Summary of AAPM Board of Directors Meeting
August 4, 2016
Washington, D.C.

The AAPM Board of Directors met on Thursday, August 4th, immediately following the annual meeting. I attended this meeting as the RMAAAPM Chapter Representative. Topics discussed were a report from the AAPM President, Treasurer, and Council chairs, as well as a from the Audit and Strategic Planning committees. The Treasurer’s report can be found in the July/August AAPM Newsletter. Other notes are provided, below.

Revised Governance Structure

In 2015, the Executive Committee appointed an Ad Hoc Committee on Governance Assessment. This committee, with input from the Board of Directors, has identified shortcomings and some suggested improvements for the governance structure of AAPM. The identified issues are that the large size of the AAPM Board of Directors inhibits the efficiency of the organization and that the Board spends the majority of their time on operational, rather than strategic, issues. Current suggestions are that the Board of Directors be reduced to 12 or fewer members and that the Board be predominantly focused on strategic planning.

Other changes to the structure of AAPM governance were discussed, including the possible formation of an Operations Committee to take over operational functions that are no longer addressed by the Board. Another proposal is that the Council Chairs and Vice-Chairs be elected by the general membership. The number of Councils may be increased to reflect the changing needs of AAPM.

A main goal of the Ad Hoc Committee, and in the AAPM governance overall, is to improve member and chapter communications as part of the new governance structure. Once the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee are complete, a Member survey will be developed, circulated, and evaluated, prior to any changes to the AAPM governance structure.

Other

1. The Board of Directors voted to commit $100,000 in 2017 to continue collaborations with Radiation Oncology Incident Learning System (RO-ILS) with the understanding that a concrete business plan be provided by Spring 2017, with AAPM’s contributions reduced proportionally with increased support.

2. The Board of Directors voted to commit $38,000 to assume oversight of the Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise in Radiation Oncology (IHE-RO) project, which is currently managed by ASTRO. The $38,000 covers the addition of a 0.5 FTE program manager to AAPM headquarters staff. Based on ASTRO’s experience, it is expected that all expenses for the project will be covered by fees charged for participation.

3. The Board of Directors voted to commit $25,000 in 2017 to conduct an AAPM risk audit, per the recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee’s Audit Committee.

4. The Board of Directors voted not to reimburse travel for Board members to the Annual Meeting and RSNA.
5. In May 2016, the American College of Radiology adopted a resolution (Resolution 33) that lowers the membership fee for medical physicists in their first 2 years of ACR membership by a total of 40%.

6. In May 2016, the ACR adopted to add a reference to AAPM’s MPPG 4a regarding the implementation of safety checklists for 3D external beam therapy.

7. In 2016, AAPM representatives participated in meetings of the American College of Radiology (ACR), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards (CIRMS), the American Institute of Physics (AIP), and AIMBE.

For more information on any of these issues, please feel free to contact me at the email listed below.

Sincerely,

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