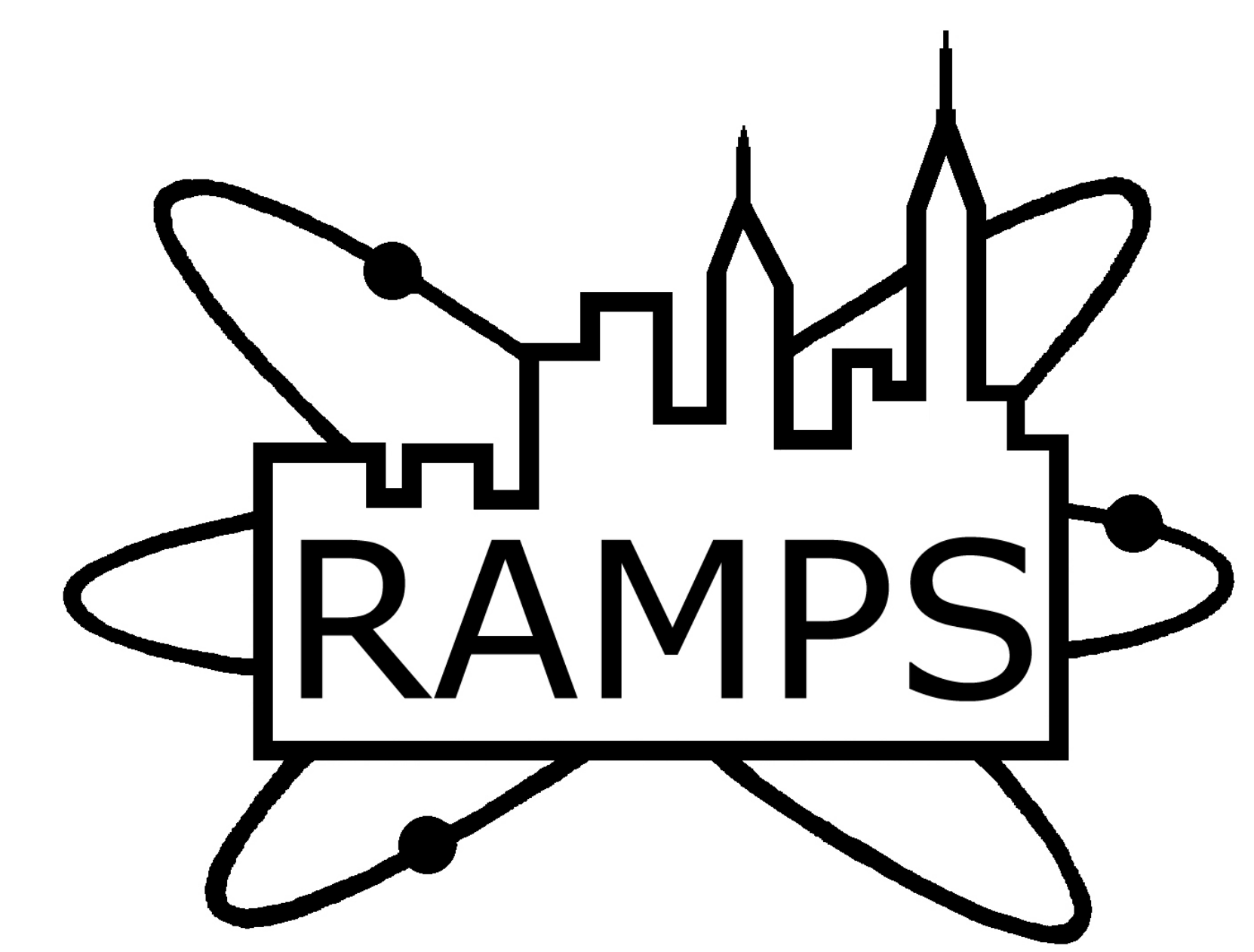




# The Radiological and Medical Physics Society of New York

## RAMPS 1948 – 2017

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

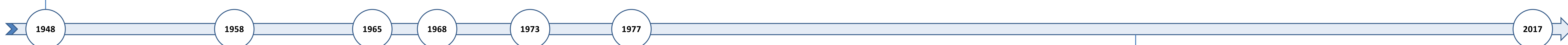


#### History of RAMPS

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.

