



Lisa Giove &lt;lisa@aapm.org&gt;

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## Fwd: 2012 AIMBE Congressional Symposium in Washington DC

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Angela Keyser <akeyser@aapm.org>  
To: "Giove, Lisa" <lisa@aapm.org>

Mon, Jun 25, 2012 at 10:58 AM

Lisa - please enter the text below in the liaison report system.

Thanks!  
Angela

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Norbert Pelc** <pelc@stanford.edu>  
Date: Thu, Jun 21, 2012 at 6:02 PM  
Subject: Re: 2012 AIMBE Congressional Symposium in Washington DC  
To: Gary Fullerton <gary.fullerton@ucdenver.edu>, Hende William <whendee@mcw.edu>, "Peck, Donald Phd" <donaaldp@rad.hfh.edu>, Angela Keyser <akeyser@aapm.org>

Dear colleagues

I attended the AIMBE Council of Societies. I also participated in the visits to congressional members and in the congressional briefing. The purpose of this note is to report on the meaningfulness of this to the AAPM mission. If you need more details than what I describe below don't hesitate to ask.

The Agenda is below.

As you can seem the meeting on Wednesday night had two components. There was a presentation by Matthew Hourihan, Project Director at AAAS. He presented information on the current status of federal funding in all areas of research by funding agency, with a focus on medical research. The presentation was sobering. It included predictions of what would happen next year if the sequestration kicks in, both with the original 60/40 split between defense and non-defense cuts, as well as what would happen if the attempts to put the entire burden of the cuts on non-defense spending. I don't have copies of the slides but they are available from Hourihan.

The second part was a preparation for the visits to congress members the following day. Sean Gallaher went through the talking points and materials that AIMBE prepared. I found them useful, and also found that they fairly contained material relevant to AAPM. In general, I think that the issues that matter to AAPM members were appropriately included. AIMBE has a one page

The attendees were divided into groups of 4 people, and AIMBE had arranged congressional visits for each group. I was in a group with people from Florida and South Carolina, and we visited the offices of 4 members of the House of Representatives from those states. We met only with staffers, but nonetheless it gives an opportunity to for attendees (and AIMBE) to put issues in front of congress members, albeit indirectly through the staffers. Of course, you never know what impact the visits will have, but whatever the impact is, it is more than what we would have if we were silent. AIMBE gave us packets to give to the people we visited. The packet included a one page "AIMBE Hall of Fame" that lists important advances made by the field. It included the developments of x-ray imaging, ultrasound, CT, MRI, PET, and image guided surgery. It also included information about AIMBE and it's public policy objectives, and an invitation to the Capitol Hill Briefing later that day (which included the AAPM logo). I kept a copy of the packet if you want it.

My group visited only conservative Republican house members and they are generally congressmen who are not in favor of increased research. Nonetheless, we were able to emphasize the importance of technical R&D in health care to generate companies and jobs, reduce future costs, and the direct impact on their districts. We also emphasized the importance of streamlining of FDA (which tended to resonate with them) and we told them that they should contact AIMBE if they need help in understanding issues in medical and biological technology. I think that the key to getting issues relevant to AAPM included in these visits is to have AAPM members

participate in them. I was able to talk up imaging and radiation issues with no problem, and without any resistance from the other people in my group. Indeed, as the day progressed they used medical imaging as examples. As I said, the people we talked to are not likely to immediately change their stripes and become proponents of increased research funding, but we could have some impact. Some other attendees said they were visiting people who are friends of NIBIB and research, and although they felt they were preaching to the choir they also saw benefit in reinforcing positive relationships.

