

**University of Colorado Denver
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Dear Tony,

This letter reports participation of William Hendee and Gary Fullerton as delegates to the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering AIMBE between February 20 and 22. The meeting was held at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Washington DC with a focus on "Medical and Biological Engineering in the Next 20 Years: The Promises and the Challenges". There were six major session: 1. Engineering a safe and sustainable food supply, 2. Engineering in personalized health, 3. Engineering solutions to injury and chronic diseases, 4. Engineering global health by prevention and treating infectious diseases, 5. Engineering sustainable bioenergy production and 6. Engineering the 21st century US economy. A general conclusion drawn from these sessions was the importance of engineering and physics in addressing societal problems of critical significance in the coming century. This observation suggests that AAPM should be working more effectively with the AIP and AIP member societies to examine and integrate medical physics topics into a wider range of research discussion and actions than is presently done.

We also represented the AAPM at the meeting of the AIMBE Council of Societies COS. Under the leadership of COS Chairman, Warren Grundfest, M.D. the activities of the COS <http://www.aimbe.org/membership/council-of-societies/> have focused on opportunities to provide interactions with congressional staff personnel on Capitol Hill to promote wise public policy <http://www.aimbe.org/public-policy/> relative to medical devices. COS sessions with 60 to 80 participants have had growing importance in educating both staff support personnel as well as Representatives and Senators who are continuously in the process of preparing legislation of importance to the practice of medicine in the USA. Lynn Fairobanks, AAPM Staff Representative, was at the meeting and expressed concern that AAPM could not participate in such activities as significant lobbying effort would interfere with the tax status of the organization. Dr. Grundfest emphasized that the AIMBE Federal Symposium on Capitol Hill is not a lobbying effort but an educational program for both AIMBE members and for congressional staff participants. He did not feel that society participation would impact Research and Education tax status. This is, perhaps, a grey area that will require some thought by the AAPM Executive Committee. Prior EXCOM investigations indicated that AAPM activities were sufficiently sparse in Professional Lobbying programs to make this not a problem.

The COS would like to implement programs to elicit more input from member societies and society memberships in general with the purpose of educating Washington lawmakers about the potential of AIMBE member societies, fellows, academic partners and industrial partners to



contribute to economic recovery of the USA and well being of the American Public. The COS specifically requests:

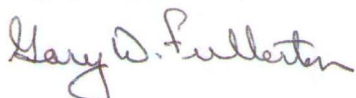
1. Increased society participation in the Federal Symposia at the time of the AIMBE Annual Meeting in February.
2. Increased society participation in writing policy statements. This will be achieved by allocation of an AIMBE Column in the AAPM Newsletter with a periodic quiz to request member input on specific policy issues. Statistical information would be supplied to the AIMBE Board to modulate the creation of policy statements.

Under the topic of new business Bill Hendee introduced the AAPM consideration of "Interest and effort by the AAPM in initiating the Institute for Assessment of Medical Devices in conjunction with the Morgridge Institute for Research and possible implications for other societies/associations." This was introduced as an informational item with no proposed action at the 2011 meeting. The topic initiated a lively discussion. A number of member societies have problems that would be addressed by such an institute. AAPM was asked to bring the topic to the next meeting with more a more concrete proposal for action by the COS.

Delegate Recommendations:

1. That the AAPM EXCOM request the AAPM Editor of the Newsletter to work with the AIMBE Delegates to create an AIMBE Column in the newsletter for national policy topics. It is our understanding that AIMBE staff will coordinate the process of creating new items for consideration by the Editor.
2. That the AAPM EXCOM authorize AIMBE Delegates to extend participation in the AIMBE Annual Meeting to include participation in the Annual AIMBE Federal Symposium on Capitol Hill.
3. That following participation in the AIMBE Federal Symposium and preliminary training on communication with congressional staff personnel consideration be given to establishing an AAPM training course for productive congressional interactions by AAPM members to be implemented at the Annual AAPM meeting.
4. That the AAPM formulate a proposal concerning the Institute for Assessment of Medical Devices that can be presented to AIMBE through the Council of Societies at the 2012 Annual meeting

Respectfully submitted,



Gary D. Fullerton, Ph.D.
AAPM Delegate to AIMBE



William Hendee, Ph.D.
AAPM Delegate to AIMBE