and are being denied entry into clinical careers. It is not clear what Education Council should do about this, if anything.

Bayouth – If we can identify why groups are not hiring MS candidates for residency, maybe we can better address this

Pfeiffer - Is there some way we can remind academic institutions that most work is done by MS physicists?

Bayouth – Residency slots are few in number, so programs bring in people they are likely to hire. That’s often the motivation for establishing a residency program.

Rzeszotarski – Make the programs aware that half of medical physicists employed are MS people. Write Newsletter article.

Pfeiffer – There is an imbalance between how MS and PhD physicists are viewed.

Bloch – Do we have data as to where people coming out of residency programs go?

Bayouth – We should identify what information we need and incorporate it into the salary survey.

**Action Item:** Bayouth has been charged with constituting a TG to work with SDAMPP and Professional Council to identify and obtain such information.

**Action Item:** Starkschall will include in a newsletter article the imbalance between MS and PhDs in residency programs.

* + 1. Provide administrative infrastructure for small residencies – Bayouth

Once budget is passed, an RFP will be prepared to seek an individual. Antolak’s subcommittee is identifying potential groups that might benefit from such infrastructure.

* + 1. Expand online services – Barnes/Bloch

Proposals for expanding online services:

* The restructuring of fees will be proposed for 2014. This will involve an increase in fees for members as well as a discount for online access at the trainee level. Such discounts will help establish the value to members early in their career.

**Action Item:** Pfeiffer will arrange for Bloch to present OLCE at the New Member Symposium.

* Improve the OLC website (search capability, navigation, breadth and quality of material available and general look and feel). Such improvements will attract more subscribers. Sprawls and Bloch have had discussion about this. Want Blue Sky to reorganize content by topic, rather than meeting. This reorganization can be done for about $4800.

**Action Item:** Bloch, with the help of Sprawls, will work with Blue Sky and staff to reorganize the Virtual Library by topic.

* Provide dosimetrist access to the Virtual Library (and other CE) for an annual fee. This might be extended to non-members in general, as some physicians and medical residents might be interested as well. See the attached report for some issues related to this initiative. Probably more interest in the ability to download individual modules at a low fee. This may be difficult to do.

**Action Item:** Bloch will pursue an access and fee structure further.

Other Strategic Planning Retreat items will be included in the minutes. Please provide a written progress report for the minutes prior to the meeting. Items will be discussed only if there are specific issues. The following issues should be addressed in your written reports:

* 1. Education Council – Starkschall
     1. Review funding of liaisons
        1. The EFOMP liaison is now being funded at the IEAC level
        2. The liaison with the AAMD Education Committee is now being funded at the Medical Physics Education of Allied Health Professionals Committee level
  2. Education and Training of Medical Physicists – Bayouth
     1. Timeline for completion of TG 90 update report
     2. Promote hub-and-spoke residency programs
     3. Develop online training courses on ethics, patient safety, FMEA
  3. Committee on Medical Physics Education of Physicians – Rzeszotarski
     1. Develop continuing physics education for physicians to satisfy MOC requirements
        1. Discussed with ARRS possibility of radiologist/medical physicist tag team lectures at ARRS meetings
     2. TG 124 – issue with list of resources in Appendix B – Starkschall

This is now on the Educators Resource Guide. Perry will pass on the link and we will incorporate that into the TG 124 report.

* + 1. Develop web-based training modules for rad onc residents
       1. Need mechanism for funding this project, as well as increased MPEP membership of radiation oncology educators
    2. Develop liaison with ASTRO
    3. Develop modules for teaching patient safety & protection
       1. To be done jointly with MPEAHP. Rzeszotarski will form SC to work on this.
    4. Establish liaison with TG 206 (Online didactic content TG)
       1. Need to clarify status of TG 206, as TG is scheduled to sunset. Perhaps form WG.
  1. Continuing Professional Development Committee – Barnes
     1. Summer School, packaged short courses
     2. Business model for online services
  2. Medical Physics Education of Allied Health Professionals Committee – Pfeiffer
     1. Review and/or develop MOUs with allied health societies, e.g, ASRT, AAMD
     2. Training materials development
     3. Investigate the possibility of maintaining the Stanford Dosimetry training modules
  3. International Education Activities Committee – Pipman
     1. Information identifying participation of AAPM members in international educational activities
  4. Committee on Public Education – Hamilton
  5. Associate Website Editor for Education Council – Sprawls
     1. Content guide for website

1. Follow up on Action Items

**Action Item:** Starkschall will develop a statement regarding the DMP degree and send it to EC in the next few weeks. After EC votes, it will be sent to Professional Council for review. It will then go to the Council Chairs meeting in October and to the Board for RSNA.

