



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

NEWSBRIEF

www.crcpd.org

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

October 2021

Message from Chairperson Angela Leek, CHP

As we move into the autumn season, I find it hard to believe we are entering the last couple of months of 2021! **CRCPD continues to maintain the momentum characteristic of the passion and energy of our membership and the staff at the Office of the Executive Director (OED.)** I continue to be impressed by the significant efforts and accomplishments made across our organization.

The Board is all set to meet in Alexandria, VA during the week of November 15 – 19, 2021 for the fall Board meeting. **We look forward to reviewing the accomplishments of this past year and planning for next year and our annual conference in May 2022.** I look forward to sharing the details of this meeting with you in the next newsletter, and as always, please reach out to me or any other Board member if there is a topic you feel we should address during our meetings. Our goal is to support your needs and represent your perspectives, so we encourage you to communicate with any of the Board members if you have specific goals or priorities that you feel CRCPD should focus on.



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Message from Chairperson *(continued)*

National Radon Training Event

“...due to travel restrictions for many states, it was changed to a virtual event at the last minute. Mendy and the staff at OED pulled off the transition in what seemed like a seamless effort, but this feat was anything but effortless.”

Angela Leek

Maintaining the Momentum

2021 National Radon Training Event

The 2021 National Radon Training Event was held virtually in October 2021 with record attendance. This event was originally scheduled to be in coordination with the in-person Radon Symposium held by the American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (AARST), but due to travel restrictions for many states, it was changed to a virtual training at the last minute. Mendy and the staff at OED pulled off the transition in what seemed like a seamless effort, but this feat was anything but effortless. **If you attended the virtual training and get a chance, please thank Ruth, Mendy, and the OED team for their hard work to make sure our membership was able to access the important radon-related information shared at the training.**

International Atomic Energy Agency’s General Conference

In September 2021, I was honored to represent the CRCPD at the International Atomic Energy Agency’s (IAEA) General Conference. There were many interesting topics discussed and it was valuable to hear the perspectives of the many nations who presented during the plenary sessions. **I also was able to meet with our IAEA colleague, Miroslav Pinak, and discuss our shared initiatives under the practical arrangement between CRCPD and IAEA and explore ideas for continued coordination in the future.** We are appreciative of this partnership with the IAEA to support radiation protection activities for the U.S. and internationally. We hope to have our international partners join us at our annual conference in Tucson, AZ in May 2022.

CRCPD’s Annual Financial Review

As the 2021 calendar year nears the end, the OED staff will be meeting with Lisa Bruedigan, our treasurer, to review the annual financial information and prepare to review it with the entire Board during the fall Board meeting. **We have many grants that support our activities and the OED staff and Lisa do an amazing job of keeping track of all of the various timelines and deliverables.** On that note, I wanted to remind everyone that grants are the primary

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Message from
Chairperson *(continued)*

Maintaining the Momentum - *continued*

**Grants Support
CRCPD Activities**

“Most of the deliverables for these grants are carried out through the work of our committees and we thank our committee chairs and members for their efforts and for providing the documentation and updates necessary for our grant reporting.”

Angela Leek

source of funding that support the activities of CRCPD, so we must foster these agreements and ensure we are meeting the deliverables tied to these grant priorities. Most of the deliverables for these grants are carried out through the work of our committees and we thank our committee chairs and members for their efforts and for providing the documentation and updates necessary for our grant reporting. We also thank our federal partners for their work to provide these grant opportunities to support our coordinated efforts.

OAS, CRCPD and NRC Virtual Meeting - Postponed

Finally, the virtual meeting of the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) Board and CRCPD Board with NRC Commissioners and senior management that was scheduled for October 28th has been postponed due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict. **We will let you know when that is rescheduled so you can tune in to listen to the discussion of topics of importance to the states and the NRC.** We look forward to meeting with and hearing the perspectives of our NRC partners.

National Radiation Protection Professionals' Week

With National Radiation Protection Professionals' Week coming up on November 8-13, 2021, **I hope you all take a moment to celebrate and reflect on the impacts that each of you continue to make every day in the protection of the health and safety of our communities and environment.**

Thank you for all you do for your state and the CRCPD. I hope you all have a wonderful fall and upcoming holiday season!



Greetings from Your Executive Director



Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

9/11 Reflections

“The discussions caused me to think about how radiation protection and our organization also has changed as well.”

Ruth McBurney

9/11/2001 Changes

In September of this year, there were many remembrances for the 20th Anniversary of 9/11/2001, and how our lives have changed as a result of the events of that day—how we travel, attend large events and how we go about our business and livelihoods. The discussions caused me to think about how radiation protection and our organization also has changed as well.

