

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The Nordic Association for Clinical Physics (NACP) was founded in 1962. The last and final general assembly of the NACP was held on June 10th 2004. At this meeting the NACP was reorganised, got a new constitution, and since then the NACP is an umbrella organisation for the five Nordic Medical physics societies.

According to the constitution, the Annual Report shall be prepared by the president, approved by the council and sent to the presidents of the national member organisations (NMO). This Annual Report includes the year 2014, and was approved after the first council meeting in 2015.

Aims and purposes of the NACP

- a) To foster and co-ordinate the activities of the Nordic member organisations in the field of clinical physics in all its aspects.
- b) To establish relationships and collaboration where appropriate with national, regional and international societies and bodies in the fields related to clinical physics.
- c) To improve the standard of clinical physics activities within the Nordic countries.
- d) To promote Nordic co-operation within the field of clinical physics in scientific work, developments and education.
- e) To promote the exchange of scientific information on clinical physics and related fields of science.
- f) To recommend standards for education, training and accreditation programmes within the fields of clinical physics.
- g) To encourage scholarships and the exchange of scientific experts within appropriate fields.

The NACP strategy

The council has decided to establish a structure for the organisation based on need and simplicity. This means we will not start any activity without explaining why this activity is within the aims and purposes for the NACP. It also means we will try to make a “self-driven” organisation where the council plan, organise and make decisions and where task groups do most of the scientific and practical work. We will work towards making a solid foundation for a prosperous Nordic Association for Clinical Physics.

NACP COUNCIL 2014:

President: Asger Greval Petersen • Secretary: Cathrine Jonsson • Treasurer: Mika Teräs
Webmaster: Sigrun Saur Almberg • Delegate: Gardar Myrdal

Committees: Radiological Physics Committee, Nuclear Medicine Physics Committee, Scientific Committee

Address: NACP c/o Sigrun Saur Almberg, Radiotherapy Department, St. Olavs Hospital, Olav Kyrres gt. 17, N-7006 Trondheim, Norway
www.nacp-nordisk.org E-mail: NACP-webmaster@nacp-nordisk.org

The council of the NACP:

From June 2014 the council has consisted of:

President:	Asger Greval Petersen	Danish Society for Medical Physics
Secretary:	Cathrine Jonsson with (during Cathrine's leave) Sigrun Saur Almberg	Swedish Society for Radiation Physics Norwegian Association of Medical Physics
Treasurer:	Mika Teräs	Finnish Association of Medical Physicists
Webmaster:	Sigrun Saur Almberg	Norwegian Association of Medical Physics
Delegate:	Gardar Myrdal	Icelandic Society of Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics

Work within the council:

The council had 4 meetings in 2014; in March, May, September and December. Three council meetings were telephone meetings lasting usually for less than 2 hours. The meeting in May was held in conjunction with the 2014 NACP Symposium in Turku, Finland.

The president prepared agendas for the meetings. Minutes were taken by the secretary. Approved minutes can be found on our password protected web-pages. The secretary also sent the minutes to the presidents of the NMOs.

It is important that each NMO continue their responsibility to appoint delegates to the council.

In 2014 the council has worked on the following tasks:

- Organizing the work in the council itself
- Organizing the 3rd official NACP2014 Symposium in Turku May 24-25
- Awards: the Varian-NACP grant and the Elekta-NACP grant
- Supporting the NACP Radiological Physics Committee
- Evaluation and establishing NACP Nuclear Medicine Committee
- Evaluation and preparing to establish NACP Magnetic Resonance Committee
- Continuing cooperation with Acta Oncologica
- Continuing negotiations with a similar cooperation with Acta Radiologica
- Website matters

Some results of this work can be seen by visiting the NACP website: www.nacp-nordisk.org

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Organizing the work within the council itself

The main work to facilitate the work in the council can be found in the document “NACP List of duties”, including a “rotating list” for tasks within NACP. This document is upgraded continuously and is a valuable help in the council work.

The 3rd official NACP2014 Symposium in Turku

The Symposia was arranged in cooperation and back-to-back with the Turku PET Symposia 24-25 of May. Mika Teräs as the president of the Symposia worked in close collaboration with the Finnish NMO, PET Symposia organisers and Ludvig Muren from Acta Oncologica.

The Theme of the symposia was “Imaging in Oncology”.

On Saturday 24th of May there the Symposia started with NACP program and continued with joint get-together party with PET Symposia.

The evening ended with a NACP Dinner held at the old Jubilee hall of the Academy of Finland.

Two participants, Emely Lindblom and Alexander Kristian, were chosen to get the Young Investigator Award and got their Diplomas at the NACP Dinner.

