



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

NEWSBRIEF

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A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

April 2008

Message from Chairperson Debbie Gilley



“If a window of opportunity appears, don’t pull down the shade.” *Tom Peters*

This has been a wonderful busy, very busy year; a very, very busy year. I have truly enjoyed representing CRCPD and promoting all the activities performed by CRCPD members. We have made remarkable strides in our efforts to promote consistency in addressing and resolving radiation protection issues, to encourage high standards of quality in radiation protection programs, and to provide leadership in radiation safety and education. We should all be proud of this past year’s accomplishments.

These did not happen without a lot of hard work by the Board, committee chairs and members, and Ruth McBurney and her staff.

Please take the time to thank them for their hard work; I sure will.

As I reflect back on May of 2007 and the daunting task of accepting the responsibilities as Chair of CRCPD, I must admit that I was intimidated by the talents of those who have served before me and their abilities to navigate through the mine fields of uncertainty. I quickly found out that there was support from membership to chart the course of my actions. Pearce O’Kelley provided guidance on obstacles he faced during his term to keep me on the straight and narrow.

Recent Activities

The Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) recently hosted a State and Local Stakeholders Meeting in Florida. Robert Greger (CA), our representative, was busy participating in the NRC review of California’s radiation control program, so DNDO invited me to participate in his absence. The meeting was very informative; attendees were updated on the status of current programs and projects. They were introduced to some new products and much

time was spent brainstorming on State and local issues that would be a challenge for implementation. I was pleased to see participants from eight State radiation control programs. One of the messages

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Chairperson's Message

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that came out of the meeting is the need for State radiation control programs and law enforcement to find a way to work together. I hope you will extend the effort since those programs that have established these relationships appear to be moving forward on initiatives to detect radioactive material prior to an event. I will be working with Rob and DNDO to find a way to share information presented at these meetings with the membership.

Upcoming Activities

John Winston and I will be representing CRCPD at the April 30, 2008, NRC Public Meeting on Security. We hope the meeting will help address the additional drain and strains on State programs because of the increase in regulatory oversight. We realize that we must find a balance in these activities and will be working toward some solutions.

Unfinished Business

Though much has been accomplished this year, I would hope that efforts begun this year to keep CRCPD the leader in radiation protection issues will continue. Some of the items that are in progress are listed below. I hope the membership will grab the reins and help support these activities.

Developing and Approving Suggested State Regulations

This is not a glamorous job but it is our legacy. Jennifer Elee (LA), Suggested State Regulations Council Chair, has worked very hard to light a fire under the committees and we are seeing results; I expect the final touches on Suggested Regulations C (Licensing of Radioactive Material), R (Radon-a brand new Part) and X (Medical Therapy) will be completed very soon. You have asked for updated regulations and the committees are working, but as you know the process takes time.

Emergency Response

Kim Steves (KS) really stepped up to the plate to keep the emergency response momentum. CRCPD will be coordinating a CDC roundtable later this year. A committee will be forming to share public information concerning a radiological event. We have several scenarios for exercises that are viable and realistic. Our RDD Handbook is now available on our web site, though I think the hard copy is better. They are still available for purchase.

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Chairperson's Message

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Homeland Security

This year CRCPD was invited to participate in the Department of Homeland Security Government Coordinating Council. David Allard (PA), Bob Gallagher (MA), Bill Passeti (FL) and Alice Rogers (TX), with very short notice, volunteered to represent CRCPD. This council is developing the plan for security of radioactive material for the nation. We are pleased that DHS recognizes the role of the States and has given us a voice in this area.

Environmental Council

The Radon Leaders Saving Lives Campaign is ongoing. There have been many opportunities to share this important message. E-25 members; Jim McNeese (AL), Environmental Nuclear Council Chair; Clark Eldredge (FL), and EPA staff Bill Long and Susie Shimek have been great resources for me. They have helped me identify the CRCPD message in supporting the reduction of death from radon. We need to further this campaign and find a way to capitalize on the energy conservation movement. The leaders are working on some new and exciting items that will be introduced in August at the Radon meeting.

Healing Arts

You asked for it and we are moving forward with the NEXT study, mammography training, and a tomotherapy issue paper. John Winston, doing double duty as Chair-Elect and Healing Arts Council Chair, has not only kept the chairs focused on duties, he is the champion for the "Image Gently" outreach to educate the medical community about the radiation doses to children undergoing radiologic exams.

Member Participation

There are a lot on new faces in the Radiation Control Programs across the nation and as new members join, the Board has tried to coordinate their interests with activities. Many of the recently created task forces have members who never participated in CRCPD activities before. We are also appreciative to those with institutional knowledge who support our activities. Their experiences are invaluable.

