

AbstractID: 12121 Title: New Member Symposium/Meet the Experts

Opportunities for Young Medical Physicists

A time of challenges is a time of opportunities, especially for young people in a discipline. Never have there been more opportunities for young medical physicists. The technologies of imaging, intervention and treatment are expanding at an unprecedented rate. The same technologies are being targeted as examples of technology overutilization and excessive costs in the healthcare system. Scientists are encouraged to be more entrepreneurial in their research so that the economic competitiveness of the nation is enhanced. Physicians are demanding that medical physicists be better teachers, and graduate students are looking for mentors in medical physics. Young medical physicists have the potential to address all of these opportunities, but first they have to identify their own particular interests, talents and needs as medical physicists.

Learning Objectives:

1. Appreciate the challenges of technology evolution in health care.
2. Understand how these challenges present opportunities for medical physicists.
3. Identify the knowledge and skills that enable medical physicists to respond to technology opportunities.
4. Project how these knowledge and skills can support career development of medical physicists.