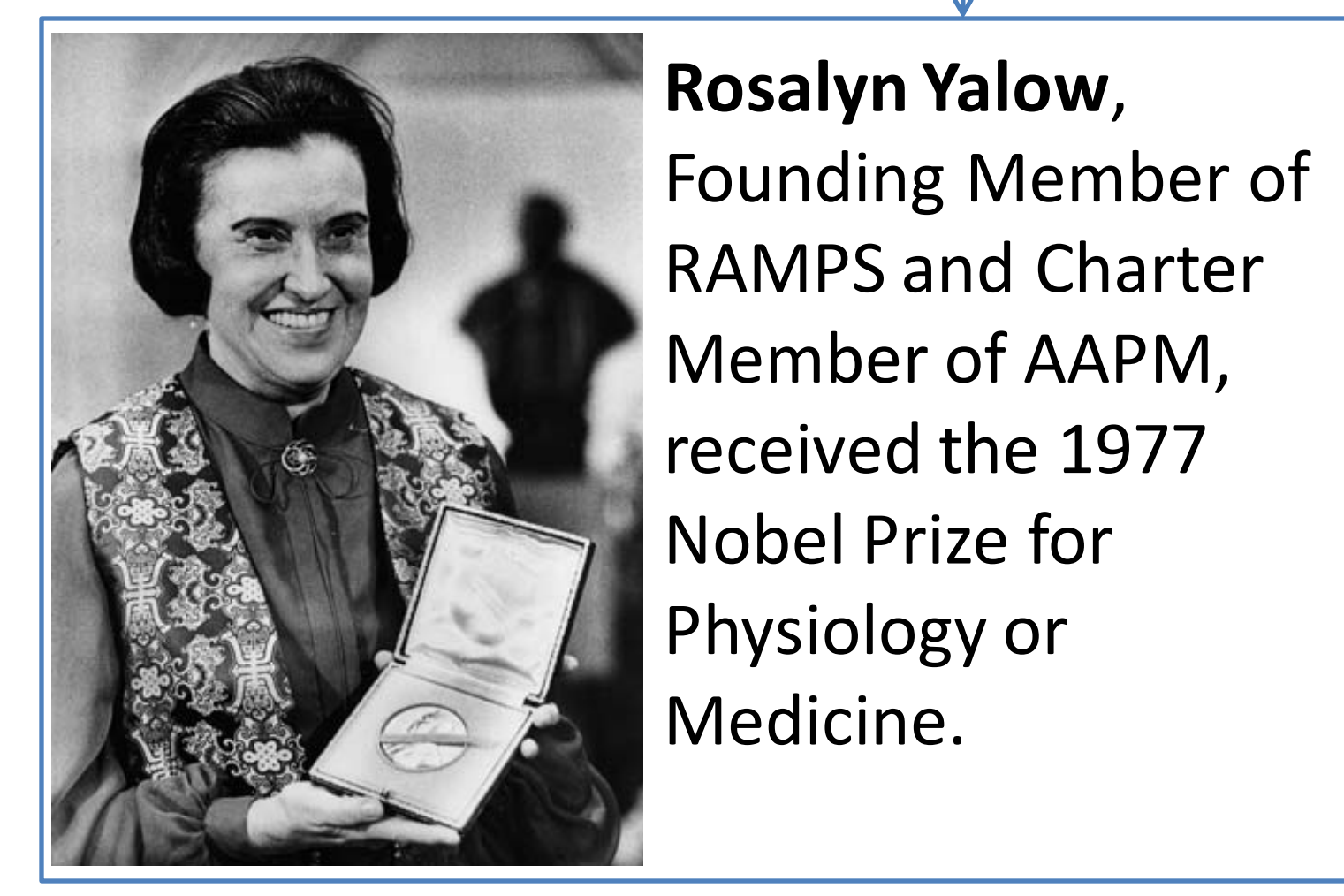
By 1948 the meetings of these medical physicists were on a scheduled basis with elected officers and records. Those initially active in RAMPS included **Mones Berman, Hanson Blatz, Carl Braestrup, Giacchino Failla, Sergei Feitelberg, Elizabeth Focht, Hiram Hart, Lillian Jacobson, Robert Loevinger, Leo 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 AAPM and became a chapter in it.

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



American Association of Physicists in Medicine was established 10 years later

John Laughlin became the President of AAPM



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



Mary Lou Meurk, John Laughlin



From left: Edith Quimby, Shirley Quimby, Emma Goodwin, Paul 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 H. 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. Nickoloff    | 2014 |
| Wendell R. Lutz        | 2016 |

**Marvin MD Williams Professional Achievement Award**

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| John S. Laughlin        | 1992 |
| Edward L. Nickoloff     | 2008 |
| Jean M. St. Germain     | 2015 |
| Christopher H. Marshall | 2015 |