This was done.

**Action Item: SUFP and MUSE committees to request funding 1 year in advance of program date. This will allow for early announcement of program allowing the ability to move up the awarding date and making the SUFP and MUSE programs more competitive with other summer programs.**

A request for such funding was brought up at the Finance Committee meeting following the EC meeting.

**Action Item:** Each committee needs to appoint WGs to develop materials for Educators Resource Guide.

TT has WG to do this; MPEP is having difficulty finding a volunteer; ETC needs to create a WG to do this. Bayouth wants to task SDAMPP Board with this task. Burmeister SC is working on this for resources in education. Nothing to prevent individuals from sending in materials, but Sprawls prefers working through the Committees.

**Action Item:** Appoint and charge a WG to oversee Virtual Library Table of Contents.

Being done by Bloch and Sprawls.

1. Chair Report
   1. EC Symposia
      1. 2013 AAPM meeting - International Educational activities – Pipman
      2. Ideas needed for 2014 AAPM meeting – Development of online didactic content
   2. EC reports in AAPM Newsletter

October 4: Education and Training of Med Phys (Bayouth)

December 8 (est): Imaging Physics residency initiative (Starkschall/Antolak)

February: Ed Council Strategic Plan (Starkschall)

April: Public Education Committee (Hamilton)

June:

* 1. Committee Chairs
     1. Bayouth term expires end of 2012 – new ETC Chair is John Gibbons
     2. Bayouth stepping down as Vice-Chair of EC – name new Vice-Chair

1. Committees
   1. Education and Training of Medical Physicists (Bayouth)
      1. Prisciandaro WG on Report 90 rewrite has submitted their report. ETC will review that report along with liaisons with SDAMPP. Do we want EC to review report now or wait until it gets out of ETC. The formal review will occur after ETC approves the document.
      2. Efforts of Online Didactic Content TG 206 (Mayo). They completed a report identifying what information presently exists online and look at current models for online didactic training of medical physicists. Their Phase II is coming to ETC. They want to create a prototype of several modules of what some online content for medical physicists would look like. One of these modules is on dosimetry, including chart checks, commissioning, etc., the second is clinical applications of DICOM. Their goal is to create a larger set of modules, and seek funding to support expansion of this activity.

Mower pointed out that this would be of significant interest to EFOMP.

* 1. Associate Website Editor for Education (Sprawls)– See attached report
     1. There was some interest in online modules. Sprawls did survey to all committees, task groups, etc. Response was not extensive. No one is ready to create modules. Major issue is how extensively is AAPM going to get into the business of education.
  2. International Education Activities Committee (Pipman)
  3. Public Education (Hamilton) –
  4. Medical Physics Education of Physicians (Rzeszotarski) – See attached report
     1. 107 people used clicker on Physics tutorial Saturday.
     2. Consider possibility of splitting out MPEP into diagnostic and therapy committees
     3. Rzeszotarski still needs to identify a replacement for when he steps down as Committee Chair.
  5. Medical Physics Education of Allied Health Personnel (Pfeiffer) – See attached report
     1. Tried to get lectures for RT better integrated into the RT track. The individual coordinating this is stepping down, so Pfeiffer is trying to identify the new individual.
     2. Working with relationship with ASRT. There was a period when relationship was difficult. Phil Heintz has good relationships with some key individuals there and has improved relations with them. Some difficulties have occurred with ASRTs placing online physics modules on their website without AAPM input. Pfeiffer working to identify new liaison.
     3. AAMD Dosimetrist Scope of Practice – Steve deBoer is working on that, but nothing new.
  6. Continuing Professional Development (Barnes) – See attached report
     1. Summer School made surplus of $50K. 2013 to be in Colorado College with Bruce Thomadsen. Topic is quality and risk. Subcommittee sent out RFP for subsequent summer schools and obtained 3 proposals. These proposals are being reviewed. Cost of SAMs is about $20 per person. HQ staff looked at purchasing ARS, but determined that would not be cost effective. Summer School looked at working with chapters.
     2. Everything on track for 2012 for RSNA. Some thought of coordinating physics tracks. There was a problem with duplication of topics with similar courses on quantitative imaging. Poor attendance at residents’ tutorial.

