

CHP Corner



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Professional Standards and Ethics Committee

Timothy D. Taulbee, CHP, Chair

The purpose of the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) Professional Standards and Ethics Committee is to define the standards of professional responsibility for certified health physicists (CHP) and to review all complaints about ethical practice referred to the committee by the AAHP Executive Committee.

During this past year the committee has received no complaints about CHPs acting unethically. This is a really good indicator that suggests that our colleagues are continuing to conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner.

Another responsibility of this committee is to select the Joyce P. Davis Memorial Award winners. This AAHP award is given in memory and honor of Joyce P. Davis in recognition of her dedication to the advancement of health physics and her humanitarian efforts to uphold the ethics of the profession. The recipients of this award demonstrate the extraordinary qualities exemplified by Joyce P. Davis by distinguishing themselves with excellence in professional achievement as well as being admired for ethical behavior and interpersonal skills.



Joyce P. Davis Award winner Bryce Rich, left, being congratulated by Tim Taulbee, center, and Ed Bailey

The 2014 winner of the Joyce P. Davis Award is Bryce Rich. Bryce became a CHP in 1961. He served on the Panel of Examiners in 1965 and as the chair of the panel from 1969 through 1973. He also served as the chairman of the American Board of Health Physics (ABHP) from 1976 to 1978.

When the AAHP was established in 1986, Bryce's leadership earned him the opportunity to serve as the first (pro-tem) president of the AAHP. His professionalism and decisive leadership, especially during the early years of the ABHP and AAHP, contributed significantly to the current recognition given to all health physicists who bear the CHP credential and who practice sound health physics principles every day.

Bryce's lifelong commitment to the professional standards and ethics of the health physics profession exemplifies the qualities for which the Joyce P. Davis Award was established and serves as a model for all CHPs to follow throughout their careers.

Thank you Bryce for all that you have done for our profession and congratulations on receiving this well-deserved award.

The current Professional Standards and Ethics Committee members (in addition to the chair) are Bruce Thomadsen, Danny Rice, Neill Stanford, and Bob Cherry.

AAHP Committee Appointments

Robert P. Miltenberger, CHP, President-elect

One of my primary, and certainly most important, responsibilities as president-elect of the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) is to identify and recommend committee chairs and new committee members for those rotating off committees at the end of this year. This process begins shortly after the Health Physics Society (HPS) midyear meeting and, with luck, concludes several weeks prior to the HPS annual meeting. This timing is important since the incoming chairs and new committee members need to be approved by the AAHP Executive Committee at its meeting held in connection with the HPS annual meeting. For the AAHP, terms of office, committee appointments, etc., are on a calendar-year basis, so those selected have about six months after being selected to prepare.

Each current committee chair was contacted and asked to recommend who should be the committee chair for 2015. Thanks to AAHP Executive Secretary Nancy Johnson, I was also able to provide each of the committee chairs with a list of the people who had volunteered on their dues statements to serve on AAHP committees and to ask for recommendations for new committee members to replace those who were due to rotate off committees at the end of 2014 from that list.

At the meeting of the AAHP Executive Committee on 13 July 2014 in Baltimore, Maryland, the following committee chairs were approved for 2015:

COMMITTEE*	2015 CHAIR	2014 CHAIR
Appeals	Sarah Hoover	Cheryl Olson
Continuing Education	James S. Willison (reappointed)	James S. Willison
Exam Site	Anthony Williams	Todd Baker
Nominating	Dale Thomas (reappointed)	Dale Thomas
Professional Development	Janet Johnson	Maya Keller
Professional Standards & Ethics	Tim Taulbee (reappointed)	Tim Taulbee
Title Protection/Professional Recognition	Steven Frey	Vicki Morris

*Chair and membership of Finance Committee set by bylaws.

At the same meeting the following new committee members were also approved. Each of the new appointments is for a term running through 2017.

