

NCCHPS

The Newsletter of the Northern California Chapter of the Health Physics Society
November 2009 - January 2010



The NCCHPS-AAPM Bay Area November 2009 Joint Meeting...

Thursday, November 19, 2009
Michael's at Shoreline, Mountain View

6 pm - Social Hour
7 pm - Dinner
8 pm - Presentation

Presentation

Radiosurgery: Past, Present, and Future



Abstract: Radiosurgery has evolved from relatively obscure beginnings in Sweden to become not only an essential tool in the management of brain tumors, but increasingly an indispensable tool for extracranial tumors. This lecture will highlight the major advances in radiosurgery over the more than 5 decades since its emergence and introduce some of the new cutting edge applications.

About the Speaker: *Iris C. Gibbs, MD is an Associate Professor at Stanford University where she is also Director of Education in the Department of Radiation Oncology. She has built strong clinical programs in the management of central nervous system neoplasms and robotic radiosurgery. As co-Director of the Stanford Cyberknife program, Dr. Gibbs has developed a well recognized program that explores new applications for robotic radiosurgery. She serves as both the Stanford Radiation Oncology Residency Director as well as the Radiation Oncology Student Clerkship Director. She plans to continue to build multi-disciplinary programs to train the future leaders in Radiation Oncology. She is the recipient of numerous awards and grants including the Professional Leadership Awards, Center of Excellence Faculty Fellowship and an ASTRO Travel Award. She is the author of numerous publications involving radiosurgery and is currently involved in a number studies and trials in both radiotherapy and radiosurgery.*

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NCCHPS President's Column



Fresh from the California Radiation Safety Officers meeting held September 21 and 22, I wanted to forward some important news to our chapter. Mike Zittle, the Assistant Radiation Safety Officer at Oregon State University informed the group that a NRC public meeting web broadcast would take place on October 7, 2009. Mike was asked by the NRC to compile a list of research activities that are impacted by low level waste issues affecting academic and medical institutions. Mike presented to the NRC these three key issues that we all know so well (1) Lack of disposal capacity and disposal options (2) Excessive disposal cost (3) Onsite storage poses storage and security challenges. While the results of the webinar are not in yet, I have hopes that there might be some circulation in high places on this important issue.

Newsletter changes: The board recently approved allowing affiliate advertisements in the newsletter. Affiliates with current NCCHPS membership can now post a one quarter page add in our newsletter for \$200. I think this will not only help support the chapter but provide a new opportunity for our Affiliates to match new products to a group whose needs they've come to know so well.

Volunteerism makes the world go round, and certainly the NCCHPS world. Who rocks us by working behind the scenes to ensure the smooth functioning of our Chapter activities? They are Warren TenBrook (Newsletter Editor), Charles T. Schmidt (Chair, Moyer Fellowship Committee AND Financial Committee), and Nelson Chu (Affiliates Liaison). Also thank you Ruedi Birenheide from National for updating our website!

I hope to next see everyone at our November joint AAPM meeting,

Dawn Banghart
President, NCCHPS

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MOYER FELLOWSHIP UPDATE by Charles Schmidt

This upcoming meeting will be your last chance this calendar year to contribute to the Moyer Fellowship fund (think "Tax deductions!").

On November 12, 1988 the NCCHPS board of directors voted to adopt a balanced investment policy involving ownership of mutual funds and insured certificates of deposit for the Burton J. Moyer Graduate Fellowship fund. When the Moyer fellowship was established, it was premised to be a perpetual annual award. That objective has become somewhat more difficult given our present asset level, the economic uncertainty and low interest rates. A draw rate of 6% or 7% from an endowment might be considered sustainable on average but that has not been true over the past decade for most investments. Even the "astutely managed" University of California Retirement Plan has needed to reinstate contributions from its active members because of investment losses.

NCCHPS members are encouraged to donate to the Moyer Fund this year if possible. In July we sent our 2009 commitment of \$4000 to national for this year's award. This could not have happened without the generous support of our sister Sierra Nevada Chapter and support from you! The bad news is that since May, 2009, total contributions to the fund were \$100. To those few who have contributed many thanks, to those who have contributed in the past and to those who have never contributed - now is the time !

Donations may be made by check payable to NCCHPS with the notation "Moyer Fund donation" included on the Memo line and sent or given to the chapter treasurer Jesse Hendricks.

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The January 2010 NCCHPS-AIHA-NCS Joint Meeting

NCCHPS and American Industrial Hygiene Association-Northern California Section (AIHA-NCS) will hold a joint meeting in the Oakland area on Tuesday, January 12, 2010.

Christina Juarez from the health and safety staff of Diablo Canyon Power Plant will offer the technical presentation.

More information will be provided to NCCHPS members as arrangements are finalized. We look forward to seeing you there!

NCCCHPS

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43rd Annual Midyear Meeting of the Health Physics Society

January 24 - 27, 2010

Albuquerque Convention Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Radiation Risk Communication to the Public

The Rio Grande Chapter and the Committee for Communications and Outreach of the Health Physics Society are pleased to announce the 43rd Annual Midyear Meeting of the Health Physics Society, *Radiation Risk Communication to the Public*. The 2010 HPS Professional Development School, *Radiation Risk Communication – Issues and Solutions*, will follow on 27 January (evening reception) through 29 January (noon) 2010, in Albuquerque. The Academic Dean is Ray Johnson.

The conference hotel is the Doubletree Hotel, 201 Marquette Avenue Northwest, Albuquerque, New Mexico. A block of rooms have been reserved for January 21, 2010 - January 29, 2010. The special room rate will be available until January 1, 2010 or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first.

For more details, visit the HPS website: <http://hps.org/meetings/meeting22.html>

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- Ludlum Measurements
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- Lab Impex Systems – area and stack monitoring system
- XRF Corp – Hand Held Isotopic Identifier with CdTe detector
- Ordela Inc – alpha scintillation detector and alpha spectrometers
- TSA Systems – SNM monitors and mobile GPS survey systems.
- Bladewerx – alpha spectra, continuous air particulate monitors
- Shieldwerx - Polyethylene-Based Gamma & Neutron Shielding

For additional details, visit our website.

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Upcoming NCCHPS Meetings

January 12, 2010

March 18, 2010
(subject to change)

May 20, 2010

Visit NCCHPS on the Web:

<http://hpschapters.org/ncchps/>

Direct input for our next
newsletter to:

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The Next NCCHPS Meeting!

November 19, 2009 - Joint meeting with AAPM

Michaels at Shoreline, 2960 N Shoreline Blvd,
Mountain View CA 94043

Telephone: (650) 962-1014

<http://www.michaelsatshoreline.com/index.html>

Free parking available at Michael's.

Cost:

NCCHPS members \$30 (\$35 @ door)

NCCHPS member's Spouses \$35

Students \$10

Non-members \$40

Deadline: Please register by November 15, 2009!

Menu:

Breast of Chicken, Herb Butter Sauce

Broiled Salmon, Lemon Beurre Blanc

Spinach and Cheese Tortellini Alfredo

All Meals Served with:

Seasonal Greens, "intermezzo" pasta, fresh vegetables, potato du jour, french rolls and coffee.

Dessert: Apple Strudel

<http://hpschapters.org/ncchps/dinner.php3>

Only online registrations will be accepted. Contact
Jesse Hendricks ONLY if you encounter problems
with online registration: jhendricks@berkeley.edu

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