



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

NEWSBRIEF

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A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

April 2017

Message from Chairperson Jared Thompson



As Horace Greeley stated in part, “Go West, young men and ladies, Go West.” It is time for the 49th National Conference on Radiation Control in Scottsdale, Arizona on May 8-11, 2017. The theme of the Conference is ***Expanding the Scope of Partnerships in Radiation Protection and Security***. You may register on-line for the Conference at www.crcpd.org through May 8, 2017.

The agenda has many topics of interest for all of you. Representatives from the International Energy Agency (IAEA) will be present and participate in Conference proceedings. Training sessions will be conducted on:

- mammography;
- technologically enhanced naturally occurring radioactive material (TENORM);
- medical event reporting; and
- continuing education training offered by the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM).

I want to encourage everyone to attend all the sessions of the meeting. Even if you are unfamiliar with the topic, it is an opportunity to diversify your professional knowledge in radiation protection.

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Message from Chairperson *(continued)*

49th National Conference on Radiation Control

"The theme of the Conference is Expanding the Scope of Partnerships in Radiation Protection and Security. I encourage everyone to register early and book your hotel rooms."

Jared Thompson

Come join us for an interesting and thought-provoking conference on radiation protection partnerships. **I encourage Program Directors to invite staff members who have not had the opportunity to attend this meeting.**

Scottsdale is a beautiful city and is known as the "The West's Most Western Town." Arizona has some very colorful desert scenery and the Night Out will be at the Rocking' R Ranch for some good ole Western adventure and food. **I look forward to see you all in Scottsdale.**

Organization of Agreement States Spring Board Meeting

I attended and participated in the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) Spring Board Meeting in Memphis, Tennessee on March 20-21, 2017. I presented an update of CRCPD activities and there was discussion on areas of mutual interest. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) provided an update on issues and rulemaking. OAS also made plans for their annual meeting in August 2017 in Memphis. **The OAS Board is very dedicated and committed to the support of the Agreement States.** CRCPD is proud to partner with OAS in this endeavor.



Front Row: USNRC Commissioner Jeff Barran, USNRC Chairman Kristine Sviniki, USNRC Commissioner Steven Burns.

Back Row: William Irwin, Past Chair, CRCPD; David Allard, Chair-Elect, CRCPD; Jared Thompson, Chairperson, CRCPD; Matt McKinley, Chair, OAS; David Turberville, Chair-Elect, OAS; Sherrie Flaherty, Past Chair, OAS.

Message from Chairperson *(continued)*

USNRC Commissioners' Briefing

*“ This allowed
the exchange of
information on
pertinent USNRC
issues related to
the Agreement
States. ”*

Jared Thompson

Organization of Agreement States Spring Board Meeting - *continued*

Dave Allard, Bill Irwin and I attended the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners' Briefing on April 4, 2017. We accompanied our OAS partners, Matt McKinley, David Turberville and Sherrie Flaherty. We briefed the Commissioner on:

- Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) consistency;
- Agreement State Policy Statement, Category 3 Source Security;
- Radiation Protection Standards, 10 CFR Part 61; and
- USNRC training.

The briefing was very collegial and there was discussion on many of these topics. **The USNRC was encouraged to continue to broaden training course availability in order to reach a larger target group in basic radiation protection areas.**

The six of us had the opportunity to meet privately with Chairperson Svinicki and Commissioners Burns and Baran. This allowed the exchange of information on pertinent USNRC issues related to the Agreement States. We also met with Fred Brown, Executive Director for Operations; Marc Dupas, Director, Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards Programs (NMSS); and members of the NMSS staff. All meetings provided opportunity to communicate and exchange information. **We appreciate the time and hospitality offered for the USNRC Commission briefing and staff meetings.** While it was long day; it was very worthwhile for CRCPD and OAS representatives.

So, pack up and head to the ole West. Safe travels and “Don’t get none on ya!”



Greetings from Your Executive Director



Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

Partnerships

“A constant theme that has been running through much of the activities of CRCPD is that of partnerships...”