The Finnish NMO released a book on the 75-year-old History of Hospital physics in Finland.

On Sunday morning there were two parallel sessions on different disciplines and afternoon sessions (Instrumentation and modelling) were joint with the PET Symposium.

Award board members acted as part of the scientific committee and helped with abstracts and other scientific matters.

Tommi Nojonen from Turku arranged the NACP dinner event and other physicists from Turku helped on organisational issues.

From around 400 attendants for both events around 100 were Medical physicists.

Cooperation with Acta Oncologica resulted in a publication (Vol 53, No 8 (August 2014) with editorial plus 18 scientific peer reviewed articles from the Symposia.

Grants

The NACP has established cooperation with both Varian and Elekta in order to support clinically working physicists in the field of radiation therapy and to encourage research and development in the field. Each grant is 3500 Euro.

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VARIAN-NACP grant

The Varian-NACP grant was established in 2005, and has deadline for application on March 01st each year. The grant is given to promote and strengthen the relations and cooperation between Nordic and American physicists.

Winner 2014: The winner of the 2014 Varian-NACP grant was Linda Holth Djupvik from Oslo University Hospital, Norway. Her interests are image-guided and adaptive radiotherapy for locally advanced cervical cancer patients, and she will use the grant money to travel to Princess Margaret Hospital and Ontario Cancer Institute.

In the autumn, Varian made changes in their compliance program, and NACP had to apply to Varian centrally for the Varian-NACP grant to continue. All requested documents were sent to Varian in September 2014. A decision is expected in January 2015.

ELEKTA-NACP grant

The Elekta-NACP grant was established in 2012, and has deadline for application November 1st each year.

Winner 2014: The winner of the 2014 Elekta-NACP grant was Pauliina Wright from Turku University Hospital, Finland. She will visit Århus Hospital to get acquainted with the local adaptive radiotherapy protocol for bladder cancer.

A well-established system of criteria (relevance, up-todateness, originality and usefulness) for selecting the winner of the NACP grants was used.

In 2014 the members of the NACP Award board (the name was changed to NACP Scientific Committee during 2014) was as shown in the table below.

Field	Finland	Sweden	Norway	Denmark
Radiation therapy	Simo Hyödynmaa (secretary)	Per Nilsson	Jan Heggdal	Mette Skovhus Thomsen
Nuclear medicine	Mika Teräs	Michael Ljungberg	Marianne Leirdal Stokkan	Søren Baarsgaard Hansen
Radiology/MRI	Miika Nieminen	Annette Fransson Andreo	Samuel Kuttner	Jolanta Hansen

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The NACP Radiological Physics Committee (RPC)

Hans-Erik Källman (Sweden) and Anne Catrine Martinsen (Norway) initiated the Radiological Physics Committee in 2009. The group started their work in 2010 and the present members are:

Stine Groth-Pedersen (chairperson/secretary), Denmark

Anja Almén, Sweden

Eivind Larsen, Norway

Paula Toroi, Finland

In 2014 the RPC arranged the course 'Evolving new technology in COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY: Dosimetry, Quality Assurance, Optimization' in Helsinki (22.-23.5.2014).

To read more on RPC activities visit their home pages linked from the NACP pages.

The NACP Nuclear Medicine Physics Committee (NMPC)

Finally in 2014 the NMPC was initiated. They have created their own web site, a link can be found in the NACP web site. No events have yet been arranged.

There were discussions to establish a Committee on Magnetic Resonance, but the physicists involved are happy with present situation of their possibilities to influence through MR related associations.

Establishing cooperation with Acta Oncologica and Acta Radiologica

ACTA have sponsored the NACP Symposium in Turku the same way as was done in Århus 2008 and Uppsala 2011.

First contact was also made with Acta Radiologica (Arnulf Skjennald). Acta Radiologica is interested in more cooperation with NACP. The cooperation will start with linking their web-pages from the (new) NACP web page. It is believed that a more formal cooperation is of interest for the RPC group.

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Website matters

New pages were launched in 2013 and during year 2014 more council members have learned to add information to them.

Future strategies

The council continues to discuss the following strategies for the future:

- Initiation of a NACP dosimetry task group
- Co-operation with Acta Oncologica and Acta Radiologica
- Common job advertisement on the NACP web-pages
- Further develop the web pages
- Organisation of the NACP2017 Symposium in Oslo, Norway

Account

The NACP (organisation number 802400-5343) have at its disposal a bank account in Handelsbanken (Solna, SWEDEN). Cathrine Jonsson, the treasurer until May 2014,) has the right to make withdrawals from the account.

The balance on the account 2014-12-31 was: 88 525 SEK

Turku, January 15th, 2015

Mika Teräs
President

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