Board Visits with Our DC Partners

By Kim Steves (KS)

During the week of January 20th, Jeff Semancik, Karen Beckley, Ruth McBurney, and I had the opportunity to meet with many of our partners in Washington DC. This was an excellent chance to discuss ongoing projects and funding opportunities, along with putting names to faces and seeing old friends.

During this trip, Ruth was amazing – she put together an aggressive schedule of meetings which kept us busy all week trekking around the city. She led us all around Washington DC, from Alexandria to Rockville to Silver Springs. She navigated the Metro like a pro and marched us up and down many blocks of the city. We have an amazing Executive Director! Lesson number one: Wear comfortable shoes. Lesson number two: You can’t take your Starbucks on the Metro!

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

We started Tuesday morning at the offices of EPA. During our visit with EPA we obtained updates on radon initiatives and the State Indoor Radon Grants. Also discussed was the partnership...
between EPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Environmental Public Health Tracking Program to expand the national radon database. You will hear more about this at the CRCPD National Conference in Williamsburg, VA. We also discussed:

- **Radiochemistry laboratory capabilities and opportunities** to use our HS/ER12 Task Force for Radiochemistry Laboratory Assets to further identify gaps and strengths in the national capabilities for radiochemistry;

- **Implementation of the Protective Action Guidelines (PAG) Manual**, and the excellent report on states’ implementation of the PAG compiled by our HS/ER5 Committee on Emergency Response Planning;

- **Use of Rad Responder**, development of internal guidelines, including methods for collecting indoor surveys in situations of potential indoor contamination, and a plan for sharing Rad Responder data, in coordination with our E-43 Committee for Interagency Environmental Data Sharing and Communication;

- The potential for **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, known as Superfund)**, support for radiologically contaminated sites and issues associated with legacy sites; and

- The need for legislation in the states to address **Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM)**, radioactivity in rare earths, and

the incorporation of International Commission on Radiation Protection (ICRP) 142 principles into Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) industries.

**CRCPD is going to be working with the EPA on a new project regarding disposal options for large volume low activity waste in conjunction with the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO).**

**American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM)**

Tuesday afternoon we visited with AAPM and discussed potential contributions to the AAPM newsletter and the Qualified Medical Physicists (QMP) registry. We also expressed our continuing appreciation for the upcoming training they provide at the CRCPD National Conference. AAPM requested that we remind all our states that they would very much like to participate in the revision of states’ regulations when they involve medical physicists, and that they are available to assist in those efforts.

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

On Wednesday morning we met with Sean Crawford at FEMA Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive Materials (CBRNE) and discussed opportunities for a new CRCPD contract with FEMA. CRCPD members have contributed to many of FEMA’s missions through our working group efforts including HS/ER4 and the Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS), all the work accomplished by HS/ER5, ongoing support in exercises, implementation of the PAG, and multiple surveys and reports. We also requested assistance in getting our HS/ER-5 back in attendance at the Federal
Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee (FRPCC) meetings.

Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)

We also visited ISRI. We are very grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with ISRI on issues associated with radioactivity in scrap. We discussed linking our two websites for easy access to instructions on the Department of Transportation (DOT) Special Permits and the video on transportation of radioactive material. We discussed the potential for provide information and training at their conference. ISRI also maintains a network system of notifications with their member scrap yards, and this may be a viable method for informing the scrap yards when we have lost or stolen sources in our states so that they can watch for them.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

On Wednesday afternoon, we met with NRC in Rockville. As you can expect, we had a whole list of topics to discuss with NRC, ranging from the recruitment and training of new health physicists to updates on the status of the National Source Tracking System for Category 3 Sources and the status of emergency planning for advanced nuclear reactors. Ruth also discussed the initiatives of CRCPD to convert industrial radiography certifications to electronic testing at testing centers. Several of our Board members are also scheduled to jointly meet with the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) and the NRC Commissioners in June.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Thursday began with a trip to Silver Springs to meet with FDA. We discussed the upcoming Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA) training which currently has 24 students from 24 states enrolled, and the possible need for more than one training session each year. We also discussed the time involved in training and mentoring new mammography inspectors and the cost burden which falls on the states to accomplish this. FDA reported that they have new MQSA regulations which are currently in process which are estimated to be finalized by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in September of 2020. FDA is requesting help from states in the rolling out of the new regulations which will change how facilities report certain items. They are planning a national call and regional meetings regarding the new regulations.

