

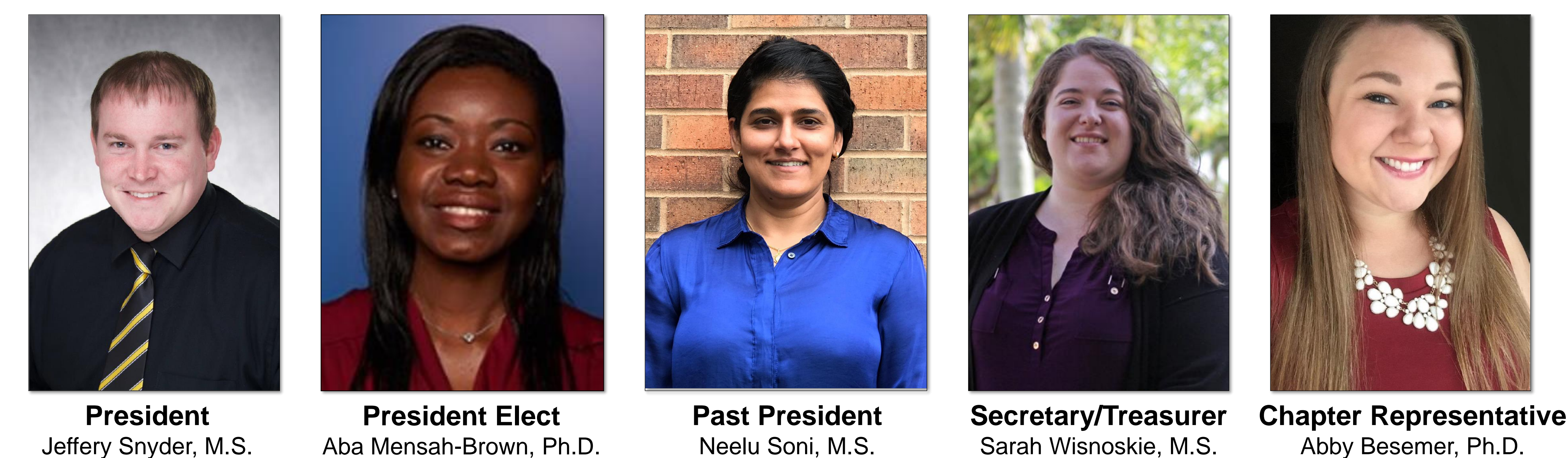
## Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska

[www.mrvaapm.com](http://www.mrvaapm.com)

### History

*In the Spring of 1971*, 6 to 8 medical physicists met in a small room in the radiation oncology department of the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City. There were two from Washington University in St Louis, at least one from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, and a few from the Kansas City area. The purpose of the meeting was to organize a chapter of the AAPM. Those present recognized the need to promote recognition of medical physics locally within the academic and scientific communities, and to support those practicing clinical physics, primarily in the rural areas of the region. However, the immediate goal was to obtain formal recognition by the AAPM as a regional chapter and to offer to host the 1974 annual AAPM meeting in Kansas City. A committee was selected to formulate a constitution and bylaws and to apply to the national organization for recognition as a *bona fide* chapter. At that initial gathering it was decided that Ernest (Curly) Jones of Omaha would be the Chapter's first president and Arnold Feldman of Washington University would be the Chapter's representative to the Board of Directors. Late in 1971 the Missouri River Valley Chapter, to cover the primarily rural area of Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska, was recognized by the AAPM as a regional Chapter. In 1974 the Chapter hosted the annual meeting in Kansas City. *(Written by Palmer Steward, PhD, FAAPM)*

### 2021 Chapter Officers



### Recent Highlights

- According to the AAPM online directory, the MRV chapter currently has 287 members across the four states.
- MRV AAPM typically hosts one meeting in the Spring and a workshop in the Fall each year.
- Due to COVID-19, we held a short Virtual Fall 2020 Chapter Meeting consisting of a Young Investigator Symposium and Business Meeting.
- In April, we held our first fully Virtual Spring 2021 Chapter Meeting consisting of a Med Phys Slam Competition, Young Investigator Symposium, Mock Oral, Business Meeting, & invited talks focusing on Automation in Treatment Planning and QA.
  - Eleven students/trainees presented their research in the Young Investigator Symposium and four students/trainees competed in the Med Phys Slam Competition.
  - We hosted our 8<sup>th</sup> year of Mock Oral Exams at the 2021 and this was the first year doing a fully virtual format to match the new ABR-style. There were 18 examinees and 18 examiners that participated.
  - We also hosted the first ever virtual night out consisting of several fun online games including Physics Pictionary.