The last part of the day was the Capitol Hill Briefing, which included presentations by Mehmet Toner (MGH), Bill Heetderks (NIBIB) and Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D, CT) and was MC'd by AIMBE president Raphael Lee. Raphael introduced the program as part of the celebration of the NIBIB 10th Anniversary. Toner gave a talk on his NIBIB funded research to detect circulating tumor cells, and Bill gave a talk that had content in both imaging and engineering. DeLauro is a strong supporter of medical research and NIBIB (she and Anna Eshoo sponsored the House bill that led to the creation of NIBIB). She gave a tremendously passionate talk about the importance of biomedical research, NIH and NIBIB for the welfare of the country. I think she energized the people who attended. The only thing that would have made this particular part better and more effective is if there had been more attendance from staffers. I would estimate that more than half of the audience were AIMBE and NIBIB people but there were some staffers. I think that in the future efforts should be made to increase congressional attendance. I have the impression that ARR gets better attendance to briefings, but cannot say for sure since I never attended one.

Bottom line, I think this is a worthwhile activity that AAPM should continue to support. Indeed, I think we should encourage AAPM members to participate so the interests of AAPM are even better represented in the discussions with congressional staff.

Again, let me know if you want more information.

Best regards,

Norbert

### **Federal Symposium Orientation Dinner**

#### **Tomorrow, JUNE 20, 2012**

Grand Hyatt | 1000 H Street NW, Washington, D.C., USA 20001  
"Constitution B" Room (downstairs via escalator)

#### **5:00 PM – 5:15 PM**

Welcome and Introduction  
Sean Gallagher, AIMBE Director of Public Policy

#### **5:15 PM – 6:00 PM**

Dinner and Budget Overview  
Matthew Hourihan, Project Director  
AAAS R&D Budget and Policy Program

#### **6:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

Review of AIMBE Position Papers, Talking Points, and Preparation for Morning Congressional Visits  
Sean Gallagher, AIMBE Director of Public Policy

#### **7:00 PM – 7:30 PM**

## Open Discussion Forum

**Hill Visits day****Thursday, JUNE 21, 2012****8:00 AM – 8:30 AM**

Public Policy Award Presentation to Congressman Erik Paulsen  
Bill Hawkins, AIMBE President Elect  
(Breakfast will be served)

**8:30 AM – 8:40 AM**

Public Policy Award Presentation  
Dr. Raphael Lee, AIMBE President  
Public Policy Award Recipients TBA

**8:40 AM – 8:45 AM**

Welcome and Call to Action  
Drs. Warren Grundfest and John Watson,  
AIMBE Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs

**9:00 AM – 12:30 PM**

Congressional Visits

**12:30 PM – 2:30 PM**

[Capitol Hill Briefing: A Decade of innovation in Health: Celebrating the 10 year anniversary of NIBIB](#)

**2:30 PM**

Adjourn

On May 21, 2012, at 10:33 PM, Fullerton, Gary wrote:

Nobert,

Excellent. Yes you should go ahead to make plans. I will let AAPM know that you can serve as a representative of AAPM with a copy of this note to Angela Keyser. In addition I copy some information from Sean Gallagher at AIMBE about registering for the Symposium. Sean and Angela should be able to give you all the information you need. Let me know if you need additional assistance.

AIMBE's 7th Annual Federal Symposium <http://www.aimbe.org/events/aimbes-council-of-societies-7th-annual-federal-symposium/>

Gary

Hi Gary,

I hope your week is going well. I'm reaching out this week to make a push for attendance to our Council of Societies Federal Symposium this June. Since it's a society event, we're asking each society of the council to commit 5 members to attend. I've also sent Lynne Fairbent communication as well, but as the Council Representative for AAPM, I wanted to see if you had any individuals that AAPM could send, or if you had anyone in mind that I should reach out to. Folks in the local MD, VA and DC area usually are fairly apt to taking the time to attend, and if there are any local AAPM members I could reach out to that would be a great start.

Thanks Gary, and I hope you have a great weekend.  
-Sean

Sean Gallagher  
Director of Public Policy  
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE)  
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[www.aimbe.org](http://www.aimbe.org)  
Providing Leadership & Advocacy for Medical and Biological Engineering for the Benefit of Society

Register for AIMBE's 7th Annual Federal Symposium and advocate your issues to the 112th Congress! June 20 & 21, 2012, Washington, DC.

