CRCPD Newsbrief

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Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

April 2024

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



REFLECTIONS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

By Rikki Waller

As I was writing this, my last *Newsbrief* Article, I was considering all the positives this past year has brought into my life. The first was learning about CRCPD as an organization. **CRCPD is such a well-regarded, appreciated and**

valued group. This comes from years and years of knowledge, dedication and hard work. I have also made some personal and professional relationships that will be forever cherished. However, the most important thing I learned in the last year is about you, the members of CRCPD. I appreciate your knowledge, expertise and dedication to radiation protection. The work done in our working groups and task forces shows an unbelievable amount of dedication and focus. So as April, Volunteer Appreciation month comes to a close, thank you to ALL of you who volunteer to whatever cause is close to your heart.

Privilege of Service

Over the past year, I have had the privilege to represent CRCPD at several venues. I attended the NRC Commission Briefing

POSITIVES OF MY CRCPD TERM

"However, the most important thing I learned in the last year is about you, the members of CRCPD. I appreciate your knowledge, expertise and dedication to radiation protection."

Ríkkí Waller

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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON (continued)

REFLECTIONS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

along with Pat Mulligan, Jeff Semancik and the tri-chairs of the Organization of Agreement States (OAS), Steve Seeger, Keisha Cornelius and Auggie Ong. I also represented CRCPD at the annual OAS conference held in Seattle. I was incredibly honored to represent CRCPD at the 67th IAEA General Conference. There were over 60 countries in attendance!

More recently, I represented CRCPD at the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Spring Meeting in St. Louis. I discussed CRCPD partnerships and recent activities. I also gave a brief report on medical events. The next week I joined the board of OAS to participate in their Spring Board Meeting in Santa Cruz, CA.

56th National Conference

The 56th Annual National Conference on Radiation Control is just around the corner, and the program committee has put together a fantastic program under the direction of Past Chair Pat Mulligan (NJ), Tanya Ridgle (LA Co), Mendy Cremeans and Ruth McBurney both of the Office of the Executive Director (OED). We are also very grateful for the hard work and support of our federal and organizational partners who assisted in the creation of this year's program. They worked very hard alongside with the Program Committee to develop an exciting, informative program. They embraced the theme of this year's meeting and ran with it! Thank you all for such an outstanding job!

16th International Congress

While on the topic of upcoming conferences, there is a very big one coming up. The 16th International Congress will be held in

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

"...the program committee has put together a fantastic program under the direction of Past Chair Pat Mulligan (NJ), Tanya Ridgle (LA Co), Mendy Cremeans (OED), and Ruth McBurney (OED)."

Ríkkí Waller

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON (continued)

REFLECTIONS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Orlando, Florida July 7 – 12, 2024. This will be the first time in 51 years that the International Congress has been held in the United States and the first time since 1992 that it has been held in North America! Here is the conference link: http://irpa2024. com/ See the announcement on page 17 of this *Newsbrief*.

Thank You

I want to take this opportunity to recognize and thank all the CRCPD Board Members, Executive Director Ruth McBurney, Mendy Cremeans (OED) and all the OED Staff for the incredible support and encouragement that you have given me over the past year. Although it is a great honor to be the Chairperson for CRCPD, those first few months were terrifying! I could never have done it without the unwavering support from all of you. You are all truly wonderful people and I appreciate all you have done for me and for CRCPD.

I want to thank Tanya Ridgle (LA Co), Member-at-Large and Homeland Security & Emergency Response Council Chairperson, for all she accomplished during her three-year term on the Board.

As I move into the past-chair role, I leave you in the best of hands as pass the reins off to Lisa Bruedigan (TX).

Finally, it has been an incredible honor and privilege to serve the CRCPD for the past year and I am forever grateful to have had this opportunity.

THANK YOU!

"I want to take this opportunity to recognize and thank all the CRCPD Board Members, Executive Director Ruth McBurney, Mendy Cremeans (OED) and all the OED Staff for the incredible support and encouragement that you have given me over the past year."

