

Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology

JRCNMT News



In Memoriam



The JRCNMT lost two women this year who played integral roles in the organization. **Elaine Cuklanz** was an appointee to the newly formed JRCNMT in 1975. At that time the organization had no office or staff—volunteer board members handled everything! The organization grew and a staffed office became necessary in 1981. Elaine was hired as Executive Director and tirelessly filled that role until her retirement in December 2007.

Elaine became proficient at interpreting and applying US Department of Education regulations and was known as a leader in this area within the accrediting community.

Though she was quiet and reserved, Elaine was a strong advocate for quality education in nuclear medicine technology and formed the JRCNMT into the organization that it is today.



Sue Weiss served on the JRCNMT Board of Directors from 1994 through 2003 and was a site visitor for 15 years. She was thorough and no-nonsense when conducting visits to ensure students were obtaining the best education possible so they could move the profession of nuclear medicine technology forward in the future.



The contributions of these women to the field of nuclear medicine technology, and more specifically the education of nuclear medicine technologists, is immeasurable. They will be greatly missed but their legacies live on.

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New Standards Are Complete!

The long-awaited update of the *Essentials* has been completed. The revised document will have a new name, *Accreditation Standards for Nuclear Medicine Technologist Education* and will be referred to as *The Standards*.

The document, along with a companion accreditation procedures manual, will be mailed to Program Directors in early January 2010. The effective or implementation date of the new standards is January 2011.

Questions have arisen about how the effective date is applied to programs that begin a new class of students at a time other than January. A program must implement the new prerequisites and professional curricu-

lum for the first class beginning the program in 2011. Program curricula should not change for a class midway through the program therefore, a class of students beginning August 2010 and graduating July 2011 will follow the curriculum in the current *Essentials*, unless the program wishes to implement the new curriculum when the class matriculates in 2010.

In 2010 this newsletter will devote space to implementation issues regarding the new Standards and the JRCNMT session at the 2010 SNM annual conference will be devoted to the topic. Staff are also happy to assist programs during this transition so don't hesitate to call or send an email to the office.

2010 Annual Fees

Invoices for 2010 annual accreditation fees will be mailed to programs on January 4, 2010. Fees did not increase for 2010 and are computed as follows:

\$990	sponsor fee
\$990	co-sponsor fee (if applicable)
\$160	per major, academic and Candidate affiliate

One invoice will be sent to each sponsor for the entire program's fees. As announced earlier this year, there will no longer be billing to individual affiliates as some programs had requested in the past.

If you are no longer using an affiliate listed on the bill and you wish to delete them from your program's roster please contact the office for directions on how to do this correctly. A new

invoice can be generated or you may mark adjustments on the original invoice. Deletion of a clinical affiliate requires formal notification to the JRCNMT and review by the executive officers so a memo formally requesting deletion of an affiliate must also be sent to the office.



Program Change Form on Website



Earlier this year all self-study and affiliate application forms became available on the JRCNMT website in an electronically fillable format using Adobe Acrobat. At the end of this month a new e-form will become available on the website.

This form serves as a coversheet when a program reports a change in its contact information or a change in program or affiliate personnel. It is also used to report removal of a clinical affiliate or to request an increase or decrease in the approved

student capacity at a clinical affiliate. The form indicates the supporting information that must be included with the request and has room to provide an explanation or rationale for the requested change. Program directors can use this form to report or request changes rather than writing a memo or letter.

As always, the JRCNMT staff is available to answer your questions about program changes and the technical use of e-forms.

Communication With Site Visitors

Site visitors perform an invaluable service to the JRCNMT, taking time from work and their personal life to be a volunteer peer-reviewer during the site evaluation process. Unlike some other accrediting agencies, JRCNMT site visitors are not staff of the agency and they are not paid to conduct site visits.

Program Directors are given site visitors' business and sometimes personal contact information for one reason—to facilitate scheduling of the visit. When the visit concludes, the site visitors' role in the accreditation process is complete. For this reason the JRCNMT requests that programs refrain from utilizing site visitor contact

information to communicate with these volunteers at home or work after the visit. All questions, comments and complaints related to the site visit should be directed to the JRCNMT office.

A site visitor's role when visiting a program is to validate information described in the self-study and follow-up on issues noted by the self-study reviewers. They do not make accreditation decisions nor do they recommend them to the board within their report. They should not be contacted post-visit by program faculty or administration to defend their preliminary findings, speculate on final board action or mediate disputes within a program.

JRCNMT
2000 W. Danforth Road
Suite 130, #203
Edmond, OK 73003
Ph 405.285.0546
Fx 405.285.0579
jrcnmt@coxinet.net
www.jrcnmt.org



2010 Board of Directors

The JRCNMT Board of Directors is comprised of two public members and three appointees from each of the following organizations: SNM, SNM-Technologist Section, American College of Radiology (ACR) and the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT).

Public Members

Thomas Richmond, PhD Darla Smith, BS

SNM Appointees

Hung Q. Dam, MD

Christine Z. Dickinson, MD

Hadyn T. Williams, MD, FACNP

SNM-TS Appointees

Frances K. Keech, MBA, RT(N), FSNMTS

Mary Anne Owen, MHE, RT(N), FSNMTS

Leesa Ross, MA, RT(N), CNMT, PET

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Gary L. Dillehay, MD, FACNP, FACR

Anthony P. Yudd, MD, PhD

ASRT Appointees

Vesper Grantham, MEd, RT(N), CNMT

Marcus Meadows, RT(N), CNMT, NCT

Richard States, MBA, RT(N), CNMT

JRCNMT Staff

Jan Winn, MEd, RT(N), CNMT
Executive Director

Lillian Heron
Administrative Assistant

Congratulations!

The JRCNMT recognizes the following programs receiving initial accreditation in 2009:

Briarwood College

Southington, Connecticut

Macomb Community College

Warren, Michigan

Reaccreditation 2010

The following programs are up for reaccreditation in 2010:

University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL

GateWay Community College, AZ

Jackson Memorial Hospital, FL

Hillsborough Community College, FL

Mercy College of Health Sciences, IA

College of DuPage, IL

Triton College, IL

Indiana University, IN

Delgado Community College, LA

University of North Carolina Hospitals, NC

Caldwell Community & Technical College, NC

Muhlenberg Snyder School of Medical Imaging, NJ

St. Vincent's Hospital - Manhattan, NY

Cedar Crest College, PA

Southeast Technical Institute, SD

Amarillo College, TX

University of the Incarnate Word, TX

Wheeling Jesuit University, WV

Individuals wishing to make comments about a program accredited by or seeking JRCNMT accreditation must do so in writing. Comments must relate to current accreditation standards, the program must be identified and the person submitting the comments must include his/her name, address and telephone number.