An update on the most current Nationwide Evaluation of X-ray Trends (NEXT) study (Chiropractors) will be presented at the upcoming CRCPD National Conference. FDA received 184 survey forms from 26 states and they are still analyzing data. Regarding the use of International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standards, the FDA expressed commitment to IEC standards which provide a better assurance of radiation safety. FDA guidance on this topic is expected to be finalized in May and they would like to hear the states’ perspective. They hope to include this topic on an upcoming H-7 conference call. With IEC, there may be some needed changes to Suggested State Regulations (SSR) Part F pertaining to how FDA requirements are listed. They would also like to see the SSR for Part F review the gonadal shielding requirements.

At FDA’s request, CRCPD is reviewing the map contained on our website for Form 2579 state contacts, which needs to be revised and updated. Please take a look at the links for this map and make sure your state’s contact information is correct. In addition to the many x-ray topics addressed, we also discussed the FDA grant which is part of FDA/EPA Cooperative Agreement with CRCPD. This grant has maintained level funding for many years, while CRCPD costs to provide the...
services has increased. We emphasized how CRCPD has focused on being good stewards of the money and has been cutting costs where possible. It is our plan to request an increase in the funding for this grant.

Department of Homeland Security/Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

Thursday afternoon we were able to meet with Department of Homeland Security/CISA. This is the first time the Board has met with this group, and it was a very valuable meeting. In addition to introducing many of their staff to CRCPD, who we are and what we do, we discussed regional training collaboration opportunities and the potential to partner with ROSS and other members on endeavors associated with radiological emergency planning.

Department of Transportation (DOT)

Later Thursday afternoon we met with DOT, with whom we had not met in many years. We discussed DOT Special Permit requirements and data collection. We hope to be able to share trends in the data. We also discussed potential revisions to DOT Permit form and the possibility of making it cloud based. Karen Beckley also gave an update to her participation in the Transportation Security Unified Stakeholders Group as a representative from CRCPD.

Department of Energy (DOE)

On Friday, we finished up our DC tour with DOE meetings. We started with the Global Radiological Threat Reduction Program where we discussed current and future efforts in source disposition including issues involved in disposition of larger sources, efforts to change financial security requirements, and a new committee to address disposition of foreign-origin americium.

National Nuclear Security Administration NNSA/Consequence Management

Later that morning we were fortunate to meet at NNSA/Consequence Management, which includes Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center (FRMAC), with Jay Tilden, who is NNSA’s Associate Administrator and Deputy Under Secretary for Counterterrorism and Counterproliferation. We discussed radiochemistry laboratory capabilities, ROSS, new FRMAC endeavors including new airplanes purchased for the Aerial Measuring System (AMS) which can fly faster and farther, augmentations to Radiological Assistance Program (RAP), and how to include in the budget development for exercises the inclusion of ROSS. We also discussed offsite radiological emergency preparedness as it relates to small module reactors and the fact that a graded approach is needed that doesn’t just stop at the fence line.

During our visits with each organization, we also presented information on the new steering committee for the State Suggested Regulations Council which has been established, and our goals for how to ensure progress on important and timely SSR topics continues. This steering committee will monitor existing and emerging radiation practices and regulations to identify SSR topics which need review or revision and advise the council chair on recommended prioritization of efforts for SSR work. If you have any questions about this steering committee, or wish to volunteer to participate, please contact the Council Chair, Angela Leek, for more information.

It was a whirlwind of a week, and so beneficial for the Board to have these discussions. As always, we are grateful for the support and interaction with all our federal partners and the organizations with whom we have the opportunity to jointly address radiation issues.
Greetings from Your Executive Director

As the new year has begun, we are realizing that another decade is going by, not just a year. And as a recent survey on state radiation control training needs showed, many staff members are retiring, and more new staff will need the basic and advanced courses offered by several of the federal agencies and even private companies and colleges during the next three years.

CRCPD membership is also changing. As more of our members retire and/or move on to other pursuits, we need to get new members involved in committees in areas of their interest and expertise and to groom them to take on more leadership roles in the organization. **One of the Board priorities for this year is to Promote an Active, Energized Membership.** Toward that end, a major strategy the Board is focusing on is promoting opportunities for Participation in Committee Activities. Also, as communication technology is changing rapidly, we need some tech-savvy members and resources to assist CRCPD in doing more social media outreach and communication.