Ruth E. McBurney

Partnerships in Radiation Protection and Security

A constant theme that has been running through much of the activities of CRCPD is that of partnerships: among state programs, with other organizations and federal agencies, and with groups of organizations in alliances. **This subject will be continuing into our upcoming National Conference on Radiation Control, where the theme will be *Expanding the Scope of Partnerships in Radiation Protection and Security*.** We will be highlighting some of the successful partnerships we have attained this year and those that are continuing to gain strength.

As budgets and travel become limited in many of the state and federal programs, these partnerships and collaborations become even more important to the extent that many radiation issues can be addressed jointly through conference calls and web conferences. Much of the work of CRCPD's committees has been accomplished in this manner. The monthly X-ray Topics and Trends conference call has been implemented this year. Under the leadership of the H-7 Committee on Diagnostic X-ray, discussions are held on numerous x-ray issues and states share information on methods of addressing those issues. **I called in to listen to the discussion on one of the recently monthly calls, and was delighted by the amount of great networking going on among the state programs.**

CRCPD is also partnering and building alliances with several organizations to address radiation issues. In addition to the great partnerships we have built over the years with the various federal agencies, as well as the American College of Radiology, the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, the American Society for Radiation Oncology, the Health Physics Society, the Institute of Scrap Recycling, the radiologic technologist organizations, and several others, several recent alliances have been developed to address specific issues:

TENORM: The National Council on Radiation Protection and CRCPD are working together to address some of the waste issues with Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM), particularly those coming from the oil and gas industry.

Radiological Emergency Preparedness in Public Health: The National Alliance for Radiation Readiness (NARR) is a forum for sharing and evaluating practices, resources, and tools related to radiological readiness, and serves as the “voice of health” in radiological preparedness. Membership in the NARR is now up to 18 member organizations and eight federal agencies. More about this alliance can be found at www.radiationready.org.

Executive Director

Greetings *(continued)*

Thanks

*"Thanks to all
the volunteers....*

*Congratulations
to the new
incoming Board
members and
thanks to all of
you who ran for
office.*

*Thanks to
the OED staff
who have kept
everything
going!"*

Ruth E. McBurney

Partnerships in Radiation Protection and Security - *continued*

Source Security: CRCPD and the Organization of Agreement States have partnered with the Low Level Radioactive Waste Forum, in particular with regard to the Disused Sources Working Group, **to develop recommendations and guidance for disused sources.**

Radiological Operations Support Specialists: This concept is a collaborative effort of several federal agencies and contractors, as well as CRCPD, **to develop a cadre of highly skilled health physicists trained to assist in technical support roles in radiological emergencies.**

Radon: **The Radon Leaders Working Group is an alliance of several organizations and federal agencies that are working on strategies to reduce radon in homes, schools, and other buildings under the National Radon Action Plan.** The list of organizations and the strategies for radon risk reduction can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/radon/national-radon-action-plan-strategy-saving-lives>.

These are just a few of the areas in which our members are working with other groups to improve radiological health. **Some of these partnerships, as well as the recent Practical Arrangement with the International Atomic Energy Agency, will be highlighted at our upcoming 49th National Conference on Radiation Control in Scottsdale, Arizona.** I really hope you will be able to come!

I recently read an article pertaining to another national conference, which provided several reasons that face-to-face annual conferences inspire their attendees: **careers flourish, the organization re-energizes, and your own community (or agency, in the case of state programs) benefits.** I really think this is applicable to our annual conference as well.

Lastly, I would like to once again thank all our volunteers who work diligently on working groups and the Board.

Congratulations to the new incoming Board members and thanks to all of you who ran for office. **I hope to see many of you in Scottsdale next month to thank you personally.** Also, thanks to the Office of the Executive Director (OED) staff who have kept everything going!



