

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Approved by the NACP council

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 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 include the year 2008, and was approved on the first council meeting in 2009.

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.

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 an “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 move forward slowly and try to make a solid foundation for a prosperous Nordic Association for Clinical Physics.

The council of NACP:

During the report period the council has been

President:	Rune Hafslund (until sept.2008)	Norwegian Society for Medical Physics
	Cathrine Jonsson (from sept.2008)	Swedish Society for Radiation Physics
Secretary:	Jørgen Petersen	Danish Society for Medical Physics
Treasurer:	Cathrine Jonsson (until sept.2008)	Swedish Society for Radiation Physics
	Rune Hafslund (from sept.2008)	Norwegian Society for Medical Physics
Webmaster:	Mika Teräs	Finnish Association of Hospital Physicists
Delegate:	Gardar Myrdal	Icelandic Society of Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics

Work in the Council:

The council had 4 meetings in 2008, in March, June, September and December. Three council meetings were telephone meetings lasting usually for 2 hours. The council meeting in June was held in Århus, Denmark during the NACP Symposium 2008.

The president prepared agendas for the meetings. Minutes were taken by our secretary. All minutes were approved on the following council meeting and 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 2008 the council has worked on the following tasks:

- Awards
- Planning for the official NACP Symposium 2008
- Website
- Follow up CPD- task group
- Organisation of the society
- Organizing the work in the council itself

Some result of this work can be seen by going to our website.

The council initiated work on the document “Duties within NACP” which is a list of duties for the different tasks within the NACP organisation. In this document duties for the council, the president, the secretary, the web-master, the treasurer, the members of the award board, the national member organisations, etc will be found. This work is not finished yet, but will be put on our web when approved by the council.

The domain-name www.nacp-nordic.org was lost in 2007, and our webmaster attained a new web domain; www.nacp-nordisk.org.

The constitution

The constitution was approved on the general assembly in Bergen June 10th, 2004. The constitution can be found on our web-pages. The council tries to work according to the constitution, but the council has problems to fulfill all paragraphs in the constitution. Since the council has members from the national boards, these members are appointed for different periods of time. This means council members may enter or exit the council at different times, and new constitution of the council has to be done accordingly. So far, this has not been any problem. The work-in-progress “Duties within NACP” will try to clarify and simplify the different paragraphs in the constitution and show where changes should be made.

NACP Symposium 2008

The NACP Symposium 2008 took place in Århus, Denmark in June 2008. This was planned as a common Nordic symposium with the aim to strengthen the collaboration and enforce networking within the NACP. A scientific committee was organized with representatives from all Nordic countries and all medical physics branches (radiation therapy, molecular imaging, radiology and MRI). The symposium was attended by approximately 180 participants, 20 companies had exhibitions and you could find 23 posters.

The symposium replaced both the annual national Danish and Norwegian meetings in 2008. Acta Oncologica has decided to publish a special edition with proceedings from the symposium, and L.Muren has written the editorial.

Further details are available at www.nacp2008.dk. Here you also will find the Synopsis from the symposium, ”The NACP 2008 Symposium comes to Denmark”, written by Liv Bolstad Hysing, Bjørn Helge Østerås and Claire Anne Fynbo.

A scientific result of this symposium is the cooperation between Nordic diagnostic physicists, arranging a course on “CT dosimetry and image optimisation for medical physicists” in April 2009 in Oslo.

The council will work for the next NACP symposium in Sweden in 2011 or 2012.

Awards 2008

In December 2005 the council came to an agreement with Varian for a “Varian – NACP grant”. The “Varian-NACP grant” has deadline for application on March 01st each year, but was 2008 postponed until March 13th. The aim of the grant is to support a clinically working physicist in the field of radiation therapy and to encourage research and development in the field. Moreover, the grant should promote and strengthen the relations and cooperation between Nordic and American physicists. In 2008 NACP received four applications for this grant, and Espen Yates from Dept. of Medical Physics in Århus, Denmark was selected by the award board to be the

winner of 3.500 EUR. Yates will use the grant for a visit to Duke and Rider University to study 3-dimensional dosimetry.

