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| **Reported by (Name):** | Regina Fulkerson |
| **Organization:** | RKF consultants, LLC |
| **Position Title:** | Medical Physicist |
| **Activity:** | Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards (CIRMS) Annual meeting |
| **Meeting Dates:** | April 16-18, 2017 |
| **Meeting Location:** | NIST, Gaithersburg MD |
| **Payment $:** | (see below) |
| **Reasons for Attending or not Attending** | I am a technical expert on radiation dosimetry representing the interests and needs of the AAPM. |
| **Issues from Previous Meetings or Year:** | A number of radiation dosimetry standards were discussed at the previous annual meeting at NIST in Spring, 2017. The outstanding issues include radiobiology standards for radiobiological experiments, updates to RBE and LET values, and a need to update the FDA regulations for small c-arm CBCT systems. |
| **General Description of Activities of the Organization and/or Meeting:** | CIRMS is a mutli-disciplinary non-profit organization which seeks to elevate the needs of all aspects in the field of ionizing radiation, drawing on the experience and knowledge of industry, academia, and government professionals. Through this collaborative group, the needs of our field are distributed to government agencies and potential funding sources. The agenda of the meeting I just attended is attached to this report. |
| **Issues for AAPM:** | CIRMS will be working with experts in radiobiology in the coming year to distill the efforts undertaken by several recent research groups that demonstrates the lack of consistent or any reporting of irradiation methods in radiobiology experiments. This means the science that has been done, often supported by commercial or federal funds, is not reproducible or repeatable. CIRMS is desirous to work with peer-reviewed publications and other leaders in medical physics to encourage a standard reporting system for this type of information so the dollars spent on research are not wasted. The NIH is implementing a new requirement to this end, which requires work to be reproducible/repeatable, but the majority of peer-reviewed publications do not demonstrate a level of description fit to repeat work. Additionally, CIRMS plans to discuss the concept of the appropriateness of macroscopic quantities like dose for the molecule-level simulations and measurements that can be done to study the interactions of ionizing radiation with organic matter (DNA, proteins, etc…). Finally, as the incoming president to CIRMS, I would like to organize a public awareness event to be held in the Washington DC area, with the help of other organizations like the Smithsonian, to show the public how ionization radiation is used, the benefits of this technology, and the need for standards around it. It is the hope of this event to draw support and interest from legislators who would in turn support funding for standards bodies. |
| **Budget Request ($):** | Total reimbursement request for the 2018 annual meeting = $751.34 |