

Ohio River Valley Chapter Newsletter

ORVC Spring Educational Symposium 2017

The Ohio River Valley Chapter hosted our Spring Educational Symposium on April 14th and 15th in Lexington, KY. The Friday events started off by holding the chapter's second annual mock oral event. This year we were happy to see 16 participants converge at the Griffin Gate Marriott to practice conveying their knowledge of medical physics to volunteer examiners.



Figure 1: Griffin Gate Marriott April 2017 in Lexington, Kentucky



Figure 2: Night out event with chapter Members at Shakespeare and Co. in Lexington, KY

The official meeting events began Friday night with a poster session and Meet and Greet where physicists, students, residents, and vendors were able to catch up with colleagues, network with new people, and discuss current research within the chapter. The social opportunities continued to the sponsored night out event held at Shakespeare and Co.

On Saturday the event was started by a TG-281 presentation by AAPM Secretary, Todd Pawlicki, to discuss the current government assessment project. Guest speakers included Bill Salter presenting motion management considerations for lung SBRT, Janelle Molloy sharing her experience with educational economics and the evolution of medical physics education, and Brent Parker with helpful information on a physicist's role in supervision in the clinic.



Figure 3: Saturday meeting with Dr. Bill Salter presenting SBRT lung data

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How to claim your SA-CME credits from the spring meeting

Simply retain the program from this meeting, with the attestation that you have attended, and you may count this for 3 SA-CME credits.



Webmaster Needed

We are seeking a new webmaster to maintain the chapter website. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Nicholas Sperling.

Nicholas.Sperling@utoledo.edu

AAPM Annual Meeting

If you will be at the Annual meeting in Denver, CO this summer, please stop by and see our Ohio River Valley Chapter history poster.

ORVC Spring Meeting cont.

The afternoon was filled with insightful research from students and residents within our chapter. This year there was a wide variety of topics presented among the thirteen presenters from across our region. The winner of this year's competition was Elijah Martin of the University of Louisville with his investigation of a source model for use with a new electronic brachytherapy tandem using film measurements. Second place was awarded to Eric Miller of the University of Kentucky, and third place went to Spenser Murphy of the University of Kentucky.

We would like to thank all of the vendors that made this event possible. We appreciate all of the guest speakers and students that shared their research for the symposium. Finally, we would like to thank the volunteers examiners that helped make the mock oral possible and all of the hard work of the chapter officers for another successful meeting.



Figure 4: President Dr. Wei Luo with winner of the student research awards, Elijah Martin, Eric Miller, and Spenser Murphy



Figure 5: Current and past officers at the conclusion of the meeting. Ashley Cetnar (Secretary-Treasurer), Peter Sandwall (president-elect), Nicholas Sperling (Past-President), Chris Allgower (former President), Michael Gossman (Board of Directors member and former President), and Wei Luo (current President)

Letter from our Chapter Board of Directors Member

Dear ORVC Members,

As a personal philosophy on leadership, I have always sought to improve upon tradition. Believing that change is inevitable, it should be the task and challenge for the leader to determine which direction those changes need to go. Consequently, I have decided to begin a quarterly letter to the ORVC membership, as your elected member of the Board of Directors within the AAPM. This effort may then bring you to be more aware of hot topics are on our national stage. It is often that many of us travel to the AAPM annual meeting to hear about such subject matter. Yet, if we are not able to attend, we may not hear about the more important AAPM issues at all. Perhaps my message here will be beneficial in either event, since there are some items that are discussed at Board of Directors Meetings that relate to past, present and future. While I find that discussing the minutes of everything to be inefficient, I would like to educate you on some of the more important topics from the various meetings and conference calls held, and focus more on our future than where we once were.

Letter from our Board Representative cont.

