SNM Publications Committee
Meeting Minutes

Annual Meeting—Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, TX
Friday, June 3, 2010, 1:30–3:00 p.m.


Committee chair Martin Sandler made opening remarks, introduced members, and reviewed the agenda. Eight of 21 committee members were present.

JNM Editor’s Report. JNM Editor-in-Chief Heinrich Schelbert reported to the committee on the status of The Journal of Nuclear Medicine. The journal is in excellent health. Submissions topped 1,000 in 2009 and 2010 and increased 14.5% in the first quarter of 2011. With that increase, the acceptance rate decreased, standing at 32% for 2010, as the number of pages per issue remained the same, averaging 165.

Submissions from Europe and Asia are up; those from North America are slightly down. European submissions have increased steadily since 2007, and the same period saw a slower but steady increase from Asia.

Turnaround time from receipt to publication reached 173.8 in 2010, down from 189 last year. The rate has hovered around 6 months since 2006, which is exceptional.

For reviewers, 70% of review solicitations were accepted, which is quite good. The average turnaround was 13.4 days, again quite good. There were 2774 total reviews completed in 2010. Of those, only 54% were returned on time, but most of the remaining reviews were received within the next 2 weeks.

In 2010, 324 manuscripts were published, 264 of which were unsolicited. The remainder were editorials, CE papers (1 per issue), MI Focus papers (1 per issue), book reviews, invited perspectives, letters to the editor, practice guidelines, or supplement papers. Of the original unsolicited papers accepted, 42% were human, 34% were laboratory, 9% were brief or special communications, and the remaining 15% were computer simulation, dosimetry, methodology, or modeling.

The impact factor has remained very high at 6.424, which positions it as the highest-rated journal in the medical imaging category, with total citations of 19,201 and an immediacy index of 1.044.

Incoming JNM Editor. The incoming JNM editor, Dominique Delbeke, will begin handling new papers as of July 1, 2011, while current editor Heinrich Schelbert will complete work on those submitted before that date.

Dominique Delbeke has completed her roster of associate editors for 2012. Many of the current associate editors have agreed to stay on for the next year, including Johannes Czernin, Wolf-Dieter
Heiss, Wim Oyen, Barry Siegel, David Townsend, E. Edmund Kim, and John Katzenellenbogen. Sam Gambhir, Bill Strauss and Conrad Nagle will retire from their associate editor positions at the end of 2011. Their positions will be filled by Al Sinusas (molecular imaging), Kirk Frey (CE), and Harvey Ziesman (Newstime).

**Travel Award.** Susan Alexander brought forward a suggestion that a travel award accompany the best JNM paper award, as awardees often can’t afford the trip to the meeting. After discussion, the committee resolved to make a recommendation to the Awards Committee that the 6 winning authors—when the first author is a young investigator (up to 5 years after final degree is received)—each receive an award of $1,200 to cover travel to the Annual Meeting.

**JNMT Editor’s Report.** JNMT Editor-in-Chief Frances Neagley reported that the Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology is in good health, with 57 manuscripts received in 2010, of which 74% were accepted. Of papers submitted, 44% are from North America, 30% from Asia, and 19% from Europe. Reviewers: Of 256 requests, 148 were accepted (56%); 42% of those were returned on time. The turnaround time from receipt to publication is 9 months. The number of published pages for 2010 was 221, with an average 55 pages per issue.

**Incoming JNMT Editor.** Incoming JNMT editor Norman Bolus was present and was introduced to the committee. He will begin handling new papers as of July 1, 2011, while Frances Neagley will continue to process those submitted before that date.

**Molecular Imaging journal.** Rebecca Maxey summarized the status of the Molecular Imaging journal, published by Decker publications and sponsored by SNM. The publisher is in the process of identifying a new editor as the term of current editor Martin Pomper will end in December 2011. Good progress is being made, and Decker expects to choose a new editor in early June. SNM will work with Decker to establish a detailed job description for the new editor to clarify roles, responsibilities and expectations. Decker will eliminate the backlog of papers with the September/October 2011 issue. They are in the process of building and implementing a new website for the journal. Total circulation was at 681 as of end 2010, 575 of which are SNM members.

**Additional Information.** Rebecca Maxey briefly summarized the written reports in the agenda book. Commercial advertising is in excellent shape this year. The budgeted revenue goal was met in January, and current projections indicate that revenue will exceed budget by 20%. Although SNM book sales are below budget, SNMTS has released 3 updated books, and SNMTS book sales revenue is tracking 25% above budget. Overall, Communications is looking very good, projected to end the year $40,000 more positive than budgeted.

The committee reiterated its concern about having a credit from member dues allocated to the journal. Committee chair Martin Sandler will discuss this with the Finance Committee.

The SNMTS’ opt-out program has resulted in 1791 opt-outs from JNM, 1077 from JNMT and 1366 from Uptake. This will create cost savings, although the committee intends to monitor this closely in re impact on commercial advertising.