Ríkkí Waller

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



KUDOS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

It's that very busy time of year when we are getting ready for the annual conference, finishing our annual audit, and finishing some important projects.

As busy as we are at the Office of the Executive Director, our volunteers serving on working groups and the Board of Directors have been busy as well—and doing great things in addition to working full time in radiation control programs and other radiation protection positions.

Volunteerism

April has been designated as Volunteer Recognition Month as a time to celebrate and recognize the contributions of volunteers. It is an opportunity to join the impact of volunteerism and encourage more people to get involved in their communities. The impact of volunteerism at CRCPD has been very significant. 9,265 volunteer hours were reported during calendar year 2023 by CRCPD members and others assisting the working groups and Board of Directors of CRCPD. I continue to be impressed by the level and scope of the expertise we have among our members who are willing to share their knowledge and time in the development of training, white papers, guidance documents and suggested state regulations for the good of all of the organization and programs represented. Kudos to all of you!

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors has had a busy year since last May, with many virtual meetings and coordination with our federal partners. The changing of some of the Board at the annual meeting is

VOLUNTEERISM

"The impact of volunteerism at CRCPD has been very significant. 9,265 volunteer hours were reported during calendar year 2023 by CRCPD members and others assisting the working groups and Board of Directors of CRCPD."

Ruth McBurney

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S

KUDOS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

MESSAGE (continued)

always a bittersweet time for me. I always miss having a closer working relationship with those that are rotating off, but also enjoy the opportunity to work with new people and to see their leadership capabilities grow. Thanks to Tanya Ridgle for her three years as Chair of the Homeland Security/Emergency Response Council, guiding new projects in that area and taking on a new role as Training Coordinator for HS/ER activities, such as RAPTER training. Also, thanks to Pat Mulligan for his six years of service on the Board, and his willingness to continue to serve again. Congratulations to the incoming Board Members, and special thanks to all who were willing to run for office.

Annual Audit

We just finished our annual audit for the calendar year 2023. I am happy to report that it was a good clean audit again, with no deficiencies. Thanks to all of the staff involved in preparing information for the auditor to review.

National Conference

I also want to thank the Program Committee for putting together a great agenda for the upcoming National Conference on Radiation Control. There will be lots going on, including sessions from all aspects of radiation control, training sessions, special interest meetings, exhibits, and a couple of fun social events. We are also pleased to have our colleagues from the International Atomic **Energy Agency with us again this year.** We will be hearing from several of them on some of the great work they are doing internationally and under the Practical Arrangement that CRCPD has with IAEA.

I hope to see many of you in Jacksonville!

ANNUAL AUDIT

"I am happy to report that it was a good clean audit again, with no deficiencies."

Ruth McBurney

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CRCPD NEWSBRIEF

NCRP ANNUAL MEETING & UPDATE

By David J. Allard, CHP (G50 Liaison)

As the G-50 Liaison to NRCP it was my pleasure to attend the annual meeting of the NCRP on March 25-26, 2024. The meeting theme was **"Advanced and Small Modular Nuclear Power**"

Reactors," with an outstanding program organized by Bill Kennedy as Chair, and Willie Harris and Kathy Higley as Co-Chairs. NCRP has the full program with abstracts online. See - https://ncrponline.org/wp-content/themes/ncrp/ PDFs/2024/PROGRAM_2024.pdf

The meeting was opened by President Dr. Kathy Held, and she reviewed some of the NCRP's recent scientific committees' activities and publications. "As an applied health physicist, I would say this annual meeting on 'Advanced and Small Modular Nuclear Power Reactors' was very interesting and informative."