Within this quarter, there were again heightened initiatives and significant amounts of time spent by committees discussing the various possibilities for changing our overall AAPM governing structure. For many years, dating back to at least 2005, medical physics leaders have negatively critiqued the established AAPM structure as being strategically not in-line with the organization's mission statement and objectives.

http://www.aapm.org/org/objectives_ev.asp

Internal overviews by previous AAPM committee have proven that current operation are continuously obstructed, albeit in different ways, in the areas of research and development, dissemination of information within the field and outside of the field to the public, education of medical physicists, professional development of members, and promotion of high-quality medical services. One example of a common critique is that there are too many too many governing bodies, with overlapping supervision, that impede the progress of efficient decision making. This slows down Task Groups that are intending on publishing guidance for not months but years! Another example of ongoing problems is explained with the current allowance for some individuals be part of more than one high positioned voting committee. Politically, a person with high rank can have more than one Committee Chair position. Associated with that, a member of one voting committee can perhaps even named a liaison from one committee, and while sitting on that other committee be allowed to vote again. Then, more than one vote on a given key issue for the AAPM governance is possible by that same individual. There are other examples for sure, but I will stop there. This led to an overall interest to reformat the government hierarchy.

In 2015, the AAPM created the Ad Hoc Committee on Governance Assessment (AHC GA) to look at these issues and suggest alternative structures for the AAPM at the top of the committee tree. By recommendation from an experienced independent non-profit consulting group and still in conjunction with them, the AHC GA dissected the structures of similar societies including ASTRO, RSNA and SNMMI and compared each to our own. A complete overhaul was discussed and recommended as necessary. This is not a simple task. The change will affect the language of our Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, Rules and Council/Committee organization. The efforts of the AHC GA are reported to the Board of Directors, who oversees this committee, and who is currently the highest board within the AAPM under the current structure.

http://aapm.org/org/structure/?committee_code=BRD
https://www.aapm.org/org/structure/default.asp?committee_code=BRD

There has been considerable effort by many members on the Board of Directors, including myself, to maintain regional power at the table. It is important that all Chapters in the AAPM have a voice that can be recognized and heard at a high level. Although there are no projected topics of pursuit that impact our regional activities here currently, other than the ever-present outpouring of new or updated formal guidance from Task Groups and Working Groups and slow but marked interest to educate state officials to require licensure, that does not mean that something will never come down the pike that we have to deal with later. After having been in the field for more than 20 years and having been on many different kinds of committees and Task Groups, I see the change as necessary. We must improve upon the traditions we have, in order to improve as a society. My vote is in.

For more information, please feel free to monitor the AAPM forum on this subject, and make it a point to attend a session devoted to more broad explanations of the changes proposed at the upcoming annual meeting. If you have a specific question, please feel free to send it along to me directly or alternatively to one of your ORVC Officers to get to me for consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Gossman, M.S., DABR, FAAPM

Chapter Representative Board Member from ORVC

Upcoming Meeting Announcement: Innovations in Immobilization and Patient Setup Symposium

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center –

Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute

Friday, May 19th - Saturday, May 20*

*Please plan on attending a welcome reception on Thursday, May 18 at 7pm, at the Hilton East.

visit www.cancer.osu.edu/immobilization

Course Description

The symposium will be taught by national experts and will provide a balanced, multidisciplinary review, discussion and hands-on lab exercises on the state of radiotherapy immobilization and patient setup. It will address specific clinical treatment sites/modalities, including breast, head and neck, stereotactic radiosurgery and stereotactic body radiotherapy. To provide an in-depth review, the symposium will include didactic sessions delivered by radiation oncologists, medical dosimetrists, medical physicists and radiation therapists. The second day will include opportunities for hands-on learning about immobilization products and strategies from advanced users from across the nation.

Intended Audience

Medical physicists, radiation therapists, medical dosimetrists, and students in all of these fields, and radiation oncology and medical physics residents. **Student/resident reduced rate is now available for registration.**

Credits

12 credits have been approved by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs (CAMPEP) and up to 12 credits from the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) and the Medical Dosimetrist Certification Board (MDCB) have been applied for.

For any questions please contact: Sarah.schmidt@osumc.edu



This program has been Endorsed by the AAPM. AAPM does not endorse the product in question: rather, it endorsed the educational component of the program.



ORVC Newsletter Contact

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