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2008 Joyce P. Davis Memorial Award

Paul S. Rohwer, Chair, Professional Standards and Ethics Committee

The 2008 Joyce P. Davis Memorial Award was presented to Howard W. Dickson during the AAHP Awards Luncheon at the 53rd Health Physics Society Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. The award is given in honor of Ms. Davis to recognize her efforts to uphold the ethics of the profession of health physics. Recipients of this award are distinguished for excellence in professional achievement as well as being admired for ethical behavior and interpersonal skills. Previous recipients of the award are John J. Kelly, James E. Tarpinian and Carol D. Berger. Regis Greenwood presented the award to Mr. Dickson.

Mr. Dickson is recognized for the 2008 award as a decisive team player with strong leadership, communication and interpersonal skills. His dedication to the profession and the Academy are clearly demonstrated through his extensive voluntary service to both. He has an outstanding record of service to the AAHP, the American Board of Health Physics and the Health Physics Society. In addition to his volunteer work, Mr. Dickson has had an outstanding professional career. In all of his interactions he has shown consistently high ethical behavior treating his colleagues with mutual respect, trust and dignity. Those supporting his nomination for this award attested to his high level of principled conduct both personally and professionally. One supporter aptly described Howard as providing a moral and ethical compass that always points toward “doing the right thing.” Howard W. Dickson exemplifies the qualities that Joyce P. Davis lived in her daily life.

From the Parliamentarian’s Corner

David Myers, Parliamentarian

It has been another quiet year in the office of the parliamentarian. I am completing my third year as parliamentarian for the AAHP and will be handing off the duties to Steve Rima who will take over at the AAHP meeting in San Antonio.

One of the main duties of the parliamentarian is to make sure that the AAHP Executive Meetings are run according to Robert’s Rules of Order. This task has been made easy during the past three years because of the capable leadership of Presidents Jim Bogard, Ed Maher, and Nancy Kirner.

The other important duty is to keep an official copy of the AAHP’s documents including the bylaws, committee charters, and other standard operating procedures. The parliamentarian makes sure that the webmaster has the latest version of all of the documents for posting on the AAHP website <http://www.hps1.org/aahp>. All of these documents are available for members of the AAHP to review. These documents are particularly useful for AAHP committee members to review in carrying out their responsibilities. These documents are formally reviewed every year to make sure that they are current.

One of the procedures approved by the AAHP Executive Committee during this past year is SOP 1.1.2, which is

the Academy Service Award. It is awarded to individuals who have provided exceptional service to the Academy during the immediate Past-President's term of office. At the AAHP luncheon in Pittsburgh, Ed Maher presented this award to Nancy Johnson who has been the AAHP Program Director since the formation of the Academy. As a member of the American Board of Health Physics before there was an AAHP and before we had an Executive Secretary or a Program Director, I can particularly appreciate the enormous and continuing contributions that Nancy has made to the AAHP and the ABHP.

Another change made last year that is worth mentioning again is the revision of the AAHP Bylaws clarifying how a CHPs who haven't maintained their certification can represent themselves professionally. The revision clearly states that to represent yourself as a CHP, you have to fulfill the requirements for certification renewal including paying the renewal fees. This revision impacts over 300 individuals who have gone through the certification process but have not maintained their certification through the renewal process. This change, of course, does not impact those who have applied and qualified for CHP emeritus status or have declared themselves inactive CHPs since they are no longer working in the field of health physics. I would invite all active CHPs to encourage colleagues to update their CHP certification if they have not done so.

In conclusion, I move that this article be adjourned. Do I hear a second?

ABHP EXAM APPLICATION REMINDER

Complete applications to take either part of the 2009 ABHP examination must be filed with the Secretariat, postmarked no later than **15 January 2009**. Application information may be found at <http://www.hps1.org/aahp/application.htm>.

Professional Standards and Ethics Committee

Paul S. Rohwer, Chair

The limited activity of the Professional Standards and Ethics Committee during this past year suggests that all Certified Health Physicists have conducted themselves in a professional and ethical manner. There were no complaints referred to the PS&E Committee by the Executive Committee.

At the request of the Executive Committee this committee continued to consider the question of what action, if any, should the Academy take when a CHP is convicted of a felony? Review of the AAHP Operations Documents (Preamble and Bylaws, Standing Committee Charters, SOPs, and GTTK documents) did not identify specific guidance for dealing with applicants and diplomates who are convicted felons. A survey of other not-for-profit organizations operating certification programs indicates that there is no predominant approach, strategy or policy among these peers on this issue. The AAHP "Standards of Professional Responsibility for CHPs" are directed at how we practice our profession and have nothing specific to felonies and other nonprofessional transgressions. Our standards do include the following words: "The CHP shall not act in a manner that may bring the profession or the Academy into disrepute." and "The CHP shall maintain the highest standards of integrity and fairness in his/her professional interactions with employers, colleagues, workers, clients, government agencies, and the general public." In the coming months the committee will be summarizing its finding on this open question for the Executive Committee.

Professional Standards and Ethics Committee members, in addition to the Chair, are: Karen Barcal, Regis Greenwood, Ruth McBurney, and Cheryl Olson.

Exam Site Committee Activities

Larry R. Sanders, Chair

On a yearly basis, remote exam locations are supported due to the commitment of CHPs from around the country. Without the overwhelmingly positive volunteer CHP response there would be no remote exam locations. These locations provide candidates exam access close to home in all regions of the United States

(including Hawaii!). This year there were 14 exam sites established with 36 CHP exam proctors. Many e-mails and phone calls were made to set up these exam sites. The job was made easier by CHPs who volunteered their facilities for the exam without solicitation. Therefore, I would like to express my appreciation for all the individuals who participated behind the scenes. I would like to thank the exam site committee members, April Chance, Matthew Arno and John Gough for coordinating the exams in their respective regions. I would also like to thank Nancy Johnson of the Secretariat for coordinating with this committee. Finally, I would like to thank this year's exam site volunteers:

Aiken, SC	Michael Matheny, Conrad Morgan
Boulder, CO	John Hackett, Ted Borst
Gaithersburg, MD	Janna Shupe, James Tracy, Keith Consani
Honolulu, HI	Ron Frick
Idaho Falls, ID	Paul Ruhter, Brad Schrader, Paul Ritter
Las Vegas, NV	Walter Wegst, Stacy Junio
Los Alamos, NM	David Lee, Dave Styers
Oak Ridge, TN	Mark McHugh, Myra Long
Jonathan Wallace, Scott Davidson, Todd Davidson, John Lebda, Kristina Meigs, Jerry Rosen, Glenn Sturchio	
Richland, WA	Eugene Carbaugh, Jason Armstrong
San Antonio, TX	Steven Dewey, Jim Lewis, Noel Montgomery
San Francisco, CA	Anthony Sorensen, David Barron, Tracy Kiellman
St. Louis, MO	Kay Foster, April Chance
Upton, NY	Charles Schaefer, Richard Reciniello