David Allard

- In 2022, NCRP published Operational Radiation Safety Program Report No. 187. However, no Reports were published in 2023.
- Commentary No. 33 was published in 2023 regarding Recommendations for Stratification of Equipment Use and Radiation Safety Training for Fluoroscopy.
- In the past two years a few Statements were published, specifically:
 - Statement No. 14 on Instrument Response Verification And Calibration For Use In Radiation Emergencies (2022)
 - Statement No. 15 Respiratory Protection Recommendations For Workers And Volunteers Responding To A Nuclear Incident Outside The Affected Area (2022)
 - Statement No. 16 Recommendations For Assessment Of Safety, Quality And Reliability In A Radiation Therapy Practice (2023)

I'd note too, all the Statements are available at no charge. For a full list of publications, see - https://ncrponline.org/publications/

NCRP ANNUAL MEETING & UPDATE SUMMARY OF PRESENTERS



Keynote Speaker

The USDOE's Dr. Kathryn Huff was keynote speaker and reviewed the agency's efforts in Advanced Reactor Research, Design, Development and Demonstration. She stated the goal of a 'zero carbon grid' by 2035 would require a factor of 3 increase in nuclear power generation, and that could happen with 'modular factory' versus 'stick built' designs.

Lauriston S. Taylor Lecture

Former USNRC Commissioner and Chairman Dr. Richard Meserve delivered the Lauriston S. Taylor Lecture on Lessons from the Fukushima Daiichi Accident. Dr. Meserve did a fabulous job reviewing details of the earthquake, tsunami, and tens of thousands of related fatalities, property/building destruction, and technical aspects of the nuclear power plants' loss of power and efforts by staff to maintain control. As is well known, those efforts were heroic but ultimately the reactors had severe core damage with hydrogen explosions causing significant levels of fission products to be released in the environment. Dr. Meserve discussed the national response with thousands of members of the public evacuated, the fact there were no radiation-related fatalities, the public health impact of the evacuation, and the need for clear command and control and safety culture with nuclear power. He also noted that Japan has little or no coal, oil, or gas reserves and has had to import fossil fuels since 2011, but the country is currently moving to restart many of their nuclear power plants. All these meeting presentations will be published in an upcoming issue of the Radiation Protection Journal.

CRCPD

Jeff Semancik (CT) discussed State Perspective on Small Modular Reactors, Advanced Reactors, and Other Nuclear Technologies. Jeff did an excellent job in discussing states' concerns related to clean reliable energy, how 'nuclear' is classified, de-regulated markets, cost of constructing plants, spent fuel storage, emergency response, and public perspective(s).

NCRP and USEPA

Dr. Higley gave a nice overview of a Radiation Protection Professional's Guide to Nuclear Power, followed by Dan Schultheisz (USEPA), who did a very good re-cap of EPA's fuel cycle regulations with some still linked to the c1960 ICRP Report 2 – and the needed regulatory updates.

USNRC

USNRC Chairman Christopher Hanson did a very good review of the current and proposed nuclear power regulatory structure with his talk on Embracing Risk-Informed Thinking at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

NCRP ANNUAL MEETING & UPDATE

continued

NCRP NEWS - The big news from Dr. Held this year was the announcement she'd be stepping down, and Dr. Kathy Higley was elected as the new President. Brava to Kathy Held for her many years of work on Council, and the outstanding job as President since 2019! Major congrats to Kathy Higley as the new President of NCRP! As a leader in the field and professor of health physics at Oregon State University, she will no doubt continue to advance the NCRP. At the beginning of the second day of the meeting, Dr. Held also conducted the annual Business Meeting. She (again) noted several Reports, Commentaries and Statements the NCRP published in the past two years, and reviewed the current fiscal status. The NCRP is a non-profit Congressionally-chartered scientific organization tasked with making national recommendations for radiation protection, and as such, relies on grants, contracts, sales of publications and donations. It is currently on a sound financial footing, but is always seeking federal agency and other support. The current and a few past Annual Reports can be found online. See – https://ncrponline.org/ and https://ncrponline.org/wp-content/themes/ncrp/PDFs/ Annual_Rpts/2023_Annual_Rpt.pdf

