



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

# NEWSBRIEF

[www.crcpd.org](http://www.crcpd.org)

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection December 2021

## Message from Chairperson Angela Leek, CHP

With the holiday season upon us, **I start this message with a sincere wish for peace and joy for each of you throughout the remainder of 2021 and into the New Year.**

The Board held our fall meeting in Alexandria, VA during the week of November 15 – 19, 2021 and while the meeting was hybrid, it was great to see one another and several of our federal and partner agency colleagues in person. **You may remember that last May, we re-ratified the CRCPD’s Strategic Plan, Goals, and Objectives, and we took the opportunity during our states only session to select priorities for the upcoming year:**



Goal 1: Produce Radiation Protection Solutions That Meet Community Needs

- Objective #1 - Determine Membership Needs
- Objective #3 - Be Proactive in Handling New Issues

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## Message from Chairperson *(continued)*

### Progress on Priorities

*“In line with these priorities, you’ll most immediately see that access to the CRCPD Directory flipbook will soon be openly available on the website without requiring a log-in.”*

Angela Leek

## Progress and Reflections

Goal 2: Assist States with Improving Tools

- Objective #3 - Increase the Availability of Electronic Based Information

Goal 3: Promote an Active, Energized Membership

- Objective #3 - Provide Training Opportunities for CRCPD Members

Goal 4: Assure Sound Fiscal and Organizational Management of CRCPD

- Objective #4 - Continue and Enhance the Relationship Between the CRCPD and the Organization of Agreement States

In line with these priorities, you’ll most immediately see that access to the CRCPD Directory flipbook will soon be openly available on the website without requiring a log-in. The Suggested State Regulations documents will also be organized into a flipbook format on the website for easier navigation and updating. These are just a couple of examples of the ideas and initiatives that are underway with the G-73 Committee and the Office of the Executive Director (OED) staff to find ways to improve our website and electronic information sharing. **Please watch for opportunities to participate in initiatives to grow CRCPD in these priority areas and always feel free to share any ideas you may have with the Board members or OED staff.**

### Planning Annual Meeting

During our week in Alexandria, our past chairperson, Kim Steves, also led the program planning committee in the review of the abstracts and development of the program for our annual meeting in May 2022. There are many interesting and relevant topics on the proposed agenda for this upcoming year, and Kim and the committee continue the challenging task of organizing the schedule to include as many of these presentations as possible. **The Board and program committee also decided that the annual meeting will be offered as a fully in-person meeting and we look forward to seeing you all in Tucson, AZ.**

## Message from Chairperson *(continued)*

### Communicating Low-Dose Risk

*“Communicating radiation risk is just as much about perception as it is the actual risk values.”*

Angela Leek

## Progress and Reflections *- continued*

### Developing a Long-Term Strategy for Low-Dose Radiation Research

In late October, I had the opportunity to present before the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine’s Committee (NASEM) on Developing a Long-Term Strategy for Low-Dose Radiation Research in the United States. **I was a part of a panel discussing challenges in communicating risk in low-dose exposure settings and specifically focused on state perspectives on low-dose radiation risk communication.** I noted the following key points related to state perspectives on this topic:

1. Communicating in the low-dose environment makes the determination of justification and optimization difficult to articulate and quantify.
2. Data is needed to support a cost/benefit justification to initiate and coordinate rulemaking changes. If thresholds are created or reference values or requirements are changed, there is a cost to rulemaking itself but also to the industry who must change procedures or infrastructure to accommodate the new regulation (i.e. changing signage or labeling).
3. Communicating radiation risk is just as much about perception as it is the actual risk values. More research and understanding of the mental models and perceptions of the public and workers related to radiation may help us find ways to communicate radiation in a way that it can be better accepted (avoid over or under-reaction) to a perceived radiation scenario.