#### AAPM Officers from RAMPS

|                        |      |  |  |
|------------------------|------|--|--|
| <b>President</b>       |      |  |  |
| John S. Laughlin       | 1965 |  |  |
| Lawrence N. Rothenberg | 1998 |  |  |
| Howard I. Amols        | 2005 |  |  |
| <b>Secretary</b>       |      |  |  |
| Jean M. St. Germain    | 1985 |  |  |

#### 55th 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 Stephen Balter marked the 54th Anniversary of the Failla lecture, which honors the memory of Dr. Failla, a Medical Physics pioneer. Other Failla lecturers over the past 10 years are:

- ❖ Craig Yoder, Ph. D. 2016
- ❖ Stephen Balter, Ph. D. 2015
- ❖ Isabel Fisenne, Ph. D. 2014
- ❖ David Rogers, Ph. D. 2013
- ❖ Antone L. Brooks, Ph.D. 2012
- ❖ C. Clifton Ling, Ph.D. 2011
- ❖ Michael T. Ryan, Ph.D. 2010
- ❖ Radhe Mohan, Ph.D. 2009
- ❖ Lawrence N. Rothenberg, Ph.D. 2008
- ❖ John R. Cunningham, Ph.D. 2007



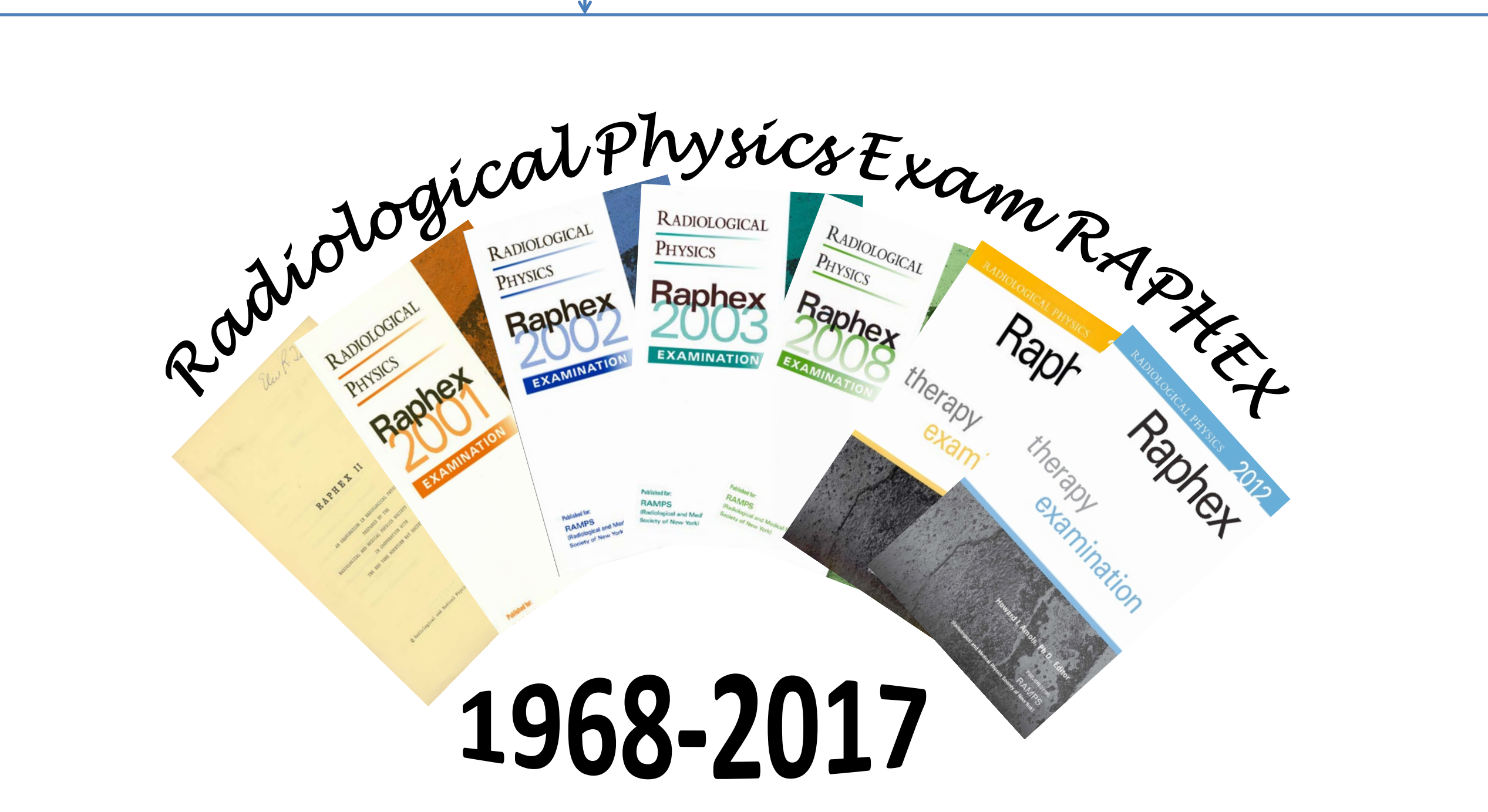
Dr. Balter being presented with a plaque at the Failla Lecture (left)