A Variety of Presenters Featured

Other federal agency, industry, and national laboratory presenters gave over a dozen very informative talks on new reactor designs planned for commercial and military use in the near future. Titles of those talks included:

- Space Nuclear Reactor Commonalities with Advanced and Small Modular Reactors
- Natrium Technology Overview
- Technology Overview of Fluoride Salt Cooled High-Temperature Reactors
- Auora Powerhouse A New Reactor Design
- NuScale VOYGR Small Modular Reactor Emergency
 Planning Zone Methodology Overview
- New Perspective on Nuclear Regulation Insights from Aviation's Hazard Threshold
- Changing Paradigms: Meeting Radiological Survey
 Requirements with Robotics
- Future of Nuclear in the Pacific Northwest
- Economics of Nuclear Reactors Large and Small
 Key Findings of the National Academy of Engineering Study "Laying the Foundation for New and Advanced Nuclear Reactors in the United
- States"
 Oklo Fast Reactors and Recycling
- Radiation Protection Considerations for Small Mobile Nuclear Reactors



CRCPD was well represented at the NCRP annual meeting. Front L to R: Jennifer Elee, Ruth McBurney, Adela Salame-Alfie, Debra McBaugh Scroggs, Frieda Fisher-Tyler. Back L to R: Lisa Bruedigan, Bill Irwin, Dave Allard, Jeff Semancik.

"In closing, I'd note it is always wonderful to see and talk to friends and colleagues at the NCRP Annual Meeting. You're always learning through these informal discussions. Keep an eye on the NCRP's website for new publications, and information on the 2025 Annual Meeting planned for next March. It will no doubt be another very good meeting, and perhaps a hybrid with live and online presentations."

David Allard

CRCPD NEWSBRIEF

TASK GROUP H-58 MEDICAL EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT IN THE U.S. POPULATION MEETS

By Jennifer Elee (LA)

Established by CRCPD and NCRP, through cooperative agreements with the CDC

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Multi-organizational task group to implement one of the recommendations from NCRP Report 184, "Medical Radiation Exposure of Patients in the United States"

Includes representatives from NCRP, CDC, ACR, AAPM, CRCPD, EPA, FDA, and NRC Through cooperative agreements with the CDC, a multiorganizational task group was established by CRCPD and NCRP to implement one of the recommendations from NCRP Report 184, "Medical Radiation Exposure of Patients in the United States," which was to explore and facilitate a complete collection of data. The task group includes representatives from the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American College of Radiology (ACR), American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM), CRCPD, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The task force continued this endeavor by meeting at NCRP headquarters in Bethesda, MD, on March 26 and 27, 2024, where the next steps were developed.

Steps for the Project

In April 2023 a questionnaire was prepared to collect basic information, support, and interest from state radiation programs. Approximately 40 states responded to this survey with most being willing to participate. The task group has been working on a data gathering survey for states to assist in providing data to NCRP for the Medical Exposure Assessment in the U.S. Population.

TASK GROUP H-58 MEDICAL EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT IN THE U.S. POPULATION MEETS -continued

The task group met in March 2024 at the NCRP meeting to finalize
this survey. The survey will focus on collecting both numbers
of procedures performed and ESE/dose information from these
procedures. The survey will cover dental, radiography, fluoroscopy,
CT, CBCT and nuclear medicine. To make this as easy as possible,
the task group is working with OED to make the survey web based
and available from the CRCPD website for use.

Timeline

CRCPD Contacts

Jennifer Elee (Chairperson)

Lisa Bruedigan (Chair-Board member)

Mary Ann Spohrer

Clark Eldredge

The timeline for this survey is for the prototype to be completed before the CRCPD Annual Conference on Radiation Protection. The survey will be pilot tested by four states from June through August. In September, the task group will meet to discuss any changes that may need to be made to the survey. The plan is to roll the survey out to all state regulators for use in the Fall of 2024. This will give us an entire year to collect information prior to the expected update to the NCRP Document #184 in 2026.

