



# The Radiological and Medical Physics Society of New York

## RAMPS 1948 – 2014

### The Earliest Organization of Medical Physicists in the United States



#### History of RAMPS

During the mid 1940's, physicists associated with medical institutions in the metropolitan New York City region commenced meetings to compare instrumentation and their measurements of the quantity of radioactivity in solutions in medical use. This was necessary for uniformity, and also for accuracy since the national standard available appeared to be inconsistent. This was just prior to the availability of megavoltage x rays and electrons, and the primary concern of the physicists was associated with the uses of radioactive nuclides. The clinical uses of iodine-131 and other radionuclides (phosphorus-32, yttrium-90, etc.) were being actively explored and agreement on the amount of activity being administered was essential. Such measurements led to the "New York Millicurie," which served a vital purpose.

By 1948 the meetings of these medical physicists were on a scheduled basis with elected officers and records. Those initially active in RAMPS included **Mones Berman, Hanson Blatz, Carl Braestrup, Giacchino Failla, Sergei Feitelberg, Elizabeth Focht, Hiram Hart, Lillian Jacobson, Robert Loevinger, Leo Marinelli, Eleanor Oshry, Edith Quimby, Edward Siegel, Aaron Yalow, Rosalyn Yalow, and others.** This group established the measurement procedure for the "New York Millicurie," and their meetings served both scientific and professional functions. A constitution was written in 1954 by **R. Yalow and J. Laughlin**, and revised in 1957 by them. RAMPS has continued to grow from its modest beginning to a current membership of about 150 and conducts monthly meetings which are well attended. Their meetings usually include scientific presentations by a member or guest on physical aspects of treatment, diagnosis, nuclear medicine, or protection. Also, a symposium on a pertinent scientific topic is held annually. RAMPS welcomed the initiation of the AAMP and became a chapter in it.

From J. S. Laughlin and P. N. Goodwin: *History of the AAMP 1958–1998, Medical Physics 25(7, part 2): 1240-1241; 1998.* Reproduced here with the permission of the AAMP



American Association of Physicists in Medicine was established 10 years later

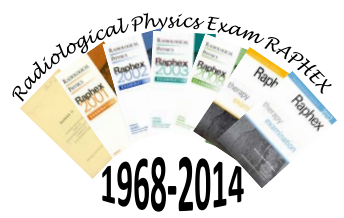
#### RAMPS Presidents

- John Robert Hiram Colin Gerald Jean Morris Harry Salvatore Paul Lawrence Christopher Mortimer Bun Arthur Maynard Alan Robert Mary Ellen Edward Mark Susan Yakov Doracy Gerald Richard J. Keith James C. Clifton Ceferino Lowell Stephen Mark John J. Keith Yeh Chi Eugene Gig Chandra Cheng-Shie Jenghwa Albert Michael Gilad
- Laughlin Schulz Hart Orton Shapiro St. Germain Hodara Astarita Vacirca Goodwin Rothenberg Marshall Heller Chan Olson High Summers Schoenfeld Barish Masterson Nickloff Belanich Barish-Brownie Pipman Fontenla Kutcher Riley DeWynngaert Galvin Ling Obcemea Balter Humm DeWynngaert Lo Mageras Burman Wu Chang Sabbas Lovelock Cohen

John Laughlin became the President of AAMP



**Rosalyn Yalow, Founding Member of RAMPS and Charter Member of AAMP, received the 1977 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine.**



In 1968, in order to assist the training of residents in the various radiological physics specialties, RAMPS appointed a committee to prepare an examination on radiological physics. This examination was administered on a voluntary basis to radiological residents in the New York City area at a session held at the New York Academy of Medicine with the cooperation of the New York Roentgen Ray Society. The response was so enthusiastic that this examination has become an annual event. It is now being used throughout the United States through the courtesy of RAMPS and of the AAMP. In recent years, separate examinations for Diagnostic Radiology and Radiation Oncology have been produced. Teaching has always been an important activity of the medical physicist in his/her institution and the establishment of this examination procedure was a method of assisting the education of residents in the physical aspects of radiology.