Therefore, we will soon be sending out a revised working group interest form to include both the usual areas of x-ray, radioactive materials, emergency response, etc., but some new ones dealing with social media, web content, and other communication means that are so important to keeping up with how information is conveyed. **If you receive the interest form, take the time to respond, since we would like to broaden our volunteer base and involve more (and younger) members in the work of CRCPD.**

More Opportunities for Participation

**VOTE!** The Nominating Committee has worked hard and is presenting a good slate of candidates for Board positions this year. **When you receive your electronic ballot, be sure to respond.** It is simple and the outcome is important to determining the future leadership of the organization.
Executive Director

Greetings (continued)

Changing Times & Opportunities - continued

*The Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Population Monitoring* is being offered again this year for people involved in response training at the state and local level. *This year’s workshop will be held in Orlando, Florida in June. Travel funding is available for those selected to go.* The HS/ER-13 Task Force has been quite busy putting together the content and planning this year’s workshop, using suggestions from the pilot workshop to make improvements in the training modules and timing. *If you or a member of your staff are interested in participating, please contact Tanya Ridgle (Los Angeles County Health Department) at Tanya.Ridgle@cdph.ca.gov or me.* More information on the workshop will be sent out soon and will be presented at the Public Health Preparedness Summit in March, at the National Radiological Emergency Preparedness (NREP) Conference and at the National Conference on Radiation Control in May.

*Speaking of the National Conference,* it is another great opportunity to learn, share experiences and network with colleagues that have experienced many of the same issues in radiation control. *Although computers, social media, and artificial intelligence has taken over more aspects of our lives, it is this once-a-year human connection that brings us together and makes the organization stronger.* This year’s meeting, in Williamsburg, Virginia, May 4-7, has the theme “2020 Vision for the Future.” Many of the state and federal presenters will be taking a forward look and sharing their knowledge and vision as we roll into the next decade. A schedule and more details on registration and logistics are found on another page in this issue.

*Although we are scattered across the country and even internationally, it’s these opportunities for sharing experiences and growing as an organization that make us stronger in our roles. I hope to see you in Williamsburg in May!*
52nd National Conference on Radiation Control – May 4-7, 2020
“2020 Vision for the Future”

52nd National Conference on Radiation Control
May 4 – 7, 2020

The 52nd National Conference on Radiation Control will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton Williamsburg, 50 Kings Mill Road, Williamsburg, Virginia. This year’s theme is “2020 Vision for the Future.” For more information regarding the 52nd National Conference, please visit our website at http://www.crcpd.org for the agenda and registration information.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Lodging and Reservations: Doubletree by Hilton Williamsburg
Rates: $112 single/double plus 11% sales tax per room per night
Cut-off date for making hotel reservations: April 6, 2020

A block of rooms has been reserved in the group name “Radiation Control” at the Doubletree by Hilton. You can make your reservation by calling the hotel at 757-220-2500 or online by using the direct link under Hotel and Reservations found in the meeting announcement at https://www.crcpd.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=979436.

If calling the hotel to make your reservation, please indicate that you are part of the CRCPD and provide the group name RADIATION CONTROL. You may guarantee your reservation with either a credit card or one night’s deposit. If you need to cancel your reservation, you must call and cancel within 48 hours of your arrival date or your deposit will be forfeited/credit card charged. NOTE: Guaranteed reservations are held for one night only – not for the entire stay.
52nd National Conference on Radiation Control
“2020 Vision for the Future”

The Technical Program Planning Committee is to be commended for establishing an outstanding agenda.