This data collection will be instrumental in supporting the next NCRP report on medical exposure data. The task force needs as many states as possible to complete the survey and support the efforts to gather the data.

Join in this Endeavor

Please consider participating in this endeavor. If you have any questions about the activities of this task force, you can contact any of the task force members: Jennifer Elee (Chairperson), Lisa Bruedigan (Chair-Board member), Mary Ann Spohrer, or Clark Eldredge.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

LISA BRUEDIGAN



The Member Spotlight is an interview which highlights a CRCPD member who exemplifies what it means to be a radiation professional. Lisa Bruedigan, the Radiation Section Director for the Texas Department of State Health Services, is the incoming CRCPD Chairperson. If you'd like to nominate an individual for the Member Spotlight, please email Sandra. Anible@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Interview conducted by G-73 Committee on Communication and Outreach

APRIL 2024

LISA BRUEDIGAN

Radiation Section Director for the Texas Department of State Health Services and Chair-Elect of CRCPD

G-73: What type of work do you do?

Lisa: I'm the Radiation Section Director responsible for 120 team members covering everything from licensing of radioactive material, registration of x-ray and laser devices, certification of mammography, environmental monitoring and incident and emergency response.

G-73: What's one common misconception about the work that you do?

Lisa: Sometimes, government work is seen as a cushy job. We have a running joke in our program about people, including staff sometimes, thinking all we do is sit around and eat bon-bons and drink Mai-Tais all day. The reality is so far from that as we all know how hard we work on behalf of public safety. We don't need a daily pat on the back but some occasional recognition for what we do in regulatory goes a long way.

G-73: What are some of the toughest challenges you've faced in your field?

Lisa: Maintaining talented staff on the salaries we are able to provide.

G-73: Do you have any role models and if so, who are they and why? Lisa: I've been blessed with several mentors over the years. People who saw potential in me and encouraged and gently pushed me

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Tips for Radiation Protection Professionals

"Get involved. Don't be satisfied to do your everyday job duties. Take all the training you can, get involved in emergency response, volunteer at the state or national level. Look for opportunities for growth and let your leadership know you are willing to tackle most anything. "

Lisa Bruedigan

LISA BRUEDIGAN - continued

to develop to the next level. Often, these people haven't been my direct manager but someone who took the time to invest in my growth. I try to pay this forward with my team and anyone I encounter that wants to explore new opportunities.

G-73: Do you have any tips for new or prospective radiation protection professionals looking to get involved in your line of work?

Lisa: Get involved. Don't be satisfied to do your everyday job duties. Take all the training you can, get involved in emergency response, volunteer at the state or national level. Look for opportunities for growth and let your leadership know you are willing to tackle most anything.

G-73: What is the most valuable lesson you've learned from your time in public service?

Lisa: The work we do every day has a huge impact on the people we serve. You won't get a lot of thanks during inspections or responding to a licensing question but take pride in knowing you make a difference during each interaction.

G-73: Do you have any pets? If so, what kind?

Lisa: We have a German Wirehaired Pointer named Gus.

CRCPD NEWSBRIEF

CRCPD: A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection	
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT	
What Would You Like to Accomplish?	LISA BRUEDIGAN - continued G-73: If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be? Lisa: There are so many places to go but Norway, Greece and Italy are at the top of my list.
" To develop a formalized training program for x-ray registration, inspectors, and reviewers. This exists on the radioactive materials (RAM) side of the house, thanks	G-73: If you could accomplish one thing in your career, what would you like it to be? Lisa: To develop a formalized training program for x-ray registration, inspectors, and reviewers. This exists on the RAM side of the house, thanks to the NRC and we need an equivalent on the x-ray side.
to the NRC and we need an equivalent on the x-ray side. "	G-73: What types of things would you like to see the CRCPD accomplish in the next 5-10 years?
Lisa Bruedigan	Lisa: Training is always an ongoing need, and keeping up with technology is another challenge. Keeping the programs connected across the nation by sharing program processes and information and new technology is vital to the success of each program and the country as a whole. CRCPD already plays a big role in these areas, and I would like to see that continue to grow.

