

## FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



## REFLECTING ON THE YEAR

By Lisa Bruedigan

It doesn't seem possible, but December is here, and we are about to close another calendar year. For many of us, the last two weeks of December are a bit calmer than the rest of the year, and we use that time to finish projects and

take a few days off to spend with family and friends. **I also use this time to reflect on the year, celebrating the successes and identifying the challenges, hoping to improve upon them.**

A few successes for CRCPD are:

- Published Remote CT Scanning Guidance
- CRCPD website redesign
- New Working Groups:
  - G-77 – Radiation Control Program Attorney Coordination Committee
  - E-47 – Committee on Commercial Nuclear Power
  - G-76 – Use of Artificial Intelligence in Radiation Protection

## CELEBRATING THE SUCCESSES

*“Numerous working groups have made significant progress on their charges.”*

*Lisa Bruedigan*

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**FROM THE CHAIRPERSON**

*(continued)*

**REFLECTING ON THE YEAR**

- HS/ER-21– Development of State Evaluators for FEMA REP Exercises
- Establishment of a scholarship fund to support students specializing in radiation protection to attend the annual meeting
- Increased number of sources removed through the SCATR program
- A new EPA Radon Grant

**Working Group Contributions**

In addition to the projects listed above, numerous working groups have made significant progress on their charges. The members and resources of these working groups all have busy jobs, yet they make time to participate in these extra projects. **Why? Because they know how important it is to stay current in addressing changes in radiation protection and they value the cooperative efforts of CRCPD and the various groups we work with.** So please join me by taking a minute to reflect on your accomplishments over the past year and acknowledge the fantastic work you do on behalf of radiation protection.

**The Future**

In closing, all members should have received a notice from Ruth McBurney, who announced her retirement plans a few weeks ago. **While we are happy for Ruth, this significantly impacts our organization.** The Board has a plan and will announce the selection process in early January, so watch for updates.

***See you next year!***

**YOUR FANTASTIC WORK!**

*“So please join me by taking a minute to reflect on your accomplishments over the past year and acknowledge the fantastic work you do on behalf of radiation protection.”*

*Lisa Bruedigan*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S  
MESSAGE

## CLOSING OUT CALENDAR YEAR 2024

by Ruth McBurney, CHP



I recently sent out letters to the membership and to our supporting agencies and organizations regarding my pending retirement in mid-2025. Thanks to all of you who have sent emails and notes. **Your support and encouragement over the past 18 years have motivated me to be even more of a champion for our organization.** I have several months remaining before I step down as

Executive Director, but in the meantime, the Board will begin the process of searching for and conducting interviews for my successor.

### **Advancing Radiation Control: Forward Thinking, Forward Protecting**

The planning for our 57<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Radiation Control in Tucson, AZ, May 19-22, 2025, is currently underway. The Planning Committee, our federal liaisons and members of the Radiation Protection Advisory Council, participated and put together a tentative agenda for the four-day event. **The theme of the upcoming conference is “Advancing Radiation Control: Forward Thinking, Forward Protecting.”** Many new concepts and issues will be addressed by the speakers, such as advanced reactors, the use of artificial intelligence, and new medical technologies, fitting the chosen theme. We hope you will save the date and make plans to attend!

**57TH NATIONAL  
CONFERENCE  
MAY 19-22, 2025  
TUSCON, AZ**

*“Many new concepts and issues will be addressed by the speakers, such as advanced reactors, the use of artificial intelligence, and new medical technologies, fitting the chosen theme.”*

*Ruth McBurney*

## CRCPD Scholarship Fund

Also, through the CRCPD Scholarship Fund we can again offer a few travel grants for college and university students in health physics programs, and to state radiation control program staff who would not otherwise be able to participate in the national conference. **This program provides not only opportunities for folks in careers in radiation protection to “pay it forward” through a tax-deductible donation but also provides young people at the start of their careers with a taste of regulatory health physics topics and opportunities.** More information on how to contribute to the fund and how to apply for the travel grants is shown in a separate article in this issue of the *Newsbrief*.

