

It is a pleasure to write this newsletter item as President of the Southeastern Chapter of the Society of Nuclear and Molecular Imaging—Technologist Section. The mission of the SECSNMMI is to communicate with, support, and educate all members and associate members in all aspects of the practice of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging and I am honored to represent the technologists to accomplish this mission. Thanks for having the confidence in me to support the mission. My hope is that by working together I will surpass your expectations.



Each year our members come together to share their experience and enhance our current knowledge of molecular imaging. This year the meeting was held in my hometown of Chattanooga, TN. It was an honor to be host to everyone in a city that I have come to love. The meeting was a great success. It could not have been a success without multiple people coming together to make it happen. I do not have enough space in this news item to thank each person individually, but I do want to thank Robert Pagnanelli, past president, for mentoring me during my president-elect position. I also want to thank Dr. Bonta for helping to plan a wonderful program of speakers. I did not take the time to recognize my students from Chattanooga State Community College that gave up a weekend to assist their instructor with the meeting. They helped to make the verification process very smooth. So thank you to Tiffany Hairston, Shibu Samuels, Keisa Smith, Hunter Smith, and Whitney Vaughn, I appreciate your contribution to the meeting.

At the meeting there is an opportunity for students and technologists to present a poster or verbally deliver an abstract. The SECSNMMI provides travel awards for some individuals to present findings of research. This is something I am hoping to encourage more participation in at the meetings. Who doesn't want a free trip to the SECSNMMI?! Please contact Norman Bolus, if you are interested in participating as a student or technologist.

The next meeting will be held in Birmingham, AL. Birmingham has experienced a beautiful transformation, so it will be exciting to have the meeting there. The dates are October 3-5, 2017, so mark your calendars now. I hope to see you there.

I attended the SNMMI-Mid Winter meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. The big initiative currently being focused on by the SNMMI is quality. Technologists may not realize that quality begins with each individual and what an impact one may have in providing a professional image to the field. Whether that is by obtaining more training, attending meetings to stay current, or earning multiple certifications. Technologists should keep an open mind to learning new things and even changing old practices as they evolve. It is ok to change things up a bit, especially if it affects the outcome positively!

In closing, I am here to represent the technologists of the SECSNMMI, so please do not hesitate to contact me to provide comments or suggestions. I am open to progression and change that benefits the SECSNMMI-TS members and the profession.

Leesa Ross, MA, CNMT, PET, RT(N)(CT)  
Chattanooga State Community College  
President, SECSNMMI-TS