Outreach

We have continued to focus on our ability to be leaders in radiation protection by fostering current and building new relationships. We welcome ASTRO (American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and

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Chairperson's Message

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Oncology) as a new member of our Radiation Protection Advisory Council. We continue to work with the American Association of Physicists in Medicine and the American College of Radiology to share information and work together to develop regulations and policies that benefit our citizens. Thank you Lynne Fairbent, Melissa Martin, Keith Strauss, Pam Wilcox and Eugenia Krimer. Though we do not always agree, we do have mutual respect and willingness to compromise to have a positive effect on medical care in our nation.

The Board has passed resolutions and written many letters to have our voice heard while Federal policy is debated. With the National Academy of Sciences Report, the rewrite of NCRP 93, and other publications in progress, it became evident that we need a public outreach committee to assist us in preparing the message for stakeholders and the public. Under the leadership of Tommy Cardwell, General Council Chair, we will be calling on these individuals to assist us with press releases, web information, and other public information that can be shared between States.

Opportunities

We have demonstrated through the efforts of the E-34 committee that a collection of "out of service" sources is necessary and can be done. Thanks to David Ferguson for orchestrating a successful pilot program in Florida. We need to continue looking for opportunities, especially with the limitation of disposal options for many States. There is a need to address the shortage of direct read radiographic film for QA of x-ray equipment. John Winston and the FDA are looking at identifying need, combining and encouraging the manufacturer to do a special production to aid our members in receiving this needed resource. CRCPD has worked well with the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) this year to meet the many challenges of NRC. We continue to support their efforts and they support ours to make sure that States participate in the activities that will have impact on them. My thanks to Paul Schmidt (WI) and Cindy Cardwell (TX) for their determination to coordinate OAS and CRCPD activities. My thanks to Robert Lewis and Janet Schlueter and their staff for keeping CRCPD informed of NRC activities.

I don't think we pulled the shade down on any opportunity this past year, and I am thankful for the support I received from the state of Florida. I am looking forward to spending more time with my family. Good luck John!

Thanks,

Reklie



Greetings from Your Executive Director



Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

Collaboration and Information Sharing: We're All in This Together

Over the last few months, I've had the opportunity to participate in several meetings with Federal agencies and with an international radiation control agency regarding radiation protection issues. This has provided me with confirmation that we're all seeking resolution to similar problems and that CRCPD is becoming a focal point for regulatory radiation protection issues. We're asked more and more, "What is the States' perspective on this?" This is a good thing, in that our organization is looked to for provision of a State perspective in the many facets of radiation control. In some cases, CRCPD has taken a position, has Suggested State Regulations, or a white paper that indicates a consensus of the CRCPD membership or Board of Directors. Sometimes, however, there are several perspectives on an issue, and these should be represented as well.

Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

One example of differing perspectives was brought to light when the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste held a two-day meeting on low-activity waste in February. I was asked to give a summary of how State regulatory agencies are managing certain low-activity waste, including TENORM, short-lived material, and other very slightly contaminated waste.

Based on a survey of Agreement States that Barbara Hamrick had performed a couple of years ago and some other situations I was familiar with, I was able to provide a table of information on the types of alternate disposals that are permitted and the criteria for being able to dispose of certain materials (such as decommissioning waste) as ordinary waste.

As demonstrated by the information obtained from individual programs, the States vary to some extent on these matters. As NRC and EPA address the issues involved with options for disposing of low-activity waste in the future, the States will continue to play a major role in working with the agencies.

International Information Exchange

CRCPD's reputation as the collective group in the United States that represents agencies that regulate both radioactive material and radiation machines is gathering interest from regulatory

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agencies from other countries. Recently, representatives from the Korean Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS), Koo Bon Cheol and Han Sang Eun, made an information exchange visit to Austin, Texas. They asked to visit with CRCPD regarding how we coordinate with Federal and State regulatory agencies and specifically, how we are

addressing orphan and unwanted radioactive sources in this country. Ed Bailey, Chair of CRCPD's International Relations Committee, and I spent some time with the KINS representatives and discussed the Suggested State Regulations process, the Orphan Source initiative, and the SCATR program.

The gentlemen from KINS wanted to visit an Agreement State Program, which we accommodated with a visit to both the Texas regulatory agencies. They were also interested in how a scrap facility monitors incoming material to detect radiation sources and prevent them from getting into commercial products. Bob Free of the Texas radiation control program and I accompanied them to Waco to a monitored scrap facility. Our host at the scrap facility provided a great tour and description of the process.