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

**RAMPS Presidents**

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| John Laughlin        | 1948-50   |
| Robert Schulz        | 1950-52   |
| Hiram Hart           | 1952-54   |
| Colin Orton          | 1954-56   |
| Gerald Shapiro       | 1956-58   |
| Jean St. Germain     | 1958-60   |
| Morris Hodara        | 1960-62   |
| Harry Astarita       | 1962-64   |
| Salvatore Vacirca    | 1964-66   |
| Paul Goodwin         | 1966-68   |
| Lawrence Rothenberg  | 1968-70   |
| Christopher Marshall | 1970-72   |
| Mortimer Heller      | 1972-74   |
| Bun Chan             | 1974-76   |
| Arthur Olson         | 1976-78   |
| Maynard High         | 1978-80   |
| James Summers        | 1980-82   |
| Alan Schoenfeld      | 1982-84   |
| Robert Barish        | 1984-86   |
| Mary Ellen Masterson | 1986-88   |
| Edward Nickoloff     | 1988-90   |
| Mark Belanich        | 1990-92   |
| Susan Barish-Brownie | 1992-94   |
| Yakov Pipman         | 1994-96   |
| Doracy Fontenla      | 1996-98   |
| Gerald Kutcher       | 1998-2000 |
| Richard Riley        | 2000-02   |
| J. Keith DeWyngaert  | 2002-04   |
| James Galvin         | 2004-06   |
| C. Clifton Ling      | 2006-08   |
| Ceferino Obcemea     | 2008-10   |
| Lowell Anderson      | 2010-12   |
| Stephen Balter       | 2012-14   |
| Mark Belanich        | 2014-16   |
| John Humm            | 2016-18   |
| J. Keith DeWyngaert  | 2018-20   |
| Yeh Chi Lo           | 2020-22   |
| Eugene Lief          | 2022-24   |
| Gig Mageras          | 2024-26   |
| Chandra Burman       | 2026-28   |
| Cheng-Shie Wu        | 2028-30   |
| Jenghwa Chang        | 2030-32   |
| Albert Sabbas        | 2032-34   |
| Michael Lovelock     | 2034-36   |
| Gil'ad Cohen         | 2036-38   |
| Cesar Della Bianca   | 2038-40   |
| Thomas Petrone       | 2040-42   |
| Ziad Saleh           | 2042-44   |



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 AAPM. 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.

#### RAMPS VACIRCA 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 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------|
| Sadegh Riyahi*           | Ida Häggström*        | Lei Zhang*                 | 2017 |
| Ida Häggström*           | Reza Farjam*          | Irene Zawisza <sup>¶</sup> | 2016 |
| Jeho Jeong*              | Bosky Ravindranath*   | Yong Hum Na <sup>†</sup>   | 2015 |
| Michael Liu*             | Louise Fanchon*       | Xin Wang <sup>‡</sup>      | 2014 |
| Eric Williams*           | Xin Wang <sup>‡</sup> | Oleksandr Dzyubak*         | 2013 |
| Ziad Saleh*              | Russell Kincaid*      | Lili Zhou <sup>†</sup>     | 2012 |
| Sean Berry* <sup>†</sup> | Grace Tang*           | Rachel M. Bartlett*        | 2011 |

\* Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center    † Columbia University  
 ‡ Mount Sinai Medical Center    § New York University  
 ¶ Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute    †† Cornell University

#### Recent RAMPS Symposia

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2017 | Advancing Medical Physics   |
| 2016 | New Developments in Radiotherapy  |
| 2015 | Imaging and Oncology Physics: A Reunion   |
| 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                 |