**Action Item:** Starkschall to bring up the following issues with RSNA Education Counci:

* Coordination of topics presented by various groups at RSNA
* Bring up adding residents’ tutorial to virtual RSNA.
* We would like RSNA to tell AAPM how many SAMs are allotted to AAPM, and have AAPM select SAMs.

1. New Business
   1. EC Strategic Planning Retreat – Possible Dates March22-23 in Chicago
2. Adjourned at 11:40 am.

Attachments:

Report of Medical Physics Education of Allied Health Personnel

AAPM Liaison to the AAMD report for 2012

Report of Associate Website Editor for Education

Report of Continuing Professional Development Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Medical Physics Education of Physicians Committee

**Medical Physics Education of Allied Health Personnel**

**Report for**

**Education Council Meeting, RSNA**

**November 25, 2012**

**ARRT**

Liaisons are doing well. There are no outstanding issues.

**RSNA/AAPM Basic Physics Lecture for Radiologic Technololgists**

This year’s lecture will be presented by Andrew Maidment, PhD and Sara Gavenonis, MD:

"Digital Breast Tomosynthesis - Physics and Clinical Considerations"

1. To define the basic physics principles underlying digital breast tomosynthesis.
2. To discuss the pitfalls and artifacts that could arise during QC, image acquisition, and image processing.
3. To illustrate the utility of digital breast tomosynthesis in clinical practice.

I have tried several times to contact Joy Renner, who is in charge of the RT Education at RSNA, about getting this lecture better integrated with the RT tracks, but with only limited response. I will attempt to meet with her in person at this meeting.

**AAMD**

Steve deBoer is active with this organization. His report is attached.

**AEIRS**

Richard Weening is our liaison to the Association of Educators in Imaging and Radiologic Sciences (AEIRS) and is now a member of the Allied Health Committee.

**ASRT**

While Phil Heinz has good relations with this organization, I’m not sure that he is the best liaison at this time, as we are trying to work more closely with them and we need someone who can devote a bit more time to growing the AAPM relationship.

**MDCB**

Mike Taylor’s report is attached. Dr. Subhash Sharma has been appointed as a second AAPM liaison per MDCB request; he was previously liaison under the auspices of ACMP.

**Educators Resource Guide**

The working group to maintain the Allied Health component has been established. Gary Sayed is chair. He reports:

1. Sent a questionnaire to all JRCERT accredited radiography program directors to survey their physics related instruction and resources. Similar questionnaires will be sent to JRCNMT and JRCDMS accredited nuclear medicine technology and ultrasound programs as well.
2. Drs. Kruger, Weening and Krugh have been invited to join the group as members.
3. I have started an initial inventory of resources based on the work done for the AERIS a few years ago.

**Charges**

Work is continuing to develop charges for the liaisons.

**AAPM Liaison to the AAMD report for 2012**

**Liaison:** Steven de Boer

As liaison to the AAMD, I was able to attend the AAMD board of directors meeting and the AAMD education committee meeting.

**AAMD board comments:**

The AAMD board would like to obtain a letter of support for their petition to the bureau of labor and statistics in defining the profession of Medical Dosimetrist. This item will be presented at the AAPM subcommittee on the training and practice of Medical Dosimetry.

The AAMD had concerns that the potential excess of Medical Physics graduates that are not placed in residency programs may influence the Medical Dosimetry job market. It was discussed that the new MDCB requirements would ensure Medical Dosimetry training prior to obtaining a CMD. It was also discussed as to the role the AAPM could take in controlling the number of medical physics graduates and available residency programs.

**AAPM Liaison to the AAMD report for 2012**

As noted from the introduction on the MDCB website, “The MDCB exists to promote excellence in cancer care by advancing the profession of medical dosimetry. The MDCB has therefore developed and maintains an ethical framework and formal mechanism for medical dosimetrists to gain certification and demonstrate continuing competency. This process has been achieved through on-going collaboration with representatives from several related radiation oncology disciplines. With respect to the common goal of the health care team who strive to provide exemplary care to patients who have cancer, the concept of acknowledging the distinct abilities of the medical dosimetrist emerged and continues to define the role of the MDCB.” (www.mdcb.org)

As of July 2012, there have been two of four scheduled face to face meetings of the MDCB. There have been numerous conference calls to discuss, review and approve various administrative Board items such as revision of the Board’s bylaws. Additionally, Webex and conference calls have been held to review exam content and delivery. For the exam, the Board has eliminated K-type items which consist of a question followed by options. The key and distractors consist of various combinations of the options presented. A major accomplishment of the Board was accreditation by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCAA) (http://www.credentialingexcellence.org).