### Young Investigator Symposium Winners

**1** **Michael Merrick, MS**  
Graduate Student, University of Iowa  
*"Clinical Evaluation of  $^{64}\text{Cu}$  ( $\beta^+$ ) and  $^{67}\text{Cu}$  ( $\beta^-$ ) for PET-Guided Radiopharmaceutical Therapy"*

**2** **Olga Pen, PhD**  
Medical Physics Resident, Washington University in St. Louis  
*"Small field dosimetry in MR field- Challenges and engineering solutions"*

**3** **Jeffrey Wong, MS**  
Medical Physics Resident, University of Nebraska Medical Center  
*"Stability of Radiomic Features due to interobserver and interdisciplinary segmentation in pancreatic cancer"*

### Med Phys Slam Competition Winners

**1** **Jeffrey Wong, MS**  
Medical Physics Resident, University of Nebraska Medical Center  
*"Making Predictions from Pictures with Radiomics"*

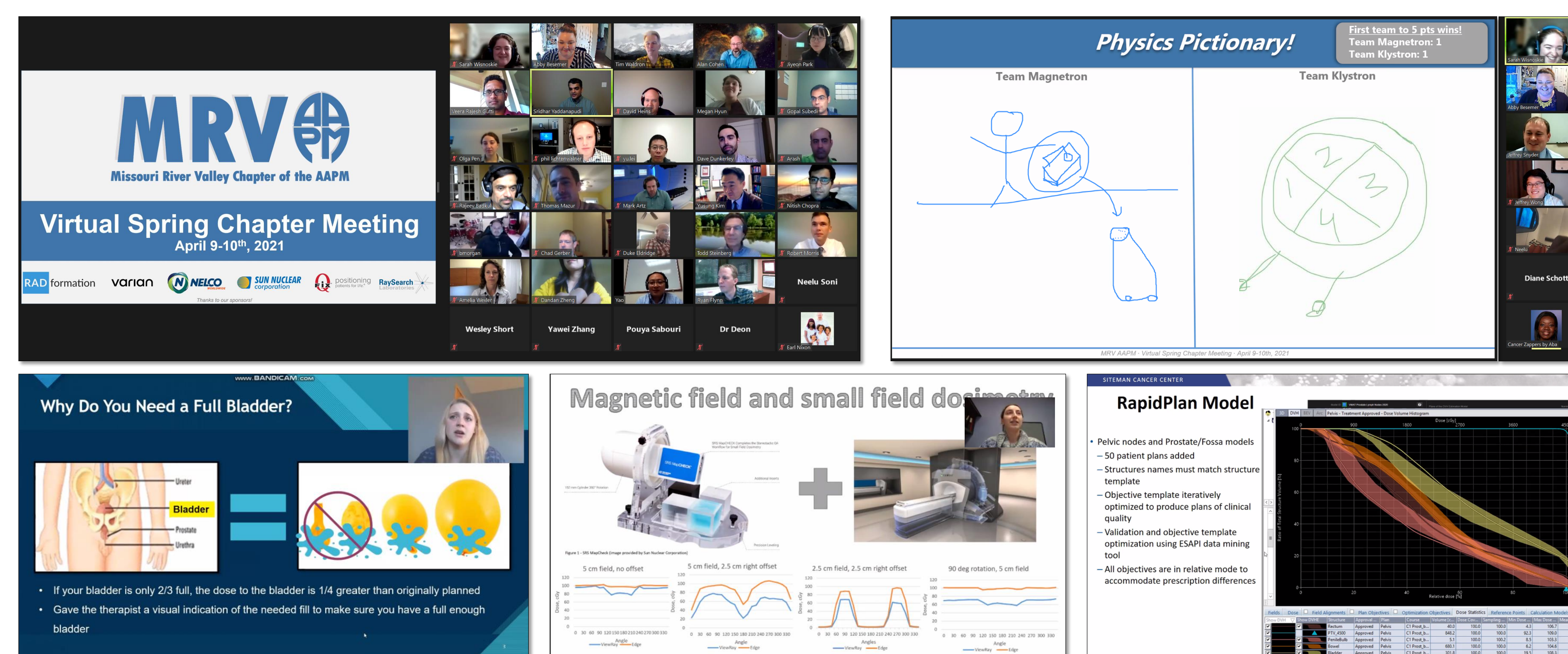
**2** **Ellie Bacon, BS**  
Graduate Student, Creighton University  
*"Do you Really Need a Full Bladder for Prostate Radiation Treatment?"*

**3** **Sarah Wisnoskie, MS**  
Medical Physics Resident, University of Nebraska Medical Center  
*"Think Fast! – Automating Emergency Planning"*

The top 3 winners of the Young Investigator Symposium and the Med Phys Slam Competition at the Virtual Spring 2021 MRV Chapter Meeting. Jeffrey Wong will advance to compete at the National Med Phys Slam competition at the Annual AAPM Meeting this summer.



Images from our first short Virtual Fall 2020 Chapter Meeting. Only four people met in person (while socially distanced!) in Omaha, NE while the rest of the of the attendees joined online.



Images from our first full Virtual Spring 2021 Chapter Meeting. Top Left: Screenshot of the Mock Oral participants, Top Right: Playing Physics Pictionary at the virtual night out, Bottom: Several presentations given during the meeting which were all pre-recorded to allow time for chat/discussions during the talk.