The Opening Session will begin Monday morning, May 4. Topical training sessions will be held Monday afternoon following the Opening Session. Online registration is available at http://www.crcpd.org

OPENING SESSION

John C. Villforth Lecturer Series presented by John Boice
Keynote Address by Troy Mueller, NNSA/DOE

TOPICAL TRAINING SCHEDULE

MONDAY AFTERNOON

New Medical Technologies--AAPM
Web-Based Licensing--NRC/NMMS
Anticipated Public Questions During Recovery Phase--Tony Nesky
Technical Tour of Naval Base and Nuclear Submarine
52nd National Conference on Radiation Control
“2020 Vision for the Future”

TUESDAY - HEALING ARTS DAY

Food and Drug Administration (USFDA)
American College of Radiology (ACR)
American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO)
American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM)
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC)
National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP)
CRCPD Working Groups

WEDNESDAY MORNING
ENVIRONMENTAL/GENERAL SESSION

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC)
State Program Presentations
CRCPD Working Groups
52nd National Conference on Radiation Control
“2020 Vision for the Future”

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON
RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS SESSION
NRC Commissioner Jeff Baran
Organization of Agreement States
NRC/NMSS
CRCPD Working Group and State Presentations

THURSDAY MORNING  EMERGENCY RESPONSE/PREPAREDNESS SESSION
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Panel on Washington Irradiator Incident
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
CRCPD Working Groups
RadResponder
52nd National Conference on Radiation Control
“2020 Vision for the Future”

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

MAMMOGRAPHY CONTINUING EDUCATION

Mammography Training is planned for Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2, 2020, to include presentations on digital quality control, quality assurance, phantom image quality, artificial intelligence, and updates in several mammography topics. Continuing education credits will be granted for this training. For more information on the training, go to https://www.crcpd.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1331703

ONE-DAY TRAINING SESSIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 3

Prevention of Errors in Radiation Oncology & Radiology - Presented by AAPM

Developments in Radiological and Nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS)
Call for Papers for the IAEA International Conference on Radiation Safety

Due 15 March

Those interested have until 15 March to submit extended abstracts for oral presentations or posters for the International Conference on Radiation Safety, to be held in Vienna from 9 to 13 November 2020.

Conference participants are expected to share their experience in applying the current system of radiological protection based on the IAEA International Basic Safety Standards (BSS) on Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources to the protection of workers, patients, the public and the environment from both natural and artificial radiation sources.

“The conference will focus on protecting different groups of society, because when the various components of the system come together and are fully aligned, the system is harmonized and integrated,” said Sigurður Magnús Magnússon, Director of the Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority and Chairman of the Conference Programme Committee.

The Conference is organized in cooperation with seven international organizations − the European Commission (EU), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (Nuclear Energy Agency-OECD), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO). All of them co-sponsor BSS, used in many countries as the basis for national legislation in radiation protection.

“The International Basic Safety Standards represents a unique collaboration among eight international organizations, all of which have responsibilities in different aspects of radiation protection,” said Tony Colgan, Head of the Radiation Protection Unit at the IAEA. “The conference will be an opportunity for regulators, researchers, operators and radiation protection professionals from various organizations, countries and backgrounds to identify key challenges in radiation protection that we need to address together as an international community.”

The conference will also include exhibition of the state-of-the-art equipment and technology in radiation protection.

How to submit an extended abstract

All participants who wish to give oral or poster presentations at the conference must submit an extended abstract on one of the conference topics. Abstracts, to a maximum of two printed A4 pages, should be submitted electronically through the IAEA submission system (IAEA-INDICO).

The conference is also open to participants who wish to attend without making an oral or poster presentation. More information can be found at https://www.iaea.org/
As you may know, the mission of the National Council on Radiation Protection & Measurement (NCRP) is to support radiation protection community in the U.S. by providing independent scientific analysis, information, and recommendations that represent the consensus of leading scientists. NCRP was chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1964, but has its roots back in the late 1920s as a committee focusing on x-ray and radium radiation safety. Over the years the NCRP’s scope has evolved and now covers a wide range of subject areas ranging from medical and dental practice, emergency response, industrial, and natural sources of radiation exposure. Most of us in state Radiation Control Programs rely on the NCRP for timely information to fill-in gaps and implement our regulations.

As the G-50 Liaison to NRCP I very much enjoy reviewing and commenting on the draft and final publications of the NCRP, attending the annual meeting of the NCRP as a representative for the CRCPD, and participating in various scientific committee work groups as a member or advisor. If you have the time, I encourage you to attend the NCRP Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD on March 23-24, 2020. There is no registration fee. This year’s topic area is “Radiation & Flight: A Down to Earth Look at Risks.” I would also encourage you to review the NCRP’s recently published new and important reports and commentaries in the table below. For more information, go to: https://ncrponline.org/

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<th>NCRP Reports</th>
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E-25 Committee on Radon Update
by Chrys Kelley (CO), Chair

I’m providing an update on radon activities in the United States on behalf of the CRCPD E-25 Committee on radon. I hope you find it useful and informative! Chrys

2020 Poster and Video Contest

The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors reviewed and coordinated the selection of the national poster and video winners. States who submitted their 1st place poster and video from their state contests were eligible to win the National Contests. The American Lung Association and the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors congratulate all the students who participated from all over the country!

