

Health Physics Society (HPS) Section Midyear Report

General Information

Section Name: Accelerator Section

Reporting Period: July 2009 – December 2009

Mailing Address: Address of current section secretary (1985 E 25th Street, Idaho Falls, ID 83404-6461)

Dues: \$5.00

Membership: 150

Charter Date: August 24, 1993 (revised)

Sponsorship of HPS special sessions or regional/topical meetings? Yes

2009 Accelerator Section Special Session. The Accelerator Section Special Session at the 54th Annual Meeting of the HPS was held on Tuesday, July 14, from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM. The session was cochaired by Henry Kahnhauser and Linnea Wahl. We had hoped to kick off the session with a Morgan lecture, but we were unsuccessful in our bid for that award. Nonetheless, the session was successful, with a full day of presentations. Nine talks were presented in the morning. Following the section business meeting at noon, nine more presentations were given in the afternoon.

Collaborations with other societies or sections? None

Website: <http://hpschapters.org/sections/accelerator/>

Section Leadership (for 2009-2010)

President: Linnea Wahl (2010)

President-Elect: Mike Grissom (2010)

Secretary: Mike Sandvig (2011 [tentative])

Treasurer: Marcia Torres (2010)

Past-President: Henry Kahnhauser (2010)

Section Council/Board Member: Mike Duran (2010)

Section Council/Board Member: Mike Singh (2010)

Section Council/Board Member: Sam Baker (2011)

Section Council/Board Member: Elsa Nimmo (2012)

Section Council/Board Member: Reg Ronningen (2012)

Section Council/Board Member: Jack Topper (2012)

Newletter Editor: Keith Heinzelman (2010)

Other (please specify):

- Kamran Vaziri, HPS Ask the Expert Topic Editor
- Patricia L. Lee, HPS Board Liaison

Other Meetings/Activities

- **2009 Accelerator Section Business Meeting.** The Accelerator Section held its annual business meeting on July 14, 2009, during the 54th Annual Meeting of the HPS in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Newly elected officers were announced and assumed their positions. Student awards were presented. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to establish the Lutz Moritz Memorial Award in honor of Lutz Moritz, who passed

away on October 16, 2008 (see below). The minutes of this meeting are posted on the section website <http://hpschapters.org/sections/accelerator/documents.php3>.

- **2009 Accelerator Section Executive Board of Directors Meeting.** The Accelerator Section Board of Directors met on July 13, 2009, during the 54th Annual Meeting of the HPS in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The election results were announced and certified for presentation to the general membership at the section business meeting. See the meeting minutes at <http://hpschapters.org/sections/accelerator/documents.php3>.
- **2009 H. Wade Patterson Memorial Award.** At the 2009 Accelerator Section Special Session in Minneapolis, the section announced two honorees for the H. Wade Patterson Memorial Award, presented each year to recognize outstanding students in accelerator health physics (<http://hpschapters.org/sections/accelerator/awards.php3>). These students were also recognized at the 2009 HPS Awards Reception and Banquet by Past President Kevin Nelson. The judges were Kamran Vaziri and Reg Ronningen.
 - The winner of the H. Wade Patterson Award was Eric Burgett, Georgia Institute of Technology, for his talk on “A Low-Cost, High-Energy Neutron Spectrometer Extension to a Bonner Sphere Spectrometer.” Eric received a plaque and \$250 check.
 - Honorable mention went to Neba Robinson, Idaho State University, for his talk on “Limitations of Bremsstrahlung Radiation for Microbeam Radiation Therapy.” Neba received a certificate of merit and \$50 check.
- **2010 Accelerator Section Special Session.** We commenced planning a day-long Accelerator Section Special Session for the 55th Annual Meeting of the HPS in Salt Lake City, Utah, from June 27 to July 1, 2010.
 - Ben Edwards has been contacted and the first special accelerator session has been requested for Tuesday, June 29, 2010, in the morning with a focus topic on light sources and FELs (including laser safety for accelerators) to be followed at noon by a section business meeting.
 - A second session will provide the usual accelerator-related operational health physics activities, research results, and student papers not associated with the first session topic.
- **2010 G. William Morgan Lecturer Award Nominee.** An Accelerator Section nominee for the G. William Morgan Lecturer at the 2010 annual meeting is being prepared with the expectation that the lecturer will present at the first Accelerator Section Special Session. A number of candidates have been identified and the internal selection process will start shortly. Our nomination will be made to Dick Toohey, HPS Awards Committee Chair, by March 1, 2010.
- **2010 HPS Founders Award Nominee.** A nomination for the HPS 2010 Founders Award was submitted to Dick Toohey, HPS Awards Committee Chair, on November 5, 2009.
- **2010 Accelerator Section Student Awards.** We will be selecting one student’s work submitted to the annual meeting to receive the H. Wade Patterson Memorial Award. In addition, at the 2009 Accelerator Section business meeting, the members of the section voted to establish the Lutz Moritz Memorial Award in honor of Lutz Moritz, a founding member and past president of the Accelerator Section who passed away in October 2008. This award honors Lutz and his contributions to accelerator health physics. Like the H. Wade Patterson Memorial Award, the Lutz Moritz Memorial Award will be presented to a promising health physics student who has submitted an