At the January 2012 meeting, we reviewed test development, eligibility and Maintenance of Certification (MOC). There is a concerted effort underway to improve and update the item bank to take advantage of the electronic delivery features of CBT and the new item banking system. Board administrative items were discussed and reviewed or approved.

At the March 2012 meeting, we reviewed the overall CBT test quality and studied ways to improve content and delivery. MOC integration with the online CMD database was reviewed for improvement. Also, we discussed the CARE Bill legislation as it relates to the MDCB.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor, MS

AAPM Liaison to the MDCB Board

Associate Web Editor for Education, Perry Sprawls, Ph.D.  
*Report to Education Council, November, 2012*

## Educators Resource Guide The Educators Resource Guide (ERG) has now been online for one year at: <http://www.aapm.org/education/ERG/> . Most of the current content in on the *Physics and Technology of Diagnostic Radiology* and is managed by the Medical Physics Education of Physicians Committee of Education Council. The ERG is not being used extensively. During the year there were 336 entrances to the Diagnostic Radiology section and 13 to the Radiation Oncology section. There has been a definite decrease in users throughout the year. The status of development of other topics will be reported by the respective committees.

## Enhanced Search Capability for the Virtual Library Background: The content of the Virtual Library is now organized by individual programs, such as Annual Meetings, which makes it difficult to find content on specific topics, especially when it is distributed throughout many programs. Need: The ability of the membership to identify and access educational materials on specific topics will be a valuable enhancement to the Virtual Library. Current Status: Over the last few months representatives of several committees, councils, the website editor, and staff have worked together exploring the possibility of adding an appropriate search capability to the Virtual Library. Blue Sky has demonstrated the capability with an estimate of approximately $5,000 to link existing content to a new interface. There would be some additional cost in developing the new interface. Recommendations: 1. That the development of the enhancement to the Virtual Library to provide topical search capability be an activity of the *Online Learning Services Subcommittee*. 2. Because of the significant value of this enhancement to the membership for the purpose of obtaining continuing education for professional development, the Education Council should provide appropriate support as needed.

Fitting into “the Big Picture”: While our immediate initiative is to enhance the search capability for the Virtual Library for educational purposes, there are other related concerns and activities.

From Chris Marshall:  
 Jean Moran (and Science Council) has an interest in a comparable scheme for retrieving the Reports.  It makes sense to have consistency across our various products so it makes sense to have co-ordination.  I believe we have initiated such coordination via these exchanges and that this work can continue at the appropriate committee levels with staff assistance as needed.

The AIP is engaged in a major project to re-engineer the way that content is classified within MedPhys (and all their journals). The intent is to enhance Google-like search and other features. The approach (which is being engineered by a leading vendor) is built around a thesaurus of terms and related terms. We are actively involved in the development of the medical physics terminology in that thesaurus. That resource will be available to us and may find application to our interest in content retrieval from the website in the longer term.

**AAPM Hosted Web-based Educational Modules**

Background: There has been interest expressed in having the AAPM host (publish) educational modules. In order to evaluate the interests, needs, and potential applications, a survey was conducted among all committees, subcommittees, and task groups. The closing date for the survey was Nov. 10, 2012.

Survey Results: There were three (3) responses to the survey.  
1. The Radiation Oncology Medical Physics Education Subcommittee reported a need for modules on each topic in the curriculum. The suggestion was that all committees in the Education Council cooperate in the module productions.

2. TG-180 expressed an interest in producing a module on Patient Organ Dose in IGRT.

3. From an individual: I wanted to email and tell you of my strong support for AAM Online Education Materials: Individual students in our DMP Program have just recently begun to take advantage of the online materials as a reading supplement to their clinical education and training…Additionally, we are now using some of the materials as webinars/seminars such that all of our students can participate and learn as a “group”. I would like for a group or subcommittee to look into creating a “Leadership Training Module” for our graduate programs. Additionally, a module discussing the “Past Errors in Radiotherapy- from Riverside to the New York Times” would be really informative.