## Closing Out Calendar Year 2024 with Gratitude

As we close out calendar year 2024, one that has been especially busy, with implementation of a new website, new grant opportunities for assisting state programs and furthering radiation protection, continued international collaboration, and many more activities, **I am especially grateful to the staff and many volunteers who are keeping all the progress going for CRCPD and advancing forward into 2025.**

***Happy holidays to you all and best wishes for the coming new year!***

### CRCPD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*“Through the CRCPD Scholarship Fund we can again offer a few travel grants for college and university students in health physics programs, and to state radiation control program staff who would not otherwise be able to participate in the national conference.”*

*Ruth McBurney*

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## IT'S TIME TO SUPPORT THE FUTURE OF RADIATION CONTROL

by

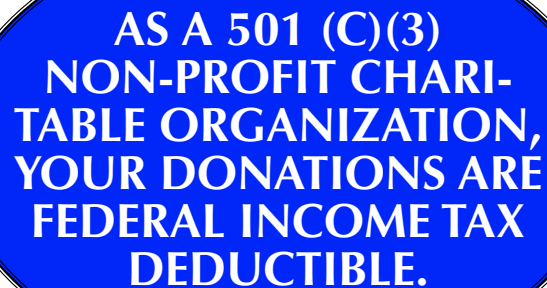
Ruth E McBurney, CRCPD

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*“If you are looking for ways to give back and pay it forward to the next generation of radiation protection professionals and get tax deductions in the process, we hope you will consider donating to CRCPD.”*

As a 501 (c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, your donations are federal income tax deductible. To provide more travel grants for our annual meeting and radiation control training, we need your help. The easiest way to do this is to click on the DONATE button on the home page of the [CRCPD website](https://member.crcpd.org/fundraising/give), which will take you to <https://member.crcpd.org/fundraising/give>.

You have options on the amount of the donation, how the donation is to be used, ways of payment, and whether the donation is a tribute to someone.



**AS A 501 (C)(3)  
NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION,  
YOUR DONATIONS ARE  
FEDERAL INCOME TAX  
DEDUCTIBLE.**

Since we plan to provide travel grants to the 2025 National Conference in Tucson, this would be an excellent opportunity for you to contribute to that program.



## CRCPD Travel Grants and Scholarships Available

The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors announces the availability of travel grants for CRCPD Associate Members planning to attend the next annual meeting and training sessions of the CRCPD or students enrolled in health physics programs.

### CRCPD Associate Members

To be eligible for this award, the individual must be a current member of the CRCPD, must be in a professional position in a state or local radiation control program, and must have a strong radiation control or health physics career interest.

The award will consist of free meeting registration, airfare or mileage, and funds to assist in lodging and per diem. If you feel that your attendance at the National Conference on Radiation Control would help you and your agency, we would like to invite you to nominate using the link below. We encourage first-time attendees to apply. The nomination should be accompanied by a letter from the Director Member addressing the merits, career interests, and needs of the employee for the travel grant.

The granting of an award and the actual amount of travel funds will depend on the number of nominations and the availability of funds. The travel grants will be consistent with the following priority schedule:

1. Members presenting a paper — 1<sup>st</sup> Priority
2. Members presenting a poster—2<sup>nd</sup> Priority
3. Members in need of associated training—3<sup>rd</sup> Priority

CRCPD also announces the availability of scholarships for attendance at recognized training courses for state radiation control employees. The nomination form provided may be used for application for a training course and be accompanied by course information and a letter from the Director member addressing the merit and need of the employee for the scholarship. To be eligible for this award, the individual must be a current member of the CRCPD, must be in a professional position in a state or local radiation control program, and have a strong radiation control or health physics career interest.

**The deadline for submission of 2025 CRCPD travel grant nomination is February 14, 2025.**

# Nomination Form for 2025 CRCPD Travel Grant



## **CRCPD Travel Grants and Scholarships Available**

### **Health Physics Student Travel Grants**

To be eligible for this award, the individual must be a current student in health physics and must have a strong health physics career interest. Priority will be given to those health physics students who make a presentation (oral or poster) of interest to the radiation control community and/or who are planning on making regulatory health physics as a career path.

The award will consist of free meeting registration, airfare or mileage, and funds to assist in lodging and per diem. If you feel that your attendance at the National Conference on Radiation Control would help you to further your education, we would like to invite you to apply using the link below. The nomination form should be accompanied by a letter from the educational program director or major professor, addressing the merit, career interests, and needs of the student for the travel grant.

**The deadline for submission of 2025 CRCPD travel grant nomination is February 14, 2025.**

## **[Nomination Form for 2025 CRCPD Travel Grant](#)**



## RAPTER COURSES FOR 2025

by Ruth E. McBurney, CRCPD

We have recently received information from NNSA/Consequence Management on the RAPTER Courses for 2025. The RAPTER courses for FY25 will take place according dates and regions shown in this article and will be held at the DOE's Las Vegas Field Office.

### RAPTER DATES & REGIONS

RAPTER I – March 10-14

Region 1, 3 and 4

RAPTER II – March 24-28

Region 1, 2 and 4

RAPTER III – April 7-11

Region 6 and 7

RAPTER IV – April 21-25

Region 5 and 7

CRCPD will be able to fund up to twelve state radiation control staff to attend the weeklong courses. CRCPD will pay all travel costs for the persons chosen from each RAP region to go. It is important that the state personnel attend during the week that FBI participants from their region are there to make contacts.

