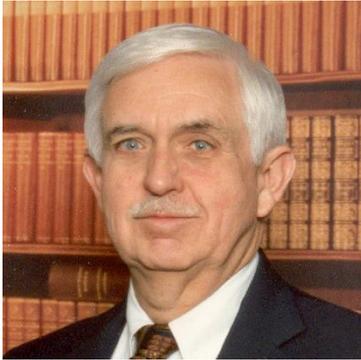


EDITORIAL

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The medical physics profession is rapidly becoming a connected global community and this journal, Medical Physics International, will be serving as a very active node in that network. There are many issues and activities relating to medical physics that benefit from communicating and sharing. Many other journals and conferences provide for the publication and presentation of research reports and results, and that will not be an activity of this journal.

In principle we will be filling some of the voids especially relating to professional development, education methodology and resources, practical applied physics, and the preservation of our history and heritage.

One of the dynamics that has a major effect on the medical physics profession is the rapid development of both medical imaging and therapeutic technology and methods and the growing deployment in virtually every country in the world.

This is creating a special need for physics education—specifically the physics knowledge and experience to support clinical procedures in both diagnostic imaging and therapy. This is not the physics knowledge recorded in textbooks and provided in traditional medical physics educational programs. It is the knowledge derived from present-day experience with the new technologies and methods.

Medical physicists and our clinical colleagues around the world will benefit when this experience and knowledge is shared. For us as a profession that is not only a challenge but an opportunity.

A specific goal of Medical Physics International is to connect our global community especially with the sharing of experience and educational resources.