2020 National Poster Contest Winners and Prizes

1st place – Emma M.
Olympia Junior High
School, Utah, $1,000

2nd place – Sophia O.
Hollywood Academy of Arts & Science,
Florida, $300

3rd place – Emily B.
Clearlake Middle School, Iowa, $200

2020 National Video Contest Winners and Prizes

1st place – Sam M.
Glenwood Springs High School, Colorado, $1,000

2nd place – Michael K.
Olympia Junior High School, Utah, $300

3rd place – Emily B.
Clearlake Middle School, Iowa, $200
E-25 Committee on Radon Update - continued

2020 National Video Contest Winner

“The Silent Killer” produced by Emaray S., Rebecca L., Gabrielle J., and Stephanie S. from Emmetsburg High School in Emmetsburg, Iowa, $1,000.

The video is posted on Lung.org/Radon on the Iowa video contest page- see link below. (Make sure your geolocation is set to Iowa if you don’t see the video)

In Memory of Lou Witt

A note from Dave Rowson, EPA

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

On January 23, 2002, we lost a valued member of the radon and indoor air “family,” Lou Witt, to cardiac arrest after complications from surgery. The news was shocking and painful to many of us, and we continue to keep his wife, son, family, and friends in our thoughts and prayers.

Lou spent many years at EPA helping the agency further its important mission. His thoughtful approach and kind-heartedness made him a valued colleague and trusted friend to many, both within EPA and from partner organizations. Beneath Lou’s endearing, often slightly-cynical, demeanor was a plain-spoken realism that kept us all grounded and connected. Maybe it was his Nebraska Cornhusker background. Lou always showed up; he was a reliable, responsive teammate, and someone you could count on to lend a helping hand and pitch in with work across all of EPA and with our colleague across partner organizations.

Early in his career, Lou worked as a school teacher and throughout the years he continued to demonstrate a passion for educating and informing as he advocated strong public health policies. He spent his earlier career at the National Association of Counties (NACo) advancing radon awareness and action and transitioned to EPA to become a fixture in the radon community, building friendships among our many state, tribal, local government, industry...
E-25 Committee on Radon Update - continued

and non-profit partners. Later, in more recent years, Lou moved into the communication arena, promoting press coverage, partnerships, and progress aimed at improving indoor air quality, reducing asthma, radon and other indoor air health risks.

Those who had the pleasure of working with Lou enjoyed his unassuming, humorous remarks and insights as well as his wry smile, and his deep-down goodness. His enduring, understated, but immensely warm humanity, helped to make EPA’s indoor air program what it is today, and he will not be forgotten.

EPA’s 50th Anniversary

22,386 Lives Saved in the U.S. From Radon-Induced Lung Cancer

EPA’s radon program, in partnership with states, localities, industry and NGO’s, prevents over 22,000 radon-induced lung cancer deaths through fixing high-radon homes and building new home radon-resistant.

In 2020 the 2 millionth High-Radon Home Will be Fixed in the U.S.

Nearly 2 million families have tested and fixed their homes. Testing your home is easy, and fixing high levels protects your loved ones.

These messages were drafted as part of EPA’s 50th anniversary.

REMINDER:
Nominate somebody deserving for the Radon Hero Award, deadline extended to March 15, 2020. For a nomination form, contact:

Chrystine Kelley
Radon Program Manager
P 303.692.3442 I F 303.691.7841
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South. Denver, CO 80246-1530
The 2020 edition of the Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health Programs will be available in March and will be mailed to the CRCPD members.

If you want any extra copies, they can be ordered from the Office of the Executive Director for $55.00 each. You may purchase the 2020 directory hard copy or CD at the same price.
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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<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
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CRCPD Councils

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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: Lorie Jewell, 1030 Burlington Lane, Suite 4B, Frankfort, KY 40601 (fax: 502/227-7862; email: ljewell@crcpd.org). The deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month before an issue is to be published.

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