As part of a radiation control agency at the time, I was part of a team conducting a stakeholder meeting on new proposed radiation safety standards that day. It happened to be in an auditorium at a facility that also contained a research reactor. Within a couple of hours, it was in lockdown with enhanced security. **It came with the immediate realization that we, like others, would be dealing with both safety and security in the months and years to come.**

Over the next few years, many changes came about in federal and state radiation protection programs, primarily aimed at reducing the threat of radioactive sources getting into the hands of those who could use the sources with malicious intent, as well as preparing for situations where such sources may be used for acts of terrorism, such as radiological dispersal devices (RDDs) or radiological exposure devices (REDs). In addition, state emergency response preparedness guidance and exercises have increased in preparedness for improvised nuclear devices (INDs). **In so doing, CRCPD has changed to meet the needs of the states for guidance and potential solutions to these issues.**

Starting in 2002-2003, the **International Atomic Energy Agency** completed a source categorization that formed the basis for security requirements for radioactive sources. The **U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Agreement States** implemented security requirements for higher activity sources, which led to rulemaking in the ensuing years.

Disposition of disused radioactive sources was seen as a mechanism to reduce the threat. The **Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)** began collecting higher activity disused sources, such as cesium irradiators.

Executive Director

Greetings *(continued)*Evolving
Collaborations

“The federal agencies with whom CRCPD collaborated on radiation issues have evolved following the events of 9/11/2001.”

Ruth E. McBurney

9/11/2001 Changes - continued

Organizational Changes

Several changes in CRCPD’s organizational structure also came about as more focus was drawn to homeland security issues. In the late 1990’s, the **Radiological Emergency Response Planning Committee was a committee in the Environmental Nuclear Council of CRCPD**, working with the federal agencies to provide guidance to the state and local Radiation Control Programs (RCP) on planning for emergencies at nuclear power plants, transportation incidents, etc.

By the end of the 2003 Annual Conference, the CRCPD Board of Directors had formed a **Homeland Security Council** to oversee the working groups needed to address the emerging issues identified during the meeting that related to homeland security. By 2006, this council was changed to include the committees dealing with emergency response planning to become the **Homeland Security/ Emergency Response (HS/ER) Council**, since most of the activities involved emergency response planning and coordination. Currently, there are nine active working groups in the HS/ER Council.

Cooperation with Federal Agencies and Other Organizations

The federal agencies with whom CRCPD collaborated on radiation issues have evolved following the events of 9/11/2001. The **NNSA’s Global Radiological Threat Reduction Program (now the Office of Radiological Security)** established a cooperative agreement with CRCPD for the Source Collection and Threat Reduction (SCATR) Program to provide funding incentives for disposing of unwanted sources that have a commercial disposal option.

CRCPD has also worked with **NNSA’s Office of Counterterrorism and Counterproliferation** for coordination of state and federal assets in radiological incident preparedness, as well as coordinating with that office and **FEMA’s Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Office** in the development of the Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS) Program.

CRCPD began to have greater involvement with the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** in:

- the development of an RDD Handbook for First Responders;

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Executive Director

Greetings *(continued)*

Radiation Protection Professionals Week

“...it is an excellent time to reflect on the accomplishments and changes in radiation protection over the last 20 years and to recognize those in this important field for the service they provide every day.”

Ruth E. McBurney

9/11/2001 Changes - continued

- workshops on communication teamwork with other public health, medical, radiation protection, and emergency response organizations, which led to the formation of the **National Alliance for Radiation Readiness (NARR)**; and
- incorporating the use of volunteers in community reception centers and population monitoring.

We are also now a participating organization with the **Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)**.

Communication and Training

Although CRCPD has evolved to address homeland security as well as other emerging issues in healing arts, environmental radiation, industry, and the health physics workforce, we are also attempting to make improvements and make greater use of technology in communication and training. The use of RadResponder has enhanced radiological assessment capabilities in normal and emergency situations. Also, the growing ROSS program will provide access to radiological expertise for emergencies in those state and local areas in which that expertise is not readily available or for enhancement of the workforce in emergency situations.

However, there is always more work to be done. Over the next few months, CRCPD will be working with the **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** to evaluate advisory capability, analysis, and equipment gaps in radiological/nuclear (rad/nuc) preparedness, and ways that we, along with our federal partners, can lessen those gaps.

Radiation Protection Professionals Week, November 7 - 13, 2021

Since the week of November 7 – 13, 2021 will be designated as Radiation Protection Professionals Week, it is an excellent time to reflect on the accomplishments and changes in radiation protection over the last 20 years and to recognize those in this important field for the service they provide every day.

Kudos to all of you!



***Conference of Radiation Control Program
Directors, Inc.
Announces the Celebration of
National Radiation Protection Professionals Week
November 7 -13, 2021***

Coinciding with the anniversary of the discovery of x-rays by Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen on November 8, 1895, the week is dedicated to recognizing radiation protection professionals who provide leadership in protecting the public from the hazards of radiation. The dedicated work of these individuals ensures that radiation and radioactive materials are used safely and beneficially in industry, medicine, academia, energy, and government sectors, while protecting the public and environment from adverse effects of excessive radiation exposure.

Since early 2020, many of these professionals have taken on additional duties in responding to the pandemic and adjusting to maintaining a safe work environment, both in radiation safety and protection from COVID. Training and meetings continued, though virtually. This required extra work and learning new techniques.

The CRCPD Resolution on Radiation Protection Professionals Week is published in this *Newsbrief* to honor and congratulate all radiation protection professionals.





