Education Council

Strategic Plan Updates

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.

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.

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