

## EDITORIAL

Slavik Tabakov, Perry Sprawls and Geoffrey Ibbott

MPI Special Issues Co-Editors

In this Edition we provide the three most recent articles from the IOMP History Project and also are pleased to introduce Dr. Geoffrey Ibbott as the Co-Editor of the MPI Special Issues on History of Medical Physics, who will be leading the development of historical publications in the field of radiation oncology physics. Dr. Ibbott is Professor Emeritus at the UT MD Anderson Cancer Center in the USA. His extensive experience and leadership is a major factor in advancing the field of medical physics both within the USA and internationally. His interest and dedication to the preservation of our history and heritage is of great value to this project.

The purpose of the IOMP History Project is to research, organize, preserve, and publish on the evolution and developments of medical physics and clinical applications that are the foundation of our profession. The objectives are different from many other historical articles that typically provide a chronological review of activities and events. A value provided by this project is considering the factors such as the scientific research and technological advancements plus professional developments that were the driving forces in the evolution of medical physics clinical applications.

Both a better understanding and appreciation of medical physics as practiced today is enhanced by knowledge of the past developments, both challenges and achievements, as revealed through the articles in this history series.

All of the medical physics history articles can be accessed through: <http://www.mpijournal.org/history.aspx>

The previous MPI Special Issues on History covered aspects on Diagnostic Radiology and Professional/Educational topics. Each of these has thousands of downloads, which shows the need of the History project (which started its realization in 2017). It was encouraging to see that these Special issues were of interest also to our medical colleagues.

The topics extensively covered so far include:

MPI Special Edition I (<http://www.mpijournal.org/pdf/2018-SI-01/MPI-2018-SI-01.pdf>) :

- \* X-ray Tubes Development - IOMP History of Medical Physics. R. Behling
- \* Film-Screen Radiography Receptor Development – A Historical Perspective. P Sprawls
- \* History of Medical Physics e-Learning Introduction and First Steps. S Tabakov

MPI Special Edition II (<http://www.mpijournal.org/pdf/2019-SI-02/MPI-2019-SI-02.pdf>) :

- \*Fluoroscopic Technology from 1895 to 2019 Drivers: Physics and Physiology. S. Balter
- \*The Scientific and Technological Developments in Mammography. P. Sprawls
- \*Review of the Physics of Mammography. C R Wilson

Additionally we published Summative papers related to the development of medical physics in the Middle East (A Niroomand-Rad et al, MPI vol.5 No.2, 2017) and in Central America (W Chanta et al, MPI vol.7 No1, 2019).

In this current Special Issue we include papers related to the History of Dental Radiography (by R Pauwels, one of the leading authors of the recent IAEA project on Radiation Protection in Dental Radiology) and the History of Contrast Media in X-Ray Diagnostic Radiology (by A Thomas, Honorary Historian to the British Institute of Radiology). We also include a paper about medical physics development in Africa (by the FAMPO President T Ige and colleagues).

We welcome the contribution of colleagues from all societies, organizations and companies, who plan to join the History project in its various volumes. We look forward to your contributions to the Project.



Prof. Slavik Tabakov



Prof. Perry Sprawls



Prof. Geoffrey Ibbott