Advisory Team on Food, Health and the Environment Meeting Report

By Patrick Mulligan (NJ), Advisor to the HS/ER-5 Committee

On March 8 and 9, Patrick Mulligan, Advisor to the HS/ER-5 Committee, attended a meeting of the Advisory Team on Food, Health and the Environment in Washington, D.C. Pat Mulligan provided an overview of the CRCPD's accomplishments over the past year. The two day meeting agenda included updates from all participating federal agencies and the re-development of working groups within the Advisory Team. The afternoon of the final day was spent engaged in a tabletop exercise. Pat Mulligan participated in the exercise and provided input as requested on the perspective of the state agencies.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

ACRYNOMS

AAR Northern Lights After Action Report

FRMAC Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center

FERN Food Emergency Response Network

NARR National Alliance for Radiation Readiness

NRRIA Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex

IPX Ingestion Pathway Exercise

OEM Office of Emergency Management

PAG Protective Action Guide

RAMS Radiation Database

RASCAL Radiological Assessment System for Consequence Analysis computer code

REP Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program

ROIC Regional Operations and Intelligence Center

ROSS Radiological Operations Support Specialist

USDA U.S. Department of Agriculture

USDOE U.S. Department of Energy

USEPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

USFDA U.S. Food and Drug Administration

USFEMA U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency

USNASA U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration

FRMAC

announced two meeting dates in 2017, both to be held at USD OE headquarters in Washington, D.C.:

- Assessment Working Group, May 16-17
- Operations Working Group, May 18

Mission Analysis Working Group is gearing up to get started on working on an update to the manual. Dates for those meetings will be forthcoming.

TurboFRMAC 2017 has been released and includes the incorporation of the new USEPA PAGs and incorporates some RASCAL products as outputs.

USDA

reported that it is looking for funding to perform a study to evaluate both external and internal contamination of pets and service animals and decontamination techniques that might be beneficial.

USFDA

provided an update on FERN. This group will be starting up again with a kickoff meeting between five of the biggest laboratories in the network to discuss how best to coordinate and move forward. The date and location have not been set as of the meeting.

Advisory Team on Food, Health and the Environment Meeting Report - continued

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

Exercises and Reports

Northern Lights After Action Report

is in the final stages of review and should be signed and available before the National REP Conference in April 2017.

Cobalt Magnet

Full Federal exercises will now all be called Cobalt Magnet to help with identification from year to year. This will be the standard nomenclature moving forward.

Annual Exercise Team Participation

The Advisory Team fully participates in one exercise annually. Southern Exposure and Northern lights were the exercise names in past two years. Gotham Shield will be the full participation exercise for 2017.

NRIA

The latest version of the NRIA will be tested during the Gotham Shield exercise.

IPX

The Advisory Team went over the exercise and drill calendar for the coming year and looked for volunteers to participate in various IPXs across the country.

USEPA

Sara DeCair provided an overview of the updated PAG Manual and highlighted the significant changes. These changes include

- elimination of the 5 REM Thyroid PAG for evacuation;
- elimination of the 50 year PAG for relocation; and
- addition of a PAG for water.

Other highlights of additional guidance were also discussed during the presentation including return and recovery and waste management.

USFEMA

noted that the USEPA PAG implementation was to be accomplished within one year as a general guideline but that is not a hard and fast date. All offsite organizations should at least be working toward that goal within one year. USFEMA will provide staff assistance visits as requested to assist with the implementation.

USFEMA provided an update on the status of the ROSS training. As of March 2016, there are 16 certified ROSS from the pilot course. The course is now certified and USFEMA is developing additional dates for more training. They hope to increase that number to over 200 within the next year or two. A ROSS is a rapidly deployable subject matter expert that can provide technical analysis to decision makers. Three ROSSs will be deployed for the Gotham Shield Exercise: New York State OEM (Albany), New York City OEM and New Jersey ROIC.

ADVISORY TEAM ON FOOD, HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Advisory Team on Food, Health and the Environment Meeting Report - continued

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

Working Groups

Outreach Working Group

is continuing to update the overview presentation that the Advisory Team uses for Outreach programs. The original slide deck was 72 slides. The current draft is about half that. About two hours was spent going over, slide by slide, the presentation and individual organizations provided feedback on their respective agencies.

Advisory Team Training Working Group and Logistics Working Group

provided brief updates on the status of their work. The Logistics Working Group is nearing getting final approval for the Concept of Operations.

NARR

provided an overview of their activities for the past year. They continue efforts to reach out to radiation professionals to improve preparedness among clinical professionals in radiation protection and related fields.