#### THE WINNERS OF THE 2016 VACIRCA YIS AWARD



Sadegh Riyahi, PhD    Ida Häggström, PhD    Lei Zhang, PhD

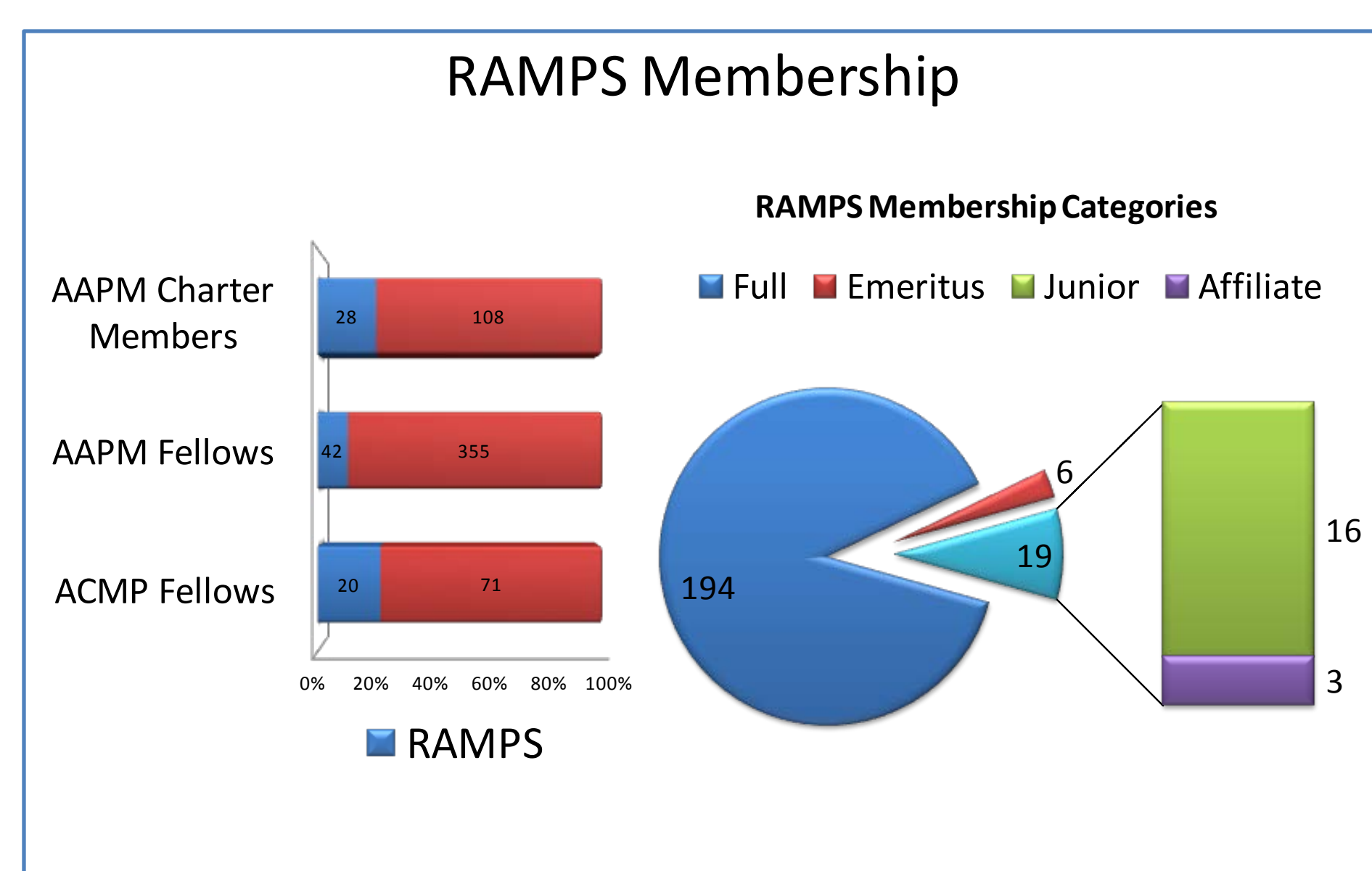
#### CURRENT RAMPS OFFICERS



**Past President** Thomas Petrone, PhD    **President** Ziad Saleh, PhD    **President Elect** Usman Mahmood, MS  
 tpetrone@petroneassoc.com    salehz@mskcc.org    mahmoodu@mskcc.org  
**AAPM Board Representative** Cesar Della Bianca, PhD    **Treasurer** Klaus A. Hamacher, PhD    **Secretary** Jussi Sillanpaa, PhD  
 della-bc@mskcc.org    hamacher@hephaistos.com    sillanp@mskcc.org



On the left - Gathering of RAMPS Presidents in 1988  
 From Left: Rob Barish, Maynard High, Alan Schoenfeld, Arthur Olsen, Larry Rothenberg, Jean StGermain, Morris Hodara, Paul Goodwin, Bob Schulz (hidden), Chris Marshall, John Laughlin, Gerry Shapiro, Mort Heller, Mary Ellen Masterson, Ed Nickoloff, Jim Summers



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**