Conclusions: There is an apparent interest in using online modules, especially in radiation oncology physics. However, no source or plan for their production has ben proposed.   
 The results of the survey do not support an investment by AAPM in the development of a hosting capability for online modules.

**Report of the Continuing Professional Development Committee**

**To the Education Council**

**RSNA 2012**

**Summer School Subcommittee from Will Parker, SC Chair:**

**Summary of activities and goals for Summer School Subcommittee 2012**

**Goals**(Timeline 3 years)**:**

         Increase summer school revenue by increasing attendance and adjusting pricing with inflation.

**Committee has decided to raise registration fees ~$25 per year to reflect inflation (~2.5%)**

**Tasks**(Timeline 1 year)**:**

         Ensure appropriate, relevant, "hot" topics for SS, maybe through RFP process.

 An RFP was launched in September for the 2014 Summer School. The RFP closes on November 15, 2012. We will examine the submissions, and select the subject by the end of 2013.

          Examine 3, 4, and 5 day models to increase attendance by making the SS slightly less expensive in terms of cost and much less expensive in terms of time commitment.

**This will be done as the committee selects the schools, a recommendation as to the length will be made to the PDs.**

         Examine the number of faculty allotted to each school.

We plan to limit the faculty at 5 day schools to 25.

         Examine the viability of SAMs.

SAMS are relatively expensive, as they require equipment and personnel (~$6,000 for one day, ~$1000 for subsequent days). We have decided to try SAMS at (2012 and 2013) for a trial period.

         Introduce the possibility of using webinars as a means of continuing education.

**The SS are "recorded" and put on the virtual library by Blue sky. Also, the talks are available on the AAPM summer school website/**

*For next meeting:*

*1.*       *Identify “hot topics” for potential summer schools.*

**Committee will discuss, working with/combining SS with large Chapter meetings in order to minimize meeting topics overlap.**

**Online Learning Services Subcommittee from Charles Bloch, SC Chair:**

Online Learning Services Subcommittee report on AAPM Strategic Plan, Nov. 12, 2012.

Based on implementation document, my responsibility is:

|  |
| --- |
| Goal 7: Govern and manage the Association in an effective, efficient, and fiscally responsible manner. |
| Objective 1: Maintain and enhance existing primary revenue mechanisms, and develop recommendations for new revenue mechanisms. |
| Strategy 1: Monitor and enhance on-line educational materials |
| Develop recommendations for potential revenue enhancement and propose new materials for medical physicists and other potential markets |
| Online Learning Service SC |
| Charles Bloch |

**The first recommended change is to the fee schedule, which I have provided in a separate spreadsheet. The goal of these changes are two-fold. First, increasing the basic fee from $65/year to $75/year provides a modest increase in revenue. Second, lowering the fee for junior/trainee members is intended to increase the enrollment in online continuing education, with the hope that this enrollment continues when they become full members.**

Currently, I believe only about half of the AAPM membership subscribes to online CE.  I think we can increase subscriptions  based on a number of factors:

 ·         Discounts at the trainee level will help establish the value to members early in their career

·         Increased enrollment in the MOC will increase demand for online CE and SAMS

·         New MOC requirements for more self-assessment (beyond SAMS requirements) will increase demand for online CE

·         Improvements in the OLC website (search capability, navigation, breadth and quality of material available, and general look and feel) will attract more subscribers.

Another idea was proposed by Ed Barnes to **let dosimetrists have access to the Virtual Library (and CE) for an annual fee.** I think this **could be extended to non-members in general, as some**

**physicians and physician residents (preparing for the boards) might be interested as well.  Such an offer might be attractive to medical physicists who are not AAPM members as well.**

One question, however, is pricing. With AAPM members paying (the proposed) $75/year for access to online CE, we can’t very well offer it for less than that to non-members. Based on discussions I’ve had, we will not get very many subscribers to the VL content if it is priced that high. (Most people said over $10 and they would have to really see its value before they would consider it). Without the CE credits, the VL itself is of questionable value to anyone besides medical physicists. As far as the CE credits go, $75/year for unlimited credits (and SAMS) is a bargain compared to any other association. However, who else besides physicists need CAMPEP credits?

I’ve also heard that subscriptions to web-site content is not the direction the web is heading these days. Even the New York Times has difficulty getting people to pay for access. People do like buying things ala carte, however. If we were to sell individual presentations via an iTunes type service for $0.99, we could potentially generate much more revenue than selling full access for a fixed price. I view this as the most viable financial model, however there would be significant work in setting this up. I also think we would need to allow subscriber ratings of the materials as is done on iTunes, Amazon, etc.