Our visit with Mr. Koo and Mr. Han also provided CRCPD and the Texas program staff information on how radiation is regulated in the Republic of Korea. Much of the reporting of licensees to the agency is web-based, and the country already has an effective source tracking system in place. Mobile radiography devices are equipped with GPS tracking systems there.

Greater Use of Web Technology

In most cases in which a State or CRCPD input is requested, it is usually for sharing of technical, regulatory or factual information. We were recently asked about the means available to inform States on the contacts and activities of the Federal Advisory Team on Environment, Food, and Health. This will be done through a link on the CRCPD web site. The information will provide radiation

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control program directors and staff with the resources needed in a radiological emergency, as well as for planned emergency exercises in which Federal resources are to be requested.

The CRCPD web site is being used more and more to inform not only our members, but the public on a myriad of radiation issues. As I mentioned in a previous article, CRCPD is currently having new software installed that will not only facilitate meeting planning and registration and member and committee management, but will also assist the OED in providing members access to other important information and data bases. We would like our web site to provide the members and public, in the public area of the site, with the types of factual and up-to-date information needed in radiation protection today.

So, once again, we will be asking for your input through a survey and in discussions in the Members Forum at the upcoming Annual Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina. One of the key items of discussion this year will be information sharing and communication mechanisms. In order to better serve both our membership, our Federal partners, affiliated organizations, and the public, we are interested in your thoughts on the information, format, and limits of access (e.g., Members Only, Regulatory Forum) for certain information on the CRCPD web site. I hope you will plan to participate.



Election of Officers

By Sue Smith (OED)
Executive Office Manager

Ballots were counted March 18th at the CRCPD Office of Executive Director (OED), with the assistance of designated OED staff and the Kentucky Radiation Health Program.

OED is pleased to announce the officers who will assume their duties at the close of the annual meeting on May 22nd:

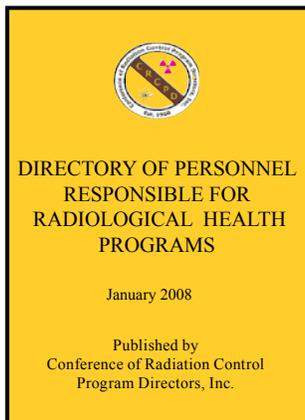
Chairperson-Elect **Adela Salame-Alfie, Ph.D.** (NY)
Member-at-Large (3 year term) **Earl Fordham, CHP** (WA)

On behalf of the CRCPD Board of Directors, members and staff, we wish to express our appreciation to Terry Lindsey (OR) and Karen Farris (MA). We hope they will agree to run again in the future as the Board truly believes they will make good Board members.



CRCPD 2008 Annual Meeting

New CRCPD Members & Classification Changes



40th National Conference on Radiation Control

The 2008 National Conference on Radiation Control will be held at the Greensboro Marriott, 304 North Greene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina, May 19-22, 2008.

For all the latest information about the conference, go to www.crcpd.org/2008annualmeeting.asp. Online registration is available at www.crcpd.org/test/crcpd/customerreg.asp.



Director Members:

Rasmusson, Melanie (IA)

Associate Members:

Britt, Christina T. (NC)
Dobbins, Roxanne (WV)
Moore, William (TX)
Nelson, Raymond (UT)

Affiliate Members:

Low, Daniel, Ph.D. (MO)
Merder, Donald (FL)

Emeritus Members:

Myers, Pete (TX)



Directory Changes

Page 30	IA	Removed Paul E. Koehn and insert Vacant
Page 33	KY	Stephanie Brock-insert new e-mail address <stephaniec.brock@ky.gov>
Page 38	MA	Donald Buckley-change to Donald J. Buckley and change zip code to 02130
Page 46	NE	Insert new website: http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/puh/enh/rad/regs/regsindex.htm
Page 77	TN	Chuck Johnson-insert new e-mail address <chuck.johnson@state.tn.us>
Page 89	WY	Correct spelling from Scott Ramsey to Scott Ramsay



CRCPD Board of Directors

Board position	Name	State	Work Phone	Email address
Chairperson.....	Debbie Gilley.....	Florida.....	850/245-4266	debbie.gilley@doh.state.fl.us
Chairperson-Elect.....	John P. Winston	Pennsylvania	814/332-6412	jwinston@state.pa.us
Past Chairperson.....	Pearce O'Kelley	South Carolina.....	803/545-4399	okelletp@dhec.sc.gov
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Member-at-Large.....	Tommy Cardwell	Texas	512/834-6688 X 2036.....	thomas.cardwell@dshs.state.tx.us
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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: Curt Hopkins, 205 Capital Avenue, Frankfort, KY 40601 (fax: 502/227-4928; email: <chopkins@crcpd.org>. The deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month before an issue is to be published.

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