

North Central Chapter

Fall Meeting 2006

Jeff Brunette, CHP

The fall meeting of the North Central Chapter of the Health Physics Society (HPS) was held on 29 September 2006 in Lake Elmo, Minnesota. Affiliate sponsors of the meeting were Global Dosimetry, Image Technology, and Target Instruments. Chapter President-elect Dan McGrane opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 3M Tartan Park facility.

The first speaker of the day was Kari Anderson, associate clinical professor at the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine. Anderson gave a rather interesting talk on the radiation safety challenges in the practice of veterinary medicine. She presented a history of past practices and discussed the current radiation safety efforts at the University.



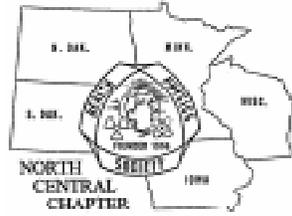
The next speaker was Mary Ellen Jafari, medical physicist at Gunderson Lutheran Medical Center



in La Crosse, Wisconsin. She discussed a project conducted at Gunderson Lutheran to evaluate patient entrance skin

dose for several types of fluoroscopy procedures using GAF chromatic film. The aim of the study was to identify procedures that could result in patient skin injury. Jafari reviewed the final results of the study.

Mike Lewandowski and Marcum Martz next spoke about the chapter's science teacher work-



shop efforts. Lewandowski summarized the science teacher workshop that was held at the Mayo Clinic in August and also spoke about other science teacher and student outreach efforts to be done in conjunction with 3M. Martz then discussed the upcoming science teacher workshop that will be held in Wausau, Wisconsin, in October.

The next speaker was this year's Wissink Memorial speaker. Mark Peters, PhD, deputy associate laboratory director at Argonne National Laboratory, spoke on the topic of spent nuclear fuel recycling. Peters reviewed the prior and current nuclear fuel use and recycling practices in the United States and the world. He also discussed the future directions being pursued by the Department of Energy with the nuclear industry as well as through the global nuclear energy partnership.



Incoming Chapter President Dan McGrane (right) presents the appreciation plaque to outgoing President Jeff Brunette.

Lunch and the chapter business meeting followed. During the business meeting it was announced that Mike Lewandowski and Marcum Martz were recipients of the Chapter Award for their efforts in resurrecting the chapter's science teacher workshops. At the end of the business meeting Jeff Brunette ended his term as chapter president and Dan McGrane assumed the presidency.

Kevin Nelson, HPS president-elect and radiation safety officer at the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville, kicked off the afternoon session. The topic of his talk was medical response to radiation incidents. Nelson started his talk with very heartfelt memories of his past work at 3M with Bob Wissink and with the North Central Chapter. Nelson also extended thanks to his parents who were in attendance at the meeting for their support of his health physics career path. Besides discussing some of the efforts of the HPS on developing tools for radiation incident response preparation, Kevin also provided some unique insights resulting from his involvement in an incident response in Jacksonville, Florida, earlier this year.



The final speaker of the day was Kelly Classic, health physicist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Classic discussed the recent efforts by the national HPS to establish a media relations program and her role as the program liaison. She also detailed some lessons learned and future directions for this program.