**If you would like to know more specifics about my presentation to NASEM, please let me know.**

### First Draft Revision of Updated Radiation Machine Therapy Rules

I also had the opportunity to attend a meeting for SSR-X in San Diego to work with the committee chair, members, and our resource partners (AAPM, ASTRO, NRC, FDA, and others). This committee is making great progress toward a first draft revision of these updated radiation machine therapy rules that will hopefully be ready to begin

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## Message from Chairperson *(continued)*

### Remembering Jared Thompson

*“Many of us will remember the many ways he impacted not only our radiation protection community but also each of us as individuals in our careers as radiation control program directors and staff.”*

Angela Leek

## Progress and Reflections *- continued*

the review process in early 2022. This process will include the newly established public comment period, and we will be sure to share details regarding this process with you all when this first draft nears that stage of review. **This committee’s accomplishments, as well as the completion and routing of several other NRC compatibility rule drafts, demonstrate the significant efforts of the SSR Council and the Steering Committee.** Thanks to Mike Snee and Mary Navara, as well as all of the other members of the SSR Steering Committee and Council who have volunteered countless hours to make these strides possible.

### Passing of One of Our Past Chairpersons, Jared Thompson

We were all saddened to hear of the recent and sudden passing of one of our past Chairpersons, Jared Thompson. Many of us will remember the many ways he impacted not only our radiation protection community but also each of us as individuals in our careers as radiation control program directors and staff. **We wish comfort to Jared’s family and offer fond memories of Jared’s contributions.**

### Looking Forward to A Healthy and Prosperous 2022 and Beyond

As we look forward to 2022, I hope we find ourselves gathering together once again to share our knowledge, passion, and dedication to our profession. **There will be many opportunities in the coming months to share state radiation control program perspectives with our partners in radiation protection, and I thank each of you for your efforts to promote our programs and demonstrate our commitment to protecting those in our respective jurisdictions.** I’m honored to be a part of this community and look forward to a healthy and prosperous 2022 and beyond.



## Greetings from Your Executive Director



Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

### Providing Training During the Pandemic

*“Since most of the training, and certainly this year’s national conference were virtual, we were able to involve more people in those activities.”*

Ruth McBurney

## Great Work Going on in CRCPD

As we come to the end of 2021, it is hard to believe that we have weathered nearly two years of a global pandemic but have still managed to provide a national conference, national radon training conference, and many training opportunities to provide the state and local radiation control programs with up-to-date information on topics of interest to radiation protection professionals. Since most of the training, and certainly this year’s national conference were virtual, we were able to involve more people in those activities. For example, the virtual Radon Training Event, held in October, had 162 registrants as compared to the attendance at in-person radon training events averaging less than 100.

We are continuing to provide other training opportunities through our partnerships with federal agencies and other organizations, such as Radiological Assistance Program Training for Emergency Response (RAPTER) training through the National Nuclear Security Administration, and free access to various national and international webinars. **We will provide information on registering for these as they become available.**

### A Key Emphasis of Our Strategic Plan for This Year

It is no wonder that a key emphasis of our strategic plan for this year includes the **Objective: Increase the Availability of Electronic Based Information**. The new G-73 Committee on Communication and Outreach has been busy looking into ways that members can become engaged and involved. You will see a couple of articles from that group in this edition of the *Newsbrief*. Also, the Committee is working with the OED to provide input on other electronic innovations. The Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health Programs is now available electronically, and soon the Suggested State Regulations will be presented in a more usable format.

### Plans for the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference on Radiation Control

Although we have had to adjust to remote/virtual meetings, we are planning for a great in-person 54<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference on

## Executive Director

Greetings *(continued)*54th National  
Conference

*The Future  
of Radiation  
Protection:  
Better Together*

*May 16 – 19,  
2022*

*Tucson, AZ*

Great Work Going on in CRCPD *- continued*

Radiation Control in Tucson, AZ. The Planning Committee has put together a great agenda, with a forward-looking theme, **“The Future of Radiation Protection: Better Together.”** The theme expresses not only how the partnerships we have formed and our collaborative efforts improve radiation protection for the future, but the hope that we can actually meet together in one location soon. **Save the date – May 16 – 19, 2022, and make plans to attend!** We are also making plans for the 2023 National Conference. The Board recently chose Houston, TX as the location the conference, with dates soon to be announced.

