

2007 President's Report

PSNM President's Report by: Dr. Consolacion O. Obmerga Year 2007 alone has been a very busy year for the Society. Each month, we engaged in a number of significant activities and these have kept all members especially the officers up on their toes. Let me give you a chronology of the activities we had for 2007:

MarchThe 2007-2008 PSNM Board of Directors made a courtesy call to the PNRI Director Dr. Alumanda dela Rosa last March 16, 2007. Issues concerning the state of Nuclear Medicine in the Philippines was discussed in the meeting.

MayThe Philippine College of Physicians (PCP) celebrated its 37th Annual Convention last May 9 – 12, 2007 at the Philippine International Convention Center with the theme “The Filipino Physician as H.E.A.L.E.R. (Health Care Provider, Educator, Advocate, Leader, Executive, Researcher)”. PSNM is one the component societies of the Philippine College of Physicians. Two distinguished leaders in Philippine Nuclear Medicine delivered lectures in the Diagnostic Tests Session. Dr. Jerry Obaldo gave a lecture on “Basic Nuclear Medicine Technology” while Dr. Emerita A. Barrenechea presented “Advances in Nuclear Medicine”. The two speakers were Past Presidents of the Philippine Society of Nuclear Medicine. PSNM Auditor Dr. Vincent Peter C. Magboo served as the moderator during the session. Dr. Emerita Andres-Barrenechea, also received the 16th Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards: Filipino Physician of Distinction (for Government Service) last May 26, 2007.

JunePSNM in cooperation with United Laboratories, Inc. held a Small Group Interactive Conference on BIOETHICS (with 10 PMA, 10 PHA, 5 PCCP, 2 PPS CME units) last June 22, 2007, 5:00 PM, at Sulo Hotel, Quezon City. The activity was a part of UMED, an innovative continuing medical education program developed by United Laboratories, Inc., in partnership with faculty members of teaching institutions from the US, Europe, Australia and the Philippines.

JulyIn July 2007, as an affiliate society of the Philippine College of Physicians, PSNM adopted a public school in Bo. Piis, Lucban, Quezon. PSNM rendered health education services to the students and teachers as part of our outreach program.

AugustThe Philippine Nuclear Research Institute, Philippine Society of Nuclear Medicine, Philippine Heart Center (Divison of Nuclear Medicine), and Distance Assisted Training Course in Nuclear Medicine had a 2 day Postgraduate Course on "Going Back to Basic: Technical and Clinical Applications in Nuclear Cardiology" last August 10 -11, 2007 at the Aventura Hall, Philippine Heart Center, East Avenue, Quezon City.

SeptemberThe 2nd International Conference on Radiopharmaceutical Therapy (ICRT '07) was held at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia last September 3 - 7, 2007. The objectives of this conference were to evaluate the current status of radiopharmaceutical therapy in the world in general and in the developing countries. The Philippine had the biggest number of delegates in the said conference. A number of lectures, oral and poster presentors from the Philippines were presented in ICRT 2007. Also in September, the Department of Nuclear Medicine of St. Luke's Medical Center in cooperation with International Atomic Energy Agency, Philippine Nuclear Research Institute and the Philippine Society of Nuclear Medicine conducted a "National Training Course on Hospital Radiopharmacy "Recent Advances in Hospital Radiopharmacy" last September 24 - 28, 2007 at the St. Luke's Medical Center. It was also in September 2007, that PSNM Board and the PNRI had a meeting with Dr. Kishor Solanki. Perhaps another important achievement for this month was that PSNM became an affiliate of EANM . Some of the benefits our members get by becoming an EANM affiliate include Reduced registration fee at the EANM Annual Congress.Reduced registration fee for all courses at the EANM Educational Facility.Subscription of the EJNMMI and access to electronic version.Current information on the EANM homepage and access to the member area.

OctoberLast October 2, 2007, PSNM received its share from the recently concluded AOTA conference held in Manila. The check was presented by the AOTA Overall-coordinator Dr. Leilani Mercado-Asis during the PSNM board meeting. Also in October 25, 2007, the Residents In-Service Examination , the first in-service examination for nuclear medicine residents was conducted by Dr. Leandro Manalaysay, Chairman of the Residency Training Council.

NovemberNovember 2007 was practically a very busy month for the Society. For November alone, we had three important activities:a) The International Atomic Energy Agency organized its first International Conference on Clinical PET and Molecular Nuclear Medicine last November 10 - 14, 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand. A number of PSNM delegates attended the conference. b) The Philippine Society of Nuclear Medicine held a training course in Nuclear Oncology last November 22, 2007 at the Aventura Hall, Philippine Heart Center. This was spearheaded by Dr. Ma. Lourdes Mania-Taylan. The seminar was conducted by the Philippine Delegates in the recently concluded IAEA Training Course in Nuclear Oncology held in Seoul Korea last October 2006. c) Professor Hans Jurgen Biersack of Germany presented a lecture on Selective Internal Radionuclide Therapy in Malignant Liver Tumors held at the UST Benavides Cancer Institute last November 23, 2007. This was organized thru the efforts of Dr. Orestes P. Monzon, PSNM Immediate Past President. Ms Agnette Peralta of the BHDT and members of the POMP also participated in this lecture. A get-together dinner with Professor Biersack at Abe's Restaurant, November 24, 2007 capped the activity.

DecemberThe final activity for the year included the Research Paper Presentation by the Nuclear Medicine residents and fellows. The said event, spearheaded by PSNM Auditor Dr. Vincent Peter C. Magboo, was held last December 1, 2007 at the Philippine Heart Center. The research contest was followed by the PSNM Christmas Party. Still in 2007, five nuclear medicine centers were accredited by the Society with Dr. Ruben V. Ogbac as Chairman of the Accreditation Committee. These included:• Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center• Iloilo Doctors' Hospital• Asian Hospital• Seamen's Hospital• De La Salle UniversityI would like to congratulate also Dr. Orestes P. Monzon for successfully staging his own photo exhibit entitled “Windows, Doors, Narrow Streets” at the Art Gallery of the Philippine Heart Center from October 16 - November 3, 2007. The same goes to Dr. Emil Valdez-Tan and Dr. Jerry Obaldo for their photo exhibit entitled "Bodyscapes" at the Heart Center from September 3 - 21, 2007.

In 2008, Volume 3 of the Philippine Journal of Nuclear Medicine was published and distributed last January 30, 2008 during the PSNM Fellowship Night. In February 2-3, 2008 PSNM celebrated its 2008 Annual Convention in Boracay, Aklan in response to the growing clamor by the members to have the annual meeting outside Metro Manila , A Pre-Convention Night however was held on January 30, 2008 at the EDSA Shangri-la Manila. The

Official PSNM Newsletter was also revived in 2008 under the new name SCINTILLATIONS. The editor for this issue is Ms. Mariquit C. Acena of Rizal Medical Center. I would like to express my sincerest thanks to all the board members for their cooperation and support in all the projects of the society most especially to Dr. Jose Eduardo Rondain for the successful convention, to the Board of Examiners, chaired by Dr. Jerry Obaldo, to the President of the Medical Technologist Section, Mr. Remigio Salvador, and to all the PSNM consultants, residents, and technologists. The success of these activities were all due to your unrelenting support and cooperation. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!