outstanding talk or poster on accelerator radiation protection. Each award will provide the winner with a \$150 check and plaque. See details of these awards on the Accelerator Section website (<http://hpschapters.org/sections/accelerator/awards.php3>).

- **Accelerator Section Website.** The Accelerator Section website (<http://hpschapters.org/sections/accelerator/>) was maintained and updated by the section officers and by the HPS webmaster, Ruedi Birenheide. A new feature for asking questions related to accelerator health physics was added. This feature links to the HPS Ask the Expert website, and Accelerator Section member and past president Kamran Vaziri volunteered to respond to questions that are submitted. Other additions to the website include a standard operating procedure for the Accelerator Section board members' duties (<http://hpschapters.org/sections/accelerator/documents.php3>) and a definition of an accelerator health physicist (<http://hpschapters.org/sections/accelerator/whatis.php>).
- **Accelerator Radiation Safety Newsletter.** In the last half of 2009, we prepared and distributed the fall and winter quarterly volumes of the Accelerator Radiation Safety Newsletter. The newsletter is distributed world-wide via e-mail to all members of the Accelerator Section and to others interested in accelerator safety. The newsletter is also available on the web at <http://www.hps.org/iarpe>. The contents of the newsletters included reports from officers of the Accelerator Section and news from correspondents at accelerator facilities around the world.
- **ANSI N43.1.** A draft of ANSI N43.1 was submitted late in 2009 by James Liu, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, and Scott Walker, Los Alamos National Laboratory, to Bill Morris, ANSI N43 Committee Chair, for voting to approve publication prior to the HPS 2010 Annual Meeting. See the ANSI N43 website at <http://hps.org/aboutthesociety/organization/committees/committee31.html>
- **HPS Science Support Committee Request.** In support of the teachers' awareness of health physics career opportunities program, a definition of "accelerator health physicist" was provided to Mike Lewandowski, HPS Science Support Committee Chair, to use in a set of tools being prepared for use by teachers. See <http://hpschapters.org/sections/accelerator/whatis.php>
- **Elections to the HPS Board of Directors.** The Accelerator Section nominated Scott Schwahn and Linnea Wahl for director positions on the HPS Board of Directors, and both were elected by the HPS members. They will serve as directors from 2010—2013.

Additional Comment/Concerns/Suggestions

The Accelerator Section is following the identified course of action (HP Society Rule 13.13 and 14.5) for submitting a Morgan Lecturer nominee for the first hour of our special session at the annual meeting. We repeat the following concern from our 2008-2009 Annual Report: the deadline for detailed planning of the special session is before March, while the Morgan Lecturer is not confirmed until May. This requires that the Morgan Lecturer nominee submit an abstract and start working on the hour-long presentation months before the awards announcements are made. This has created problems for award nominees in the past and this concern was provided at the HPS president's meeting with the section leaders at the 2009 HPS annual meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Report prepared by Linnea Wahl, Mike Grissom, Mike Sandvig, Keith Heinzelman