## Thanks to You for Your Contributions

I have only mentioned a few of the great works still going on in CRCPD in 2021. **Thanks to all of you for continuing to make workplaces and the environment safer from radiation and for contributing your time to the work of CRCPD through committees, liaison with other organizations and other activities.**

## Best Wishes

***We wish you and your loved ones a happy, safe holiday season and a healthy and happy 2022!***



***Congratulations to Our Executive Director  
Ruth McBurney  
on Her Election to Sigma Xi***

by Angela Leek, Chairperson

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*I am pleased to share with you all that our Executive Director, Ruth McBurney, has been elected as an Associate Member of Sigma Xi. Sigma Xi is an exclusive Scientific Research Honor Society that is an international, multidisciplinary community of science and engineering professionals, and with this recognition and honor of induction, Ruth joins a distinguished community of researchers.*

*Through her membership, Ruth will have the opportunity to be engaged in the various priorities of this organization that include promotion of public understanding of science, opportunities for professional development and leadership, promotion of responsible conduct of research and scientific integrity, and support of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs.*

*Congratulations to you, Ruth, on this well-deserved honor.*

*I know I speak for the rest of the CRCPD Board and our membership when I say--*

*We are proud to have you as our CRCPD Executive Director!*



## Committee on Communication and Outreach

### Introducing the G-73 Committee on Communication and Outreach

By Sandra Anible, G-73 Co-Chair (WI)

The G-73 Committee on Communication and Outreach exists to help CRCPD improve communication, inspire engagement, increase outreach, and encourage radiation education among its membership and the public.

Active since December of 2020, G-73 has worked diligently to help CRCPD select a vendor for the upcoming website redesign, discuss improvements to implement in the redesign, create protocols for posting to social media platforms, and designate paths to action for enhancing CRCPD's online presence and value as a go-to resource for radiation information.

In the coming months, CRCPD will be working with the vendor "YourMembership" to finalize the website redesign plans and implement them. **Anticipated changes include optimization of the website for ease of use on mobile devices, modernization of webpage templates, improved consistency of website functionality, and overall reorganization of topics to increase ease of navigation.** The result will be a website that's much easier to use on both your computer and your smartphone.

CRCPD is dedicated to the task of posting pertinent content regularly to social media, utilizing a subcommittee of members and advisors from G-73 to lead the effort. **Followers can look forward to a steady stream of content from CRCPD on Facebook and Twitter.** After reviewing the social media usage poll data submitted by membership, the addition of Instagram and LinkedIn is now being considered.

Other projects under discussion are the formation of an outreach subcommittee and a redesign of the CRCPD logo. Please stay tuned for more information about those opportunities.

Our committee is seeking additional advisors to help CRCPD create social media content, develop projects to encourage membership engagement, and provide further input on its website redesign (among other projects).



## Committee on Communication and Outreach

### Introducing the G-73 Committee on

#### Communication and Outreach - *continued*

We are an active committee that meets once a month for an hour and a half (Wednesday, 2-3:30pm CST); additional time is spent outside of meetings to work on specific projects.

If you are interested in joining G-73 and are able and willing to spare a few hours per month to dedicate to our progress, please submit your

Working Group Interest Form to Mendy Cremeans at [mcremeans@crcpd.org](mailto:mcremeans@crcpd.org).

We're looking for volunteers who follow the industry closely and have time to contribute to projects. Highly desirable candidates will possess one or more of these qualities:

- Experience posting professional content to social media
- Experience in graphic art (photography, web design)
- Experience as an educator

We could also use more voices from those whose expertise lies in radiological emergency response, radioactive materials, radon, and industrial radiography.

Lastly, CRCPD is interested in your original photography for use on the website and in social media posts. Photographs should be well composed with balanced lighting. Content should be professional; context should be easy to glean. The photographer and anyone appearing in the photograph will be asked to sign a release before it is used. Not all submissions will be accepted for use. Please send photographs to Bruce Hirschler at [bhirschler@crcpd.org](mailto:bhirschler@crcpd.org). There are no size or quantity limitations.