**Another question is how to we get non-member interested in the content?** We would have to make some content available for free (e.g. webcast of the month) so people could judge its value before making a purchase. And we would have to advertise its availability in media potential customers are likely to see.

One thing I would caution against is giving access to the CE quizzes without paying the CE fee. Quiz questions can are needed for board exams, education programs, etc. We don’t want to give away that database.  We don’t want people using our quiz questions as practice exam study for free.

**Besides this, we need to greatly improve the value of our material.** There is little quality control in the virtual library. Someone proposes and educational session for a meeting, and we record it. The talk and slides have not gone through peer review or any editing process. It is whatever the lecturer sees fit. They may be good speakers, they may not be. This is one reason a subscriber review system would be useful. There is a lot of high-quality information available for free on the web (Kahn Academy, Wikipedia, Udacity, Youtube, TED, etc.) I would say most of our VL content is not up to the standards of free content available elsewhere, so consumers are not likely to pay much for it.

**Second to the quality of the material in the VL is the presentation.** Currently our search capabilities are quite antiquated and inadequate. The rest of the web has set a much higher standard as to what people expect. Our online CE experience does not meet the current standards. Our online lectures should be interactive. 5 minutes of lecture and then an interactive question. People need interaction and feedback to make these lectures beneficial. This too would be a lot of work, but I don’t see how we can expect a significant revenue increase without putting more value into our product.

**At this point, we have made modest improvements in the online CE website, and continue to make improvements. Primarily this involves fixing broken links and improving the tools to review new and existing material. More significant improvements will require more dedicated workers.**

**Organizing the VL by topic is something we have discussed at Ed council.  It is more straight forward than implementing search (either keyword based or completely free-form) and would require minimal effort, can be done quickly, and is relatively low cost ($4800 estimate from Blue Sky).**

**RSNA Education Subcommittee from Jerry Allison, SC Chair:**

**Report is the same as submitted at meeting in July.**

**Issues that need Education Council attention:**

1. Request greater participation in selection of RSNA physics SAMs sessions.

Medical Physics Education of Physicians

Sunday November 25, 2012, RSNA, Chicago

4:00 – 6:00 P.M. Chicago Hilton Room 4C (4th floor)

**Members Present**:

Mark Rzeszotarski (chair), Thad Wilson (vice chair), Karen Brown, Ron Price, Jon Anderson, Kalpana Kanal, Marleen Moore, Ioannis Sechopoulos, Max Amurao, Donald Peck, Nathan Yanasack, Tim Blackburn, Richard Behrman, Jerry Thomas, Mahadevappa Mahesh, John Bayouth

**Guests Present:**

Don-Soo Kim, Robert Dixon MD, Frank Guerner, Anshu Panda, Frank Ranallo,

Four individuals will be rotating off at the end of the year due to term limits.