#### 25th Anniversary, NY Academy of Sciences



Mary Lou Meurk, John Laughlin



From left: Edith Quimby, Shirley Quimby, Emma Goodwin, Joyc Goodwin, Shirley Epp



"The Mutants" From left: Saul Harris, Joyce Davis, Shirley Vickers, Barbara Heller, Mort Heller

#### Major Awards to RAMPS Members

##### AAPM Coolidge Award

John S. Laughlin	1974
Edith E. Quimby	1977
Lowell L. Anderson	2000
C. Clifton Ling	2004

##### AAPM Quimby Lifetime Achievement Award

Lawrence N. Rothenberg	2007
James M. Galvin	2008
Lawrence E. Reinstein	2009
Howard I. Amols	2014
Edward L. Nickloff	2014

##### Marvin MD Williams Professional Achievement Award

John S. Laughlin	1992
Edward L. Nickloff	2008

##### AAPM Officers from RAMPS

President	John S. Laughlin	1965
	Lawrence N. Rothenberg	1998
	Howard I. Amols	2005

Secretary	Jean M. St. Germain	1985
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#### 52nd Anniversary of the Failla Memorial lecture

RAMPS, in conjunction with the Greater New York Chapter of the Health Physics Society, holds the Annual Failla Lecture. The lecturer is an internationally known expert on Medical Physics and/or Radiation Protection. This year's lecture presented by David W. O. Rogers marked the 52nd Anniversary of the Failla lecture, which honors the memory of Dr. Failla, a Medical Physics pioneer. Other Failla lecturers over the past 8 years are:

- ♦ Antone L. Brooks, Ph.D. 2013
- ♦ C. Clifton Ling, Ph.D. 2012
- ♦ Michael T. Ryan, Ph.D. 2010
- ♦ Radhe Mohan, Ph.D. 2009
- ♦ Lawrence N. Rothenberg, Ph.D. 2008
- ♦ John R. Cunningham, Ph.D. 2007
- ♦ William F. Hanson, Ph.D. 2006
- ♦ John D. Boice, Ph.D. 2005



Above picture from the 2014 Failla Lecture. Starting from left, GWYHPS president Lori Gladders, RAMPS president Gilad Cohen, and Dr. David W. O. Rogers.

Five Failla honorees at the 2012 lecture, left to right, Franco J. Bradley, Lawrence Rothenberg, C. Clifton Ling, Jean St. Germain, and Naomi Harkes.

#### RAMPS VACIRA YOUNG INVESTIGATOR SYMPOSIUM

Each year RAMPS conducts a Young Investigators Symposium named in honor of Salvatore Vacirca, a past RAMPS President. Young investigators are encouraged to submit abstracts for the competition. The speaker judged to have made the best presentation is provided funding to attend an AAPM national meeting. Recent winners are

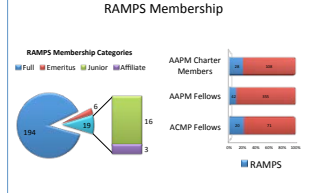
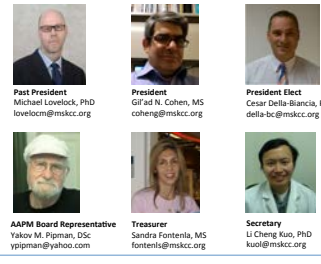
1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	Year
Michael Liu*	Louise Fanchon*	Xin Wang <sup>2</sup>	2014
Eric Williams*	Xin Wang <sup>1</sup>	Oleksandr Dzyubak*	2013
Ziad Saleh*	Russell Kincaid*	Lili Zhou <sup>1</sup>	2012
Sean Berry <sup>1†</sup>	Grace Tang*	Rachel M. Bartlett <sup>†</sup>	2011
Hans Stabenau*	Matthew Mills <sup>5</sup>	Joseph McNamara*	2010
Joseph P. Santoro*	Xuan Zhao <sup>5</sup>	Stewart J. Becker <sup>†</sup>	2009

- \* Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center  
<sup>1</sup> Mount Sinai Medical Center  
<sup>2</sup> Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
<sup>3</sup> Columbia University  
<sup>4</sup> New York University  
<sup>5</sup> Cornell University
- #### Recent RAMPS Symposia
- 2014 Adaptive Radiation Therapy
  - 2013 Focal Therapies
  - 2012 State of the Art in SBRT
  - 2011 Novel Radiation Detectors and their Applications in Dosimetry, Imaging and Health Physics
  - 2011 The Nuclear Accident in Fukushima Japan - Co-sponsored by RAMPS
  - 2010 Error Prevention and Patient Safety for Radiation Treatment and Diagnosis
  - 2009 60th Anniversary Celebration: Past, Present and Future of Medical Physics
  - 2008 Innovation & Implementation: Medical Physics in Cancer Care
  - 2007 A Survey of In-Room Image Guided Radiotherapy

#### THE WINNERS OF THE 2014 VACIRA YIS AWARD



#### CURRENT RAMPS OFFICERS



We would like to thank the following RAMPS members for their contributions to make this poster possible:  
**L. Rothenberg, J. Jeong, Z. Saleh, J. Sillanpaa, J. St. Germain, C. Marshall, D. Fontenla, Y. Pipman, G. Mageras**