## Benefits of Working Group Participation

### Benefits of Working Group Participation

By Shannon Quinn, G-73 Committee Member (TX)

The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) has five councils:

- Environmental Nuclear Council
- General Council and Liaisons
- Healing Arts Council
- Homeland Security/Emergency Response Council
- Suggested State Regulations Council

These five councils have a total of 73 working groups consisting of volunteer members across the country researching a variety of topics pertinent to radiation protection.

**CRCPD recently conducted a survey of its members about the benefits of being a member of a working group.** Here are some of the comments that were received:

- “Being a member of a working group can increase productivity for state programs that may have limited staff. A CRCPD working group consists of individuals with unique skills, perspectives, and knowledge that can accomplish more in a shorter amount of time, when working together, to achieve a goal that's in everyone's interest.”
- “Being a member of a CRCPD working group can lead to innovative ideas since working group members are able to bounce ideas off of each other. New ideas can be developed and problems that exist in both state and federal programs can be solved. Collaboration within a CRCPD working group has often led to the identification of gaps in radiation control or the identification of new and emerging issues that warrant attention.”
- “Being a member of a CRCPD working group can help your staff expand their technical knowledge as they can learn from each other through interactions with group members, advisors and liaisons.”

## Benefits of Working Group Participation - *continued*

### Benefits of Working Group Participation

- “Being a member of a CRCPD working group helps state radiation control staff build relationships with other state programs, federal agencies, and private partners. The benefits of these relationships will extend well beyond the term of membership in a CRCPD working group.”

- “Networking - sharing a common forum for exchange of radiological information and having a mechanism for communication with federal government and other organizations on radiation protection issues.”

**CRCPD working groups are an integral part of developing radiation protection principles for the nation.** They help shape national policy and guidance, work toward establishing best practices for radiation protection and provide support and expertise to federal partners. Working group members develop strong working relationships with other states, share and increase their own technical knowledge, and bring the information shared by the CRCPD community to their own state programs.

To learn more about the CRCPD working groups topics or to volunteer for a group, please see our website at: <https://www.crcpd.org/page/WorkingGroups>

**See below for a list of Working Groups in need of members or advisors NOW !**

HS/ER-12 (Task Force for Radiochemical Laboratory Assets) is looking for new members and advisors. If interested, contact HS/ER-12’s Chairperson, Tanya Ridgle, Council Chair, [tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov).

HS/ER-14 (Task Force for Guidance Development for Radiological Respiratory Protection for Ancillary Emergency Workers) is looking for new members. If interested, contact HS/ER-14’s Chairperson, Trae Windham, at [trae.windham@dsh.texas.gov](mailto:trae.windham@dsh.texas.gov).

E-24 (Committee on Decontamination and Decommissioning) is looking for a new member. If interested, contact E-24’s Chairperson, Karen Tuccillo, at [karen.tuccillo@dep.nj.gov](mailto:karen.tuccillo@dep.nj.gov).

H-47 (Committee on Nuclear Medicine) is looking for a new member. If interested, contact H-47’s Chairperson, Auggie Ong, at [Augustinus.Ong@dhhs.nh.org](mailto:Augustinus.Ong@dhhs.nh.org).

E-47 (Committee on Commercial Nuclear Power) is looking for new members and advisors. If interested, contact E-47’s Chairperson, Jeff Semancik, at [jeffrey.semancik@ct.gov](mailto:jeffrey.semancik@ct.gov).



*In Memoriam***Jared W. Thompson**

Jared Wayne Thompson, 63, of Cabot, Arkansas, former Chairperson of CRCPD, passed away Thursday, November 25, 2021. He was born March 22, 1958 in Batesville, Arkansas, and graduated from high school in St. Louis, Missouri. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology at the University of Central Arkansas.