**Old Business**:

1. AAPM/RSNA Tutorial on Physics in Radiology Subcommittee: R. Massoth (chair). The 2012 Breast and Chest Tomosynthesis course was conducted on Saturday with 107 total attendees. The course was excellent and some of the content will become part of a special *Radiographics* issue on tomosynthesis. The proposed topic for 2013 is “Dose Management in CT”. Potential topics for 2014 include “Communication of Radiation Risk”, “Duel Energy Imaging”, “Ultrasound Physics” or “Advances in MRI Physics”.
2. AAPM/RSNA Equipment Selection Tutorial: J. Thomas (chair, absent). The 2012 Breast and Chest Tomosynthesis course was conducted on Saturday with good attendance. The 2013 course will be linked again with the physics tutorial and will cover equipment selection for “Dose Management in CT”.
3. Imaging Physics Curricula Subcommittee: K. Kanal (chair) – This subcommittee met immediately after the MPEP committee meeting and their meeting was well attended. They are working on developing question and answer sets for each of the 17 sections of the curriculum for diagnostic radiology residents. Approximately 1/3 are completed and have been reviewed, 1/3 have been completed and are yet to be reviewed and 1/3 are in the process of being written. We hope to get them all completed and posted by March 2013 so they are available for review by residents preparing for their Core exam next September. We will likely update the curriculum several times over the next six months so that new content is made available as soon as it is ready. We also discussed the need to review the curriculum to update it somewhat now with a full review after the question and answer sets have been completed. Discussion ensued about the possibility of deleting curriculum elements relating to screen/film imaging. The subcommittee will make a recommendation at a later date.
4. Curriculum for Radiation Oncology Medical Residents Subcommittee: The revised curriculum was published in the red journal in late 2010 and has been totally taken over by ASTRO. There were no therapy physicists attending the MPEP meeting this RSNA.
5. Physics Education Task Force Subcommittee: E. Gingold (co-chair, with Robert Dixon MD). Dr. Dixon attended the meeting and provided an update. The committee is assembling a core group of individuals who will review each module to see what is needed and to negotiate their revision with the original authors or select new authors to revise the modules. One module that was removed due to copyright issues has been rewritten and will be posted soon. They will be meeting on Wednesday from 3:00 to 5:00 at RSNA in Room E258. MPEP members were invited to attend.
6. Fluoroscopy Credentialing Program Task Group (TG #124) entitled “Guide for Establishing a Credentialing Program In Fluoroscopy for the Non-Radiologist.” M. Moore (chair) – The report has been completed. Education Council recommended that their bibliography be placed on the Educator’s Resource Guide so it can be updated frequently. This will be handled by MPEP.
7. Educator’s Resource Guide Subcommittee: Due to work commitments, Nathan Yanasak has stepped down as chair. No other individuals volunteered to take over the subcommittee. There has been very little activity. We discussed the need to keep this updated and plan to send out email reminders on a periodic basis throughout the year, focusing on single topics with each emailing.
8. ROMPES – Radiation Oncology Medical Physics Education Subcommittee, Y. Xiao (Chair). This subcommittee is working on the development of medical physics and radiation biology web modules targeting radiation oncology resident education. I received no report from this subcommittee.

**New Business**:

1. Liaisons to Association of Program Directors in Radilology, American Roentgen Ray Society, ASTRO and Cardiology Organizations. Mark Rzeszotarski has been serving as the liaison to APDR since he is an Assistant Program Director and usually attends their annual meeting. Max Amurao, medical physicist from Georgetown, has agreed to serve as our liaison to ARRS. We hope to fund him to attend both their Annual Meeting (location varies) as well as their committee meetings, held in nearby Arlington VA. ARRS would also like to participate in our annual meeting by providing speakers. The Meeting Coordination Committee can examine how this might be accomplished. They are also very interested in incorporating medical physics into their annual meeting, starting in 2014. The committee discussed the liaison position with ASTRO and suggested that perhaps the ASTRO committee responsible for resident education could identify one of their members to serve as the liaison. The committee also discussed the role some of us play in the education of Cardiologists and other operators of fluoroscopy equipment. The committee decided that there was no need to create a formal liaison pathway with these groups at this time. No money has been budgeted for liaisons for 2013.
2. Medical Student Radiation Protection and Safety Lecture – The Association of Medical Student Educators in Radiology (AMSER) has expressed an interest in the development of educational content appropriate for medical students. They have a web site with content which may also be useful for resident education. Committee members were asked to examine the AMSER web materials and identify content that may be mutually beneficial.
3. Resident Education in the Era of the New ABR Core Exam – The committee discussed some of the different methods being used to provide medical physics education to residents under the new constraints of preparing residents for the 18 section Core examination taken at the end of their third year. One section is physics and one is safety and both are frequently taught by physicists. After considerable discussion, the committee asked for a survey to be conducted to identify the different methods being used to educate residents now.
4. ACGME Statements on the Role of the Physicist in Resident Education – The committee is concerned that residency programs are relying too heavily on the AAPM/RSNA web modules and are offering less face-to-face time with physicists. The ACGME rules clearly state that formal didactic instruction in medical physics must be provided but the Radiology Residency Review Committee (RRC) Frequently Asked Questions downplay the importance of formal physics instruction. Mark Rzeszotarski met with Lawrence Davis MD, chair of the RRC and the ACGME RRC staff member Lynne Meyer to discuss our concerns. The RRC has agreed to revise their FAQ to better reflect the intent of the ACGME requirement.
5. Membership – The committee discussed the mandatory roll-off of members after six years and the need to develop a leadership transition plan for the future. Vice Chair Thad Wilson has agreed to transition to the chairmanship but will need more time to get familiar with all of the MPEP activities. A request for a co-vice chair nomination yielded no volunteers.

1. Assuming 1.5 residents per year per program. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)