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Part II Examination Panel

David W. Burkett, CHP, Chair

The Part II Panel workshop was held 23-24 January 2010, just before the Health Physics Society midyear meeting in Albuquerque. Eighteen members of the panel were able to attend the workshop.

Participation on the panel is a very rewarding experience and involves a significant commitment for each of the panel members. In exchange for their hard work, panel members obtain a significant number of recertification points and can receive travel support for attendance at the workshop during the midyear meeting. If you are considering serving on the panel, here is a synopsis of what you can expect each year during your four-year term.

After the examination is given in July, grading activities begin. Panel members and American Board of Health Physics Board members work in teams of three to grade each of the questions that are assigned by the panel chair. A panel member typically grades one core question, which all candidates are required to take, and one topical question, which a candidate elects to complete during the examination. The team leader compiles the results for the team and ensures that the grades from each of the three grades are consistent. This process is usually completed by the early fall.

In the late fall, the new panel chair makes question assignments for each panel member. Typically each member works to develop two questions: one 50-point question from one of the core topics of health physics (personnel dosimetry, shielding and activation, measurements and instrumentation, and biological effects of radiation) and one 100-point question from one of the topical areas (accelerators, environmental, fuel cycle, medical, power reactors, university, and general health physics). These questions are submitted to the chair in time for formatting for the panel workshop. This is

usually completed a few weeks before the panel workshop.

The panel workshop is an intense two-day period of review and improvement to develop questions and stock solutions from each of the submitted questions. At the end of the workshop, the top three choices for each core question and each topical area question are selected for further consideration. The panel chair takes these questions and prepares them for the balloting round. A few weeks after the workshop, the balloting round begins. Each panel and board member ranks the 12 core questions and the top three questions for the topical portion of the exam. The panel chair tallies the results and begins the final question-development process. This ends the panel member's duties until the grading process begins in the summer.

These individual panel members put in a tremendous effort during this process that supports both the candidates and the current certified health physicists. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all for participating:

Vice Chair Dan Menchaca, Past Chair Andy Miller, Erik Abkemeier, Richard Adams, Kelly Ausbrooks, Jack Buddenbaum, Bob Burkhart, Jeff Chapman, Derek Favret, Robert Ford, Wayne Gaul, Joe Guido, Willie Harris, Benny Hooda, Greg Jones, Bryan Lemieux, Allen Mabry, Bob May, Hans Oldewage, Gus Potter, Dennis Quinn, Glenn Sturchio, Johnafred Thomas, Tosh Ushino, and Wei-Hsung Wang.

If you are interested in participating on the panel, please indicate your interest when you submit your American Academy of Health Physics annual dues, or contact me (david.burkett@va.gov) or Vice Chair Dan Menchaca (d-i-menchaca@tamu.edu).

Title Protection and Professional Recognition Committee

Tom Buhl, CHP, Chair

The American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) has had a contract with the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) since 2006 to pursue legislative title protection (protecting the use of the certified health physicist [CHP] title) and professional recognition (defining CHPs as those individuals certified by the American Board of Health Physics) for CHPs, in conjunction with the AIHA program for certified industrial hygienists. The Health Physics Society has entered into the same arrangement with the AIHA on behalf of health physicists.

The Title Protection-Professional Recognition (TP-PR) Committee works with the AIHA to effect the AAHP portion of the agreement. In addition, the committee's responsibilities include many Academy interactions with government agencies, such as renewing the AAHP Certification Mark registrations with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and review of other proposed legislation affecting CHPs.

This past year, the committee reviewed an initiative by the American Association of Physicists in Medicine for proposed title protection legislation for medical physicists and medical health physicists and its possible coordination with the AAHP program. The committee also submitted its Standard Operating Procedure and Good Things to Know Document to the AAHP Executive Committee, which approved the documents during its January meeting.

Kathleen Dinnel-Jones, Barbara Hamrick, Judson Kenoyer, Debra McBaugh, and Bernard Olsen are the members of the current TP-PR Committee. The Academy thanks these individuals for serving on the committee and supporting its program.

The committee also acknowledges and thanks Aaron Trippler, director of the AIHA Government Affairs Office, for his continuing help and support throughout the year.