Jared worked for the Arkansas Department of Health as a Radiological Health Physicist and recently retired after 33 years of service. His last position held in the radiation control program was Program Manager of the Radioactive Materials Program.

Jared served as Treasurer of CRCPD from May 2012 through May 2015 and as Chairperson during the 2016-2017 Conference year. He also served as Chair of the Organization of Agreement States previously. In 2019, Jared was awarded the Gerald S. Parker Award of Merit, CRCPD's highest award.

Jared also served as a referee in the Arkansas Officials Association for 25 years.

Jared is survived by his wife, Judith Zimmerman; children, Zachary (Nicole) of Bossier City, LA, Marshall of Tokyo, Japan, and Charles (Mary) of Bentonville, AR, and three grandchildren, his greatest joy. He is also survived by his sister, Donna Plemmons (Lynn) of Conway, AR, and several nephews, uncles, aunts, and cousins.

We have received several notes and fond memories from Jared's friends and colleagues at CRCPD, the International Atomic Energy Agency, and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, where he served as liaison on NORM issues. We will all miss him greatly.



## On-Line Directory Now Available on Website

### Directory Information

The electronic version of the *Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health Programs* is now available on the CRCPD website without a log-in. This will give immediate access to contacts in the states as well as federal and international agencies in a flip-book format.

You can access it from the front page in the “About” drop-down, or save the link to your favorites: <https://www.crcpd.org/page/Directory>

This is just another way we are working to build more connections among the states and with our partner agencies and organizations.

The screenshot displays the CRCPD website's "Directory of Personnel" page. At the top, the CRCPD logo is visible alongside the tagline "A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection" and social media links for Facebook and Twitter. The navigation menu includes Home, About, Environmental, General, Homeland Security, Healing Arts, Suggested State Regs, and Store. The main content area features a search bar and a flip-book viewer for the "Directory of Personnel" document. Below the viewer are four sections: "Latest News" with links to recent newsletters, "Calendar" listing upcoming events like the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA) meeting and the South American Regional Congress, "Featured Member" highlighting Michael Simek and Sarah Saccillo, and "Nomination" for the 2018 Wilburth Lectureship. The footer contains contact information for the Office of the Executive Director (OED) and social media icons.



## Call for News

### Call for News

*Would you like to share some information about your work, or some project or issue that you're involved in?*

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](mailto: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.

We welcome your news and photographs, too, if you'd like to share.



## CRCPD Board of Directors

Chairperson.....Angela Leek.....Iowa.....515/281-3478.....angela.leek@idph.iowa.gov  
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 Member at Large .....Michael Snee .....Ohio.....614/644-2732.....michael.snee@odh.ohio.gov  
 Member at Large.....Tanya Ridgle.....LA County, CA.....213/351-7385.....tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov

## CRCPD Councils

<b>Environmental Nuclear Council</b>	<b>Karen Tuccillo (NJ) 609/984-7443</b> karen.tuccillo@dep.nj.gov
<b>General Council and Liaisons</b>	<b>Patrick Mulligan (NJ) 609/984-5520</b> patrick.mulligan@dep.nj.gov
<b>Healing Arts Council</b>	<b>Lisa Bruedigan (TX) 512/834-6629</b> lisa.bruedigan@dshs.texas.gov
<b>Homeland Security/Emergency Response Council</b>	<b>Tanya Ridgle (LA County, CA) 213/351-7385</b> tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov
<b>Suggested State Regulations Council</b>	<b>Michael Snee (OH) 614/644-2732</b> michael.snee@odh.ohio.gov

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*The Newsbrief is written to address the needs of all radiation control program personnel. Readers are encouraged to contribute newsworthy or informative items for the Newsbrief, with neither charges nor stipends for the items that are selected. News of state radiation control programs is especially sought.*

*Articles should be sent to CRCPD, Attn: Mandy Cremeans, 112 East Main Street, Suite 1, Frankfort, KY 40601 (fax: 502/227-7862; email: mcremeans@crcpd.org. The deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month before an issue is to be published.*

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