COMMITTEE	2015 APPOINTMENT	REPLACING
Appeals	Henry Kahnhauser	Cheryl Olson
Continuing Education	James Cherniack	April Chance
Exam Site	Sean Murphy	Todd Baker
Nominating	Morgan Cox (reappointed)	Morgan Cox
	Kathleen Dinnel-Jones	Christine Donahue
	Kent Davis	Cynthia Connelly
	James Bogard	Patrick LaFrate
	John Hageman	Alternate
Professional Development	Balwan Hooda	Carl Paperiello
Professional Standards & Ethics	Jack Buddenbaum	Bruce Thomadsen
Title Protection/Professional Recognition	Jay Maisler	Robert Gallagher
	Charles Kent	Carmine Plott
	Ruth McBurney	Vickie Morris

Finally, Anthony Williams agreed to have his term of office reduced by one year so that we would restore the intended replacement schedule for the membership of the Exam Site Committee.

Activities of the American Board of Health Physics

Nora Nicholson, CHP, ABHP Chair

The American Board of Health Physics (ABHP) held its summer meeting on 12 July 2014 in Baltimore, Maryland. The Board members (with term expiration dates in parentheses) for calendar year 2015 are:

- Pat LaFrate (2015), chair
- Mark A. (Andy) Miller (2016), vice chair
- Jay Tarzia (2018), secretary
- Andrew Karam (2017), parliamentarian
- Charles (Gus) Potter (2015)
- Robert May (2018)
- Victoria Morris (2019)
- William Rhodes (2019)

Exam panel officers for 2015 are:

- Part I Panel chair, Paul Jones (2016)
- Part I Panel vice chair, Chris Martel (2018)
- Part II Panel chair, Richard Adams (2015)
- Part II Panel vice chair, Wei-Hsung Wang (2015)

One of the primary missions of the Board is the preparation, administration, and grading of the certification examination each year. The task can be accomplished only because of the dedicated work of Part I and Part II Exam Panel members and their respective chairs and vice chairs: Cindy Flannery (2014 Part I Panel chair), Paul Jones (2014 Part I Panel vice chair), Curtis Kwasniewski (2014 Part II Panel chair), and Richard Adams (2014 Part II Panel vice chair). The Exam Panels did an excellent job in preparing the exams this year. I would like to acknowledge their contributions and express my sincere gratitude for their hard work. I would also like to thank all Board members for their part in reviewing exam questions.

The ABHP certification exams (Parts I and II) were offered in Baltimore, Maryland, and at 17 other sites on 14 July. Of the 334 applicants (306 in 2013), 135 candidates took the Part I exam; 89 candidates took the Part II exam.

I want to personally thank all the certified health physicists (CHP) who volunteered their time to proctor the exams. Without their support, it would not have been possible to host the exams at the various sites. Very special thanks to Nancy Johnson, executive secretary and program director, for her leadership and unwavering support in organizing all exam-related activities.

Working on the exam panels is a very rich and rewarding experience. In addition to the benefits of networking with experienced CHPs and exchanging ideas on current topics, it also awards a very generous portion of the continuing education credits needed for recertification. I strongly urge all CHPs, if they have not already done so, to seriously consider volunteering to serve on an exam panel.

The following CHPs have been added as replacements for outgoing panel members:

Part I Panel: Karen Barcal, James Cherniack, Chris Martel, and Govind Rao

Part II Panel: William T. Bullard, Michael E. Campbell, Joseph W. McDonald, Clifford J. Stephan, Johnafred Thomas, William C. Uhland, and Latha Vasudevan

As a reminder, the Board adopted a new policy, approved by the American Academy of Health Physics Executive Committee in February 2013, regarding low-scoring candidates on the Part II exam. Starting with this year's 2014 Part II exam, candidates who fail to receive a minimum of 300 points, out of 700 available points, will be required to wait one year before being allowed to retake the Part II exam. This requirement will not apply to candidates in their sixth and final year of eligibility since passing the Part I exam. A candidate may request an exemption from the Board if he or she has extenuating circumstances. This is intended to encourage candidates to take more time and prepare better the second time. A notice to this effect has been added to the [ABHP website](#) and is sent to approved applicants with their acceptance letter.

Prospective applicants or anyone who is interested in applying for the exam should check the ABHP Prospectus found at hps1.org/aahp/boardweb/prospectus.html for academic and experience requirements. A study guide with sample questions can be found at hps1.org/aahp/boardweb/guide.html.