ROSS COURSES COMING SOON

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BY William Irwin, Sc.D., CHP

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ROSS COURSES

The Radiological Operations Support Specialist Program is happy to announce multiple ROSS courses coming soon:

- 5/13/24 in Salt Lake City, Utah
- 6/27/24 in Delaware, Ohio
- 7/25/24 in Louisville, Kentucky
- 8/15/24 in Omaha, Nebraska
- 11/8/24 in Topeka, Kansas

More can be found at the FEMA First Responder Training site https:// www.firstrespondertraining.gov/frts/ schedule if you search for PER-388.

Registration for Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS) training is now open! Pease register at this link: https://oehs. utah.edu/radiological-operationssupport-specialist-ross-training The University of Utah will be hosting FEMA Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS) training on May 13-16, 2024 at the U of U Guesthouse. The ROSS program is intended to provide local radiological response expertise in an emergency. **The training will be limited to approximately 30 individuals, be offered free of charge, and is intended for individuals with training and experience in radiological issues and response.** Additional information is provided below and in the attached fact sheets.

In a major radiological event, ROSS volunteers will support emergency operations by:

Supporting the incident command system structure

Helping access specialized federal resources and tools

Interpreting and explaining health physics response data and predictive modeling results

Providing guidance to responders, incident commanders, elected officials, and decision-makers on appropriate protection actions for responders and the public

Aiding public and responder communication efforts

The ROSS is a State and local asset, not a representative of federal agencies. Although they will often activate, use, and integrate federal capabilities into the response, they report to and work in the best interests of state and local agencies. The ROSS can be used throughout the response structure but will be most effective as a Technical Specialist to command staff.

ROSS COURSES COMING SOON - continued

Typically, a ROSS is a radiological subject matter expert with experience and training that goes beyond standard HAZMAT training. Practical experience working with, and making measurements of, radioactive material or radiation generating devices is expected.

Typical ROSS candidates would be radiation control technicians or radiation safety officers with emergency response experience and training on the federal radiological response framework, or a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 472 Hazardous Materials Technician Specialist Employee with a specialty in radioactive materials and/or weapons of mass destruction or equivalent.

CONTACT WITH COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

William Irwin, Sc.D., CHP

Radiological Sciences Program Chief, Vermont Department of Health

Captain, Vermont Hazardous Materials Response Team

FEMA Type 1 Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS)

Volunteer Fire Officer, Firefighter II, Emergency Medical Technician (NREMT)

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INTERNATIONAL RADIATION PROTECTION ASSOCIATION TO HOLD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN THE U.S.



CRCPD NEWSBRIEF

CRCPD WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Sarah Brodesser (OR) Melissa Burnett (NH) Jason Callahan (TX) Keli Christiansen (MD) Frank Cuccia (MI) Gbenga Elegbede (RI) Alanna Jenkins (MD) Mackenzie Ketelsen (IA) Art Nash (AK) Frantz Nicoleau (FL) Willie Ray (MD)

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Mike Bollenbacher (TN) Carma Huseby (MN)

TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN CRCPD, SEE THE ONLINE APPLICATION!

Apply Here.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health Programs is available online for members and our federal partners and is updated regularly. Visit <u>CRCPD.</u>



CALL FOR NEWS

CRCPD is interested in what you are doing and would like to share your knowledge and experiences with other CRCPD members through a feature article in the *Newsbrief*.

If you would like to submit an article, please contact Ruth McBurney (rmcburney@crcpd.org) suggesting a topic you'd like to present.

The *Newsbrief* is published six times a year, in even numbered months. Deadline for submission is the 15th of the month of publication.

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CRCPD NEWSBRIEF