CONFERENCE OF RADIATION CONTROL PROGRAM DIRECTORS, INC.

RESOLUTION

- Relating to:** National Radiation Protection Professionals Week
- WHEREAS:** Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen discovered X rays on November 8, 1895; and
- WHEREAS:** Soon after, natural radioactivity was discovered in March of 1896 by Henri Becquerel, and
- WHEREAS:** In the late 1890s, Marie and Pierre Curie discovered the new elements polonium and radium, and
- WHEREAS:** Radioactive Materials and Radiation are a useful and necessary part of our modern world; and
- WHEREAS:** Acute and low-level radiation exposure is potentially harmful to people; and
- WHEREAS:** Man-made and concentrated natural radioactivity can cause environmental contamination; and
- WHEREAS:** Protection of the homeland involves radiation safety, security and response capabilities; and
- WHEREAS:** Radiation Protection Professionals work with government, industry, medical, educational, and private entities to serve as sources of information and bring the benefits of X rays, radiation and radioactivity to the public while minimizing the hazards of radiation exposure; and
- WHEREAS:** Radiation Protection Professionals provide scientific expertise, training, support, coordination and information to national and international communities regarding prevention of, responses to, and recovery from radiation accidents; and
- WHEREAS:** The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. supports efforts to encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of Radiation Protection Professionals who provide necessary leadership in protecting the public from the hazards associated with radiation.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED:

That November 7-13, 2021 is National Radiation Protection Professionals Week.

That the weeklong observance is dedicated to recognizing Radiation Protection Professionals for their contributions to public safety.

On behalf of the members of the Conference of Radiation Control Directors, Inc., I am pleased to recognize November 7-13, 2021 as National Radiation Protection Professionals Week.



CIRMS 29th Annual Meeting

“Trusting Radiation Science: Measuring what cannot be seen.”

CIRMS 29th Annual Meeting

The organizers of the 29th annual meeting of the Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards (CIRMS) invite you to attend their meeting, which will be held April 11-13, 2022 in a virtual format (online only).

The theme for this year’s meeting is “Trusting Radiation Science: Measuring what cannot be seen.” This theme covers a broad range of topics and which will bring together experts from industry, academia, and government from across the globe to address key issues and develop a Needs Report.

The virtual meeting format will provide you with another exciting program consisting of plenary oral presentations, virtual poster sessions, and working group sessions with oral presentations and ample time to discuss the Needs Report. The working group sessions will be organized by our three subcommittees:

- **Medical Applications:** diagnostic imaging, radiotherapy, proton therapy nuclear medicine, fluoroscopy, radiobiology, physical and computational phantoms, radiation transport simulations, 3D printing, and more
- **Radiation Protection and Homeland Security:** advances in detection instrumentation, emergency response, nuclear events, radiochemistry, waste analysis, personnel dosimetry, electronic dosimeters, bioassay and internal dosimetry, environmental dosimetry, first responder needs, and more
- **Industrial Applications and Material Effects:** dosimetry for radiation processing, material effects, space applications, food irradiation and sterilization, irradiators, low dose standards, safety at radiation facilities, ASTM standards, and more

Please visit the 2022 CIRMS Meeting at the BWCHPS website at https://bwchps.org/event_calendar/9455/ for information on the meeting program as it is developed.

Please share the meeting flyer at <http://cirms.org/pdf/CIRMS-2022-Call-For-Abstracts.pdf> with your colleagues!



CRCPD Holds First Virtual National Radon Training Event

First Virtual Radon Training Event

The E-25 Committee on Radon developed a great agenda for the first-ever Virtual Radon Training Event, held October 11 – 13, 2021. **There were 162 attendees, 41 states represented, and 47 speakers.** Attendance is on average 105 for in person meetings, but due to travel restrictions from federal and state agencies, the number of people that could attend an in-person event was very limited. **Transitioning to a virtual training enabled us to reach a larger audience.**

The E-25 Committee on Radon put together the speakers and agenda. Chrys Kelley (CO), out-going chair, gave the opening remarks and welcome. Josh Kerber (MN) now serves as chair. Chrys, Brian Giancola (NJ) and Eleanor Divver (UT) were the moderators. Burk and Associates facilitated the training.

A wide range of topics were presented by expert speakers. Included were panel discussions on Low-Income Mitigation Assistance and Environmental Justice, as well as presentations on code change efforts for residential, workplace and school buildings. The American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (AARST) held their symposium in person. The Tuesday joint sessions with AARST were also presented in a hybrid format, and CRCPD participants were able to attend those sessions virtually as well.

To review the agenda and list of speakers, visit <http://burkclients.com/CRCPD/2021/radon/site/index.html>



CRCPD Welcomes New Members

New Members September & October

Director Members

Alexander Hamm (RI)

Doug Hansen (UT)

Associate Members

Randy Crowe (NC)

Matthew Torrico (TN)

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 www.crcpd.org



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) 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

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Homeland Security/Emergency Response Council	Tanya Ridgle (LA County, CA) 213/351-7385 tanya.ridgle@cdph.ca.gov
Suggested State Regulations Council	Michael Snee (OH) 614/644-2732 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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