

New England Chapter of the AAPM (NEAAPM)

Notable NEAAPM Events

- 1964 First NEAAPM Constitution
- 1975 NEAAPM merges older groups: NERPO & BMGP
- 1979 First Young Investigators' Symposium
- 1981 AAPM Annual meeting held in Boston
- 1983 Karen Doppke elected first female NEAAPM pres.
- 1987 Connecticut seceded from NE, forms CAMPS
- 1995 AAPM Annual Meeting held in Boston
- 2018 First SLAM Competition
- 2020 Education committee formed
- 2022 First MOCK Oral exam for NEAAPM members



Edward (Ted) Webster
AAPM President 1963-1964



Edward (Ned) S. Sternick
NEAAPM Chairman 1974-1975
AAPM President 1984



Bengt Bjärngård
NEAAPM board Rep 1974-77
AAPM President 1979

NEAAPM Presidents

1974-1975 Edward Sternick	1992-1993 Andrew Karellas	2009 Robert Cormack
1976-1977 Joseph Blinick	1993-1994 Marie Foley Kijewski	2010 Georges El Fakhri
1978-1979 Saul Aronow	1994-1995 Richard Behrman	2011 Frederic Fahey
1979-1980 Arthur Boyer	1995-1996 Douglas Wagenaar	2012 Joseph Killoran
1980-1981 Robert Zimmerman	1996-1997 Marcia Urie	2013 Jessica Hiatt
1981-1982 Kenneth Kase	1997-1998 Martin Fraser	2014 David Gierga
1982-1983 Robert Wenstrup, Jr.	1999 Suresh Brahmavar	2015 Ross Berbeco
1983-1984 Karen Doppke	2000 Paul Imbergamo	2016 Caria Bradford
1984-1985 Robert Zamenhof	2001 Lee Chin	2017 Greg Sharp
1985-1986 William Roventine	2002 Charles Mayo	2018 Lindsey Berkowitz
1986-1987 Andrew Wu	2003 Eileen Cirino	2019 David Gladstone
1987-1988 Bruce Curran	2004 Peter Biggs	2020 Cynthia Pope
1988-1989 Lynn Verhey	2005 Douglas Shearer	2021 Per Halvorsen
1989-1990 Stephen Moore	2006 YC Lo	2022 Ileana Ilfimia
1990-1991 Chris. Constantinou	2007 Mark Rivard	2023 Yulia Lyatskaya
1991-1992 Frank Ascoli	2008 Gene Cardarelli	2024 Christopher Melhus

"Fun Run" AAPM Meetings in Boston MA

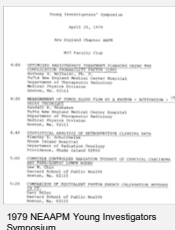
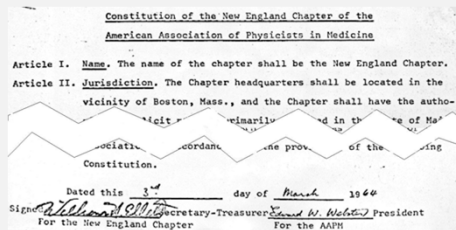


First "AAPM Fun Run" at the 1981 AAPM Annual Meeting in Boston. Runners assembled at the start.



"AAPM Fun Run" at the 1995 AAPM Annual Meeting in Boston: runners starting the race, by the Charles River.

1964 1st NEAAPM Constitution



A Short History of the New England Chapter of the AAPM (NEAAPM)

New England has a history of professional medical physics activities going to the very early days of the AAPM. The original constitution of the New England chapter was written in January 1964 and stated that the Chapter would include the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. It was signed on March 3rd, 1964 by then AAPM president **Edward (Ted) Webster**. While Ted Webster was from New England, his signature on the 1964 constitution was as AAPM President, and not as representative of the New England chapter per se. The signature for Secretary-Treasurer of the New England Chapter is that of **William H. Ellett** who appears to be the oldest documented member of the NEAAPM board.

After 1964, no records for the New England Chapter have surfaced which detail any activities or board members for almost a decade. However, two other New England medical physics groups were well known to exist at this time: the Boston Medical Physics Group (BMGP) and the New England Radiological Physics Organization (NERPO). While the BMGP held monthly scientific meetings at the MIT faculty club, NERPO was founded as a collaborative venture inspired by an effort by the NE governors to facilitate regional collaboration. NERPO is best remembered for organizing a program of dosimetric comparisons between Boston area hospitals as well as those in New Hampshire and Maine. During the years 1971-1972 the NERPO board began to discuss evolving NERPO and the BMGP into the New England Chapter of the AAPM. **Edward (Ned) S Sternick** was elected to serve as Chairman to the new reconstituted NEAAPM board for 1974-1975. In addition to Ned, the board consisted of **Saul Aronow**, **Bengt Bjärngård**, **John Cardarelli** and **Philip Judy**. All of these original members ultimately went on to have long distinguished careers in medical physics.

One of the tasks before the 1974-1975 NEAAPM board was to update the original constitution to make it "more responsive to the professional, scientific, and educational needs of New England physicists". While no surviving copy of the 1975 constitution has been found, one obvious change of the new constitution was to redefine the officers of the board. The post of Chairman was replaced by President and the position of President-elect was added. The 1976-1977 board consisted of **Joseph Blinick** as president and **Saul Aronow** as President Elect. **Herb Mower** filled the position of secretary/treasurer while Bengt Bjärngård remained on as national board representative.