USDOE

has available from the USNASA missions, 30 deployable real-time fixed monitoring stations that are telemetered to the RAMS database. These can be deployed by USDOE in response to a radiological emergency.

USDOE has developed and updated training modules for:

- TurboFRMAC;
- Assessment 50 - now online;
- Liaison 100 - provided via webinar four times annually and others as requested.

The USDOE Aerial Measuring System has received upgrades which ingrate data more effectively with FRMAC and RAMS.

ADVISORY TEAM ON FOOD, HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Contact for More Information

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Summary of IAEA Technical Meeting on Preventing Unintended and Accidental Medical Exposures in Radiology

by Jennifer Elee (LA), Healing Arts Council and H-38 Chairperson

IAEA Technical Meeting Accidental Medical Exposures

A meeting was held March 6-8, 2017 by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Preventing Unintended and Accidental Medical Exposures in Radiology. Jennifer Elee participated in the meeting on behalf of CRCPD. **The purpose of the meeting was to discuss different countries' experiences with medical events in diagnostic radiology.** More than 20

countries participated in the seminar. Participants were from Asia, Europe, Africa, North America and South America. In addition to countries, many organizations participated, including CRCPD. The program was broken down into sessions including:

- “Understanding What is Expected and Why (Basic Safety Standards Requirements);”
- “Learning from Experience;”
- “Categorizing Incidents in Terms of Causes and Types;”
- “Investigation and Reporting of Events;”
- “Factors That May Lead to Events;” and
- working sessions.

CRCPD was able to lend our knowledge of defining an event and our experience from the past five years with collecting diagnostic events from the state programs. **We are ahead of many of the countries participating and have the only system currently in use for reporting events from multiple states.** There was much discussion of the definition of an event and how dose factors into the definition. The consensus of the group was while dose should not define an event, it should be part of a good root cause analysis of an event. **In addition to typical events, there was much discussion on unintended exposures of pregnant women and how this fits into the incident framework.**

The group was divided into three working groups to look at the process of investigating and reporting incidents, elements of proper management of incidents in a radiology facility, and criteria for reporting and notification of events to authorities. The reports from each of the working groups will be combined into a paper by IAEA to summarize the meeting outcomes.



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.



New Members & Directory Changes April

New Members and 2017 Directory Changes

CRCPD Welcomes New Members

DIRECTOR MEMBERS

Rejina Alam (NY)

Eva S. Nair (MD)

Kristen Schwab (WA)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Thomas Ball (UT)

Kim Effertz (NV)

Fayne Martini (NV)

Brandie Peretz (NV)

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

James Pienkowski (MI)

Daniel B. Shrum (UT)

Cindy Tomlinson (VA)

Directory Changes

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insert new phone number: 271/785-9851



CRCPD Board of Directors

<i>Board position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Work Phone</i>	<i>E-mail address</i>
Chairperson.....	Jared Thompson.....	Arkansas	501/661-2173.....	jared.thompson@arkansas.gov
Chairperson-Elect	Dave Allard, CHP	Pennsylvania.....	717/787-2480.....	djallard@pa.gov
Past Chairperson	William Irwin, Sc.D., CHP.....	Vermont.....	802/865-7730.....	william.irwin@vermont.gov
Treasurer	Aaron Gantt.....	South Carolina.....	803/545-4420.....	ganttaa@dhec.sc.gov
Treasurer-Elect	Cindy Becker.....	Florida.....	850/245-4266.....	cindy.becker@flhealth.gov
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Member-at-Large.....	Jennifer Elee.....	Louisiana	318/362-5367.....	jennifer.elee@la.gov
Member-at-Large.....	Jeff Day.....	LA Co./CA.....	213/351-7387.....	jsday@ph.lacounty.gov

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Homeland Security/Emergency Response Council	Jeff Day (LA Co./CA) 213/351-7387 jsday@ph.lacounty.gov
Suggested State Regulations Council	Earl Fordham, CHP (WA) 509/946-0234 earl.fordham@doh.wa.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: Sue Smith, 1030 Burlington Lane, Suite 4B, Frankfort, KY 40601 (fax: 502/227-7862; email: <ssmith@crcpd.org>). The deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month before an issue is to be published.

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