

1984 Peter Neurath Young Investigators' Symposium

The Peter Neurath Young Investigators' Symposium (YIS) was created in memory of Dr. Peter Neurath, who was the director of the medical physics department at Tufts New England Medical Center from 1968 to 1977. Through a generous donation to the New England Chapter of the AAPM, by his widow, Alice Neurath, the Chapter has every year placed on a plaque an engraved plate with the name of the winner of that year's YIS. The plaque is located in Dr. Neurath's old department at Tufts New England Medical Center.

Traditionally the YIS has been competitive in nature. Each year a panel of judges has been nominated to evaluate extended abstracts submitted by young investigators, and to eventually determine a winner, based both on the written abstracts and on the subsequent presentations. The word "young" has been assumed to mean a person young in the field of medical physics, not in age. Participants have usually been equally divided between graduate students and post-doctoral fellows engaged in medical physics training programs.

Recently, much discussion by the local chapter executive committee has occurred as to the desirability of continuing the YIS on a competitive basis. Strong opinions have been expressed on both sides, and it has been agreed that if Dr. Neurath were to have observed these discussions he would have fallen off his chair laughing!

The executive committee has finally made the following decisions. Since the YIS is clearly an excellent forum for young investigators in medical physics to present their research to a peer audience, and also a means for them to meet the New England medical physics community socially, the YIS should be definitely continued. However, it has been decided to drop the competitive aspect of the YIS. To further enhance the social benefits of the YIS it has been decided that the chapter will invite the young investigators on the program and all members of the audience to a Chinese dinner at a local restaurant immediately after the presentations. I have also discussed the above issues with Mrs. Alice Neurath, who is wholeheartedly in favor of these proposed changes.

Submission of Abstracts for 1984 Young Investigators' Symposium, Wednesday, February 22, M.I.T. Faculty Club, 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Please submit a 200 word abstract to the Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Lawrence Reinstein, Radiation Oncology, Rhode Island Hospital, 593 Eddy Street, Providence, RI 02902, by February 3, 1983.

To give us an idea as to the expected attendance on February 22, please send a note to the Secretary/Treasurer if you plan to attend - as soon as possible.

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President, New England Chapter AAPM