New England region and the greater Boston area, in particular, is home to a number of medical schools and affiliated teaching hospitals with a strong focus on education. In 1979, the first Young Investigators Symposium was organized. This symposium was renamed to the Peter Neurath Early Career Symposium in 2023. In 2018, NEAAPM held its first SLAM competition. To further recognize the importance of offering education opportunities to junior members of the Chapter, an Education Committee was formed in 2020. The committee took over all formal preparations for the Early Career Symposium and SLAM competition and also has organized several MOCK exams for NEAAPM members. NEAAPM has been and continues to be a platform for intellectual exchange and education offerings. NEAAPM members are active in clinical innovations, cutting-edge research and teaching.



Saul Aronow with Prof Gordon Brownell and an early position brain scanner, MGH, circa 1955. AAPM Annual Meeting in Boston, 1995.



Geographical distribution of members

AAPM awards received by NEAAPM Members	
William D. Coolidge Gold Medal Award	Bengt Bjärngård 1998
Edith H. Quimby Lifetime Achievement Award	Frederic Fahey 2020
Arthur Boyer Award for Innovation in Medical Physics Education	Wilfred Ngwa 2018
John S. Laughlin Early-Career Scientist Award	Clemens Grassberger 2021
Jack Fowler Early-Career Investigator Award	Rachael Hachadorian 2023
	Stephanie Bennett 2022
	Darinda Binoy 2020
	Yunhe Xia 2017
	Joerg Rottmann 2015
	Alexei Trofimov 2004

Fred Fahey receiving Edith H. Quimby Lifetime Achievement Award, AAPM Annual Meeting, 2020

Recent NEAAPM recipients of Jack Fowler Early-Career Investigator Award.



AAPM Fellows

Frank Ascoli	Georges El Fakhri	Brian Pogue
Ross Berbeco	Martin Fraser	Mark Rivard
Peter Biggs	David Gierga	William Roventine
Joseph Blinick	David Gladstone	Gregory Sharp
Thomas Borfield	Per Halvorsen	Douglas Shearer
Suresh Brahmavar	Geoffrey Ibbott	Koren Smith
Gene Cardarelli	Philip Judy	Emilie Soisson
Erlin Chen	Andrew Karellas	Edward Sternick
George TY Chen	Kenneth Kase	Keith Strauss
Eileen Cirino	Eric Klein	Marcia Urie
Jessica Clements	Charles Mayo	Srinivasan Vedantham
Robert Cormack	Chris Melhus	Kai Yang
Bruce Curran	Hsiao-Ming Lu	Robert Zamenhof
Karen Doppke	Herbert Mower	Robert Zimmerman
Edward Epp	Andrzej Niemierko	
Frederic Fahey	Harald Paganetti	

The NEAAPM Today

As of 2024 the NEAAPM has nearly 300 members. The Chapter has recently held three major meetings a year of scientific and professional talks. The fall meeting is a half day, and the summer and winter meetings are a full day. These meetings all feature invited speakers from both inside and outside New England. Our winter meeting integrates the Peter J. Neurath Early Career Symposium with invited talks. While some meetings in 2019-2022 had to be held virtually, we hosted three in-person meetings since late 2022 with 90 attendees at the 2024 Winter Meeting in Quincy, MA – including new AAPM director David Gammel.

Early Career Symposium 2024



Recent ECS/YIS Winners:
2024 Roman Vasylyshyn
2023 Megan Clark & Austin Sloop
2022 Stella Xing
2021 David "Bo" McClatchy III
2020 Peter Jermain

Recent SLAM Competition Winners:
2024 Roman Vasylyshyn
2023 Rachael Hachadorian
2022 Savannah Decker
2020 Peter Jermain

2024 NEAAPM Officers



Emilie Soisson
President Elect



Christopher Melhus
President



Yulia Lyatskaya
Immediate Past President



John Roessman
Treasurer



David "Bo" McClatchy
Secretary



Konrad Nesteruk
Officer at Large



Ross Berbeco
Rep. Board Member
President 2015



Martin Fraser
Meeting Coord. Comm. Chair
President 1998



Greg Sharp
Corporate Membership
Committee Chair



Martina Hurwitz
Education Committee
Chair



Gregory Sharp
Nom. Committee Chair
President 2017



Lindsey Berkowitz
CAMPEP Coordinator
President 2018



Jack Kukuk
Computer Science-
IT Committee Chair

Acknowledgements and Disclaimer

The historical information presented here on the early days of the NEAAPM was based on a few available documents and the recollections of members. An effort was made to be as accurate as possible, but some minor speculation was necessary to 'fill in the gaps'. Special thanks to Phil Judy for locating many old documents, including the 1964 Constitution. Additional thanks are due to Ned Sternick, who located the 1981 AAPM Photos, as well as Bengt Bjärngård, Joe Blinick, John & Gene Cardarelli and a number of others who previously contributed their recollections. Also, thanks to Martin Fraser for providing more than two decades of service and support.
The NEAAPM Board – 2024