This course is for decision-makers (not field monitoring personnel). States should provide personnel versed in the state's role in radiation emergency response. Personnel should also have a CBRN Responder account as CBRN Responder will be used during the RAPTER training exercises. We also want to include some non-nuclear power reactor states to start to fill the gap on emergency preparedness in those states; we will provide a good mix of personnel to ensure that more experienced state personnel can serve as mentors to those less experienced in each class.

Send any nominations for the courses to Tanya Ridgle (LA County), who is our Emergency Response Training Coordinator. Tanya's email is [tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov). For each nominee, provide a brief description of their duties in the radiation control program and potential for emergency response duties, if those are not already included.

Reference: [RADIOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS \(RAP\) REGIONS](#)

and [SCHEDULE AGENDA FOR THE 2025 COURSES](#)

## CRCPD SPOTLIGHT

*The Board learned in November that Melissa Martin would be stepping down as the American Association of Physicists in Medicine's (AAPM) liaison to CRPCD. Her last official representation was at the Board's Fall Board Meeting in November.*

*It is hard to envision a CRPCD meeting without Melissa or her support and input on the committees she has participated in. **The Board voted unanimously to make Melissa an Honorary Member of CRPCD so she can continue to support and provide input on these committees.** We also created a short slide show and Certificate of Appreciation as a small attempt to show Melissa how much we have enjoyed and valued our relationship with her over these many years.*

## MELISSA MARTIN

*In Appreciation*

To

**Melissa Martin**

For

**Over 30 years of continuous service and support  
on behalf of AAPM**

**to the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors  
and the State Radiation Control Programs.**

**Her willingness to share her expertise and knowledge through  
the provision of training and scientific expertise  
through working groups and national conferences  
is genuinely appreciated.**



With Melissa Martin



With Dave Allard



With Rikki Waller



With Karen Beckley

CRCPD SPOTLIGHT

MELISSA MARTIN

*A Tribute*

*written by George “Don” Frey when we contacted Melissa’s colleagues who were involved in the early days as CRCPD and AAPM worked to develop a partnership.*

At one time, not many years ago, there was substantial conflict between the CRCPD and the AAPM/ACR. This reflected the view of many physicists that physicists were the experts on radiation protection, equipment design, and function. On the other hand, many members of the CRCPD seemed to feel that physicists had no comprehension about the formation of regulations. They felt physicists had no idea about working with state regulators and the wide range of equipment that had to be covered by the regulations. At the first CRCPD meeting I attended, I felt that I was watching a mid-level war movie with the two armies facing each other across a battlefield.

**There were active individuals from both groups, but the effective leader was Melissa Martin.**

Luckily there was a group of physicists (AAPM & ACR) and regulators (CRCPD) who saw the importance of cooperation between the two groups. There were folks on both sides that worked on this. These individuals felt a physicist-regulator coalition would benefit both groups. There were active individuals from both groups, but the effective leader was Melissa Martin. Melissa had the uncanny ability to recognize the needs of both groups and recruit both individuals and both groups to work toward

common ends. This was immediately visible at CRCPD meetings. Both the AAPM and the ACR provided speakers at the CRCPD meetings. Melissa would work with the CRCPD to define topics. She would then undertake the sensitive task of finding physicist speakers that were experts in those topics but were also sensitive to the needs of the CRCPD. This cooperation remains strong today much to the benefit to both groups. While this was a joint effort it is clear that its success lies largely with Melissa. If the CRCPD ever developed a “physicist of the year” award I would suggest they name it the “Melissa Martin Award.”

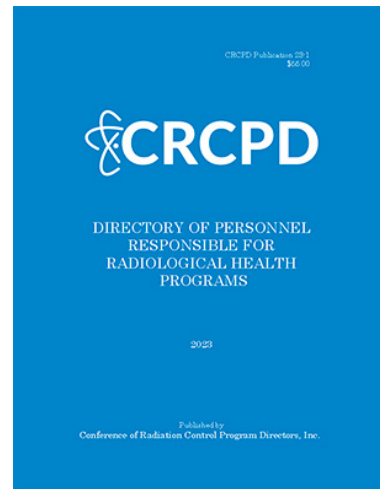
**CRCPD WELCOMES  
NEW MEMBERS**

**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 [CRCPD](#).



***Erratum***

The *Newsbrief* article “E-25 Committee on Radon Continues Efforts to Achieve Radon Risk Reduction” published in the October 2024 issue contained an error of identification and an error of omission, for which we apologize. The article should have noted that Kim Steves is a resource individual for E-25 and an advisor rather than a E-25 member. Omitted from the identification of presenters at the event was Denise Bleiler, who participated in a presentation on “Overview: Cancer Control Plans and Radon.”

**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](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.

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