Early 2008 Siemens and the council of NACP came to an agreement for a “Siemens – NACP grant” with the aim to support a clinically working physicist visiting a Siemens installation in the field of Medical Imaging (Radiology, CT, Molecular Imaging or MRI). Furthermore, the intention is to encourage research and development as well as to promote and strengthen the relations and cooperation between European physicists within this field. The deadline for application was May 01st and NACP received 3 applicants. After evaluation by the award board the winner was Jani Saunavaara from the Medical Imaging Centre in Southwest Finland in Turku. Saunavaara received 2.500 EUR to visit Mainz University Hospital to discuss MRI and hyperpolarized noble gases.

During the Award Session on the NACP Symposium 2008 the president of NACP introduced the winner by handing over the NACP award diplomas. In the same session, Flemming Kjær-Kristoffersen, the winner of “Varian-NACP” grant 2007, received his diploma and presented his report from his visit to University of Chicago and Illinois in June 2007.

All reports can be found on NACP web.

The best poster award of 1.000 EUR was also announced during this session. Members of the scientific committee had evaluated the preselected posters and Søren Kynde Nielsen from Århus was selected as the winner.

Award board

In the councilmeeting 01/08 the rules for an award board were approved, and Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden have appointed members of the board (see table below). The leader of the board is Michael Ljungberg from Sweden. Siemens will participate in the award board when the winner of the Siemens-NACP award is to be appointed.

Field	Finland	Sweden	Norway	Denmark	Award holder representative
Radiation therapy	Simo Hyödynmaa	Per Nilsson	Karsten Eilertsen	Mette Skovhus Thomsen	
Nuclear medicine	Mika Teräs	Michael Ljungberg (secretary)	Mari Gårseth	Søren Baarsgaard Hansen	Johan Lindqvist SIEMENS
Radiology/MRI	Miika Nieminen	Annette Fransson Andreo	Hilde Olerud/ Kjell-Inge Gjesdal	Jolanta Hansen	Johan Lindqvist SIEMENS

The award board use “A system of criterias for selecting the winner from the applicants of the NACP grants”. In council meeting 04/08 the council decided evaluating criterias to be “relevance, up-todateness, originality and usefulness” within the field.

The award board did an excellent work in the process of selecting the winners among the applicants.

Task Groups

CPD-task group

In the council meeting 02/05 a task group on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) was appointed because the council wanted to create NACP recommendations on a harmonised Nordic CPD-system. Aims and Terms of Reference for the group were approved by the council on the council meeting 04-05 and can be found on our website.

On the NACP Symposium 2008 Simo Hyödynmaa presented the report “Recommended guidelines on Schemes for Continuing Professional Development for the Nordic Countries”. The report is not yet approved by the council, but will be found on the NACP web when this is the case.

The CPD-task group consisted of the following members:

From Denmark:	Kjeld Olsen (contact person)
From Finland:	Simo Hyödynmaa
From Iceland:	Gardar Myrdal (as observer)
From Norway:	Kjell Inge Gjesdal
From Sweden:	Bertil Axelsson (contact person)

The council know that working in a task group means lots of work and will like to express its gratitude to the members of the group.

Dosimetry task group

The council discuss initiating a NACP dosimetry task group and have asked Gardar Myrdal to make a proposal for aims, organisation and terms of reference.

Account

The NACP (organisation number 802400-5343) have at it's disposal a bank account in Handelsbanken (Solna, SWEDEN). Cathrine Jonsson, the NACP treasurer until September 2008, has the right to make withdrawals from the account.

Transactions in SEK, during 2008:

	Transactions SEK			
	Date	Withdrawal	Deposit	Balance
	2007-12-31			29714,15
Företagspaket	2008-01-01	1250,00		28464,15
Simo travel Århus	2008-09-18	7002,08		21462,07
Siemens award+fee (3000 EUR)	2008-09-26		28863,00	50325,07
Siemens award bank fee	2008-09-26	3,00		50322,07
	2008-09-30			50322,07
Siemens award (2500 EUR)	2008-10-22	25137,50		25184,57
Varian award fee (500 EUR)	2008-10-30		4998,50	30183,07
Interest 2008	2008-12-31		62,00	30245,07

The council has decided there is, for the time being, no need for an external audit of the account. Since NACP has the bank account in Sweden, the council will make sure NACP comply with the Swedish tax authorities.

Stockholm , March 05th , 2009

Cathrine Jonsson
President