AIMBE's College of Fellows Nominations  
AIMBE Fellows and Council Reps Nominate your Colleagues for the COF!  
Deadline: May 1, 2012

Gary D. Fullerton, PhD  
Director Colorado Translational Research Imaging Center  
University of Colorado  
Anschutz Medical Campus  
Department of Radiology, C278  
12700 E 19th Ave., Room 1201  
Aurora CO 80045  
Phone: 303-724-4185  
Fax: 303-724-3795

-----Original Message-----

From: Norbert Pelc [mailto:[pelc@stanford.edu](mailto:pelc@stanford.edu)]  
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 8:18 PM  
To: Fullerton, Gary  
Cc: Hendee, William; Peck, Donald Phd  
Subject: Re: 2012 AIMBE Congressional Symposium in Washington DC

Gary, I don't know if we closed the loop on this, but I can attend the symposium. Should I go ahead and make plans?

Norbert

On May 14, 2012, at 10:04 AM, Fullerton, Gary wrote:

Norbert,

Bill Hendee and I represent AAPM on the Council of Societies (COS) at the American

Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering which created the concept of an AIMBE sponsored symposium on Capitol Hill to educate congressmen and their staff personnel on bioengineering issues relative to new legislation. See the web site:

<http://www.aimbe.org/events/aimbes-council-of-societies-7th-annual-federal-symposium>

eral-symposium

AAPM participation to date has been sporadic and poorly organized (at least in my opinion). Initially I thought participation hardly worth the AAPM investment but my opinion has changed as the symposium has become more organized and effective over the past 7 years.

As a result I proposed this year that AAPM send one or two representatives in 2012 with the assignment to report back to the association about how the opportunities to represent the developing interests of radiation oncology and diagnostic imaging engineering and physics can be improved. Bill and I both considered going but have competing commitments that cannot be changed.

You were proposed as a possible AAPM representative. Would you be interested? If so, I will give you a call to discuss the details. The sessions are scheduled for June 21-22 in Washington DC and AAPM would reimburse your expenses on receipt of your travel report and claim. If it is more convenient you can give me a call at my office (number below) or on my cell phone [210-387-1192](tel:210-387-1192) at your convenience. Alternatively if you give me a contact time I will call you at your office. I will be in my office most of the day today.

Gary

Gary D. Fullerton, PhD

Director Colorado Translational Research Imaging Center University of

Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Department of Radiology, C278

12700 E 19th Ave., Room 1201

Aurora CO 80045

Phone: [303-724-4185](tel:303-724-4185)

Fax: [303-724-3795](tel:303-724-3795)

-----Original Message-----

From: Hendee, William [mailto:[whendee@mcw.edu](mailto:whendee@mcw.edu)]

Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 8:58 AM

To: Peck, Donald Phd; Fullerton, Gary

Cc: Angela Keyser ([akeyser@aapm.org](mailto:akeyser@aapm.org))

Subject: RE: 2012 AIMBE meeting

Pelc would be a good choice - if he's willing to do it. Bill

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From: Peck, Donald Phd [[donaldp@rad.hfh.edu](mailto:donaldp@rad.hfh.edu)]

Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 9:53 AM

To: 'Fullerton, Gary'

Cc: Hendee, William; Angela Keyser ([akeyser@aapm.org](mailto:akeyser@aapm.org))

Subject: RE: 2012 AIMBE meeting

I would need to have others weigh in on Norbert Pelc as representing the AAPM. If they agree it may be easier for you to explain the need for the AIMBE work and ask for his participation.

Donald

From: Fullerton, Gary [<mailto:Gary.Fullerton@ucdenver.edu>]

Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 9:33 AM

To: Peck, Donald Phd; Hendee, William; Angela Keyser  
([akeyser@aapm.org](mailto:akeyser@aapm.org))

Cc: Fullerton, Gary

Subject: RE: 2012 AIMBE meeting

Donald,

If Norbert Pelc is available he would be excellent. If you don't know him well I could give him a call and share with him what AAPM would want to get out of his participation. I believe participation in this Symposium over the coming decade will become a useful tool for the goals of AAPM but we need to become better organized about using the tool properly.

Gary

Sean Gallagher

Director of Public Policy

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