

## ANNUAL REPORT 2009

The Nordic Association for Clinical Physics (NACP) was founded in 1962. The last and final general assembly of the NACP was held on June 10<sup>th</sup>. 2004. At this meeting the NACP was reorganised, got a new constitution, and since then the NACP is an umbrella organisation for the five nordic physics societies.

According to the constitution, the Annual Report shall be prepared by the president, approved by the council and sent to the presidents of the national member organisations (NMO). This Annual Report includes the year 2009, and was approved on the first council meeting in 2010.

### Aims and purposes of the NACP

- a) To foster and co-ordinate the activities of the Nordic member organisations in the field of clinical physics in all its aspects.
- b) To establish relationships and collaboration where appropriate with national, regional and international societies and bodies in the fields related to clinical physics.
- c) To improve the standard of clinical physics activities within the Nordic countries.
- d) To promote Nordic co-operation within the field of clinical physics in scientific work, developments and education.
- e) To promote the exchange of scientific information on clinical physics and related fields of science.
- f) To recommend standards for education, training and accreditation programmes within the fields of clinical physics.
- g) To encourage scholarships and the exchange of scientific experts within appropriate fields.

### The NACP strategy

The council has decided to establish a structure for the organisation based on need and simplicity. This means we will not start any activity without explaining why this activity is within the aims and purposes for the NACP. It also means we will try to make an “self-driven” organisation where the council plan, organise and make decisions and where task groups do most of the scientific and practical work. We will move forward slowly and try to make a solid foundation for a prosperous Nordic Association for Clinical Physics.

## The council of the NACP:

During the report period the council has been:

President:	Cathrine Jonsson	Swedish Society for Radiation Physics
Secretary:	Jørgen Petersen	Danish Society for Medical Physics
Treasurer:	Rune Hafslund	Norwegian Society for Medical Physics
Webmaster:	Mika Teräs	Finnish Association of Hospital Physicists
Delegate:	Gardar Myrdal	Icelandic Society of Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics

## Work within the council:

The council had 4 meetings in 2009, in March, June, September and December. All four council meetings were telephone meetings lasting usually for 2 hours.

The president prepared agendas for the meetings. Minutes were taken by our secretary. All minutes were approved on the following council meeting and can be found on our password protected web-pages. The secretary also sent the minutes to the presidents of the NMOs.

It is important that each NMO continue their responsibility to appoint delegates to the council.

In 2009 the council has worked on the following tasks:

- Organizing the work in the council itself
- Updating the constitution
- Finalizing the work with the NACP2008 Symposium in Århus
- Planning of the official NACP2011 Symposium in Uppsala
- Awards 2009
- Initiation of the NACP Radiological Physics Committee
- Website matters

Some result of this work can be seen by visiting the NACP website: [www.nacp-nordisk.org](http://www.nacp-nordisk.org)

## Organizing the work within the council itself

The main work to facilitate the work in the council was the creation of the document “NACP List of duties”, including a “rotating list” for tasks within NACP. This document will be a valuable help in the council work.

## Updating the constitution

The constitution was approved on the general assembly in Bergen June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004. After 5 years of work within the council it was decided to evaluate how well the work fulfils the constitution. Rune Hafslund did an excellent work in going through the paragraphs of the constitution. His evaluation led to an updated version of constitution ensuring that it comply with the actual work within the council. The resulting updated constitution led to minor changes to the actual paragraphs, but the key feature was the creation of the complementary document “Duties within

the NACP” aiming at clarifying and simplifying the different paragraphs in the constitution. The document includes duties for the council, the president, the secretary, the web-master, the treasurer, the members of the award board, the national member organisations as well as a rotation list for the delegates. The first version of the document was approved by the NMOs and can be found on the internal password protected web pages.

### Finalizing the work with the NACP2008 Symposium in Århus

The synopsis summarizing the NACP2008 Symposium in Århus was published on the web. Authors of the synopsis entitled “The NACP 2008 Symposium comes to Denmark” was C.A. Fynbo, Dept. of Nuclear Medicine, Regional Hospital Herning, Denmark, L.B. Hysing, Dept of Oncology and Medical Physics, Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norway and B.H. Østerås, Dept of Diagnostic Physics, Ullevål University Hospital, Oslo, Norway.

A special issue of Acta Oncologica was distributed to all participants of the meeting.

### Planning of the official NACP2011 Symposium in Uppsala

The NACP2011 Symposium will take place in Uppsala, Sweden. The planning started during 2009 with the creation of one main board (Cathrine Jonsson (NACP), Hans-Erik Källman (SSFF) and Stefan Johnsson (SFfR)) and two working committees; one organizing committee (Agnetha Gustafsson, Eleonor Vetergren, Ylva Larsson, Anna Olsson, Ylva Surac, Henrik Båvenäs, Anders Montelius and Erik Blomquist) and one scientific committee. The leader of the scientific committee will be Michael Ljungberg from Lund, Sweden together with representatives from the Nordic countries. The plan is as in Århus a common Nordic symposium with the aim to strengthen the collaboration and enforce networking within the NACP. The structure will be the same as the NACP2008 meeting in Århus, possible also with a back-to-back ACTA symposium in particle therapy. The Norwegian Society for Medical Physics has decided to replace the Medfysdagene 2011 with the NACP meeting and conduct the GA in connection with the NACP symposium. The other countries will try to arrange similar meeting during the meeting. The NACP2011 will probably be held in April 2011.

### Awards 2009

In December 2005 the council came to an agreement with Varian for a “Varian – NACP grant”. The “Varian-NACP grant” has deadline for application on March 01<sup>st</sup> each year. The aim of the grant is to support a clinically working physicist in the field of radiation therapy and to encourage research and development in the field. Moreover, the grant should promote and strengthen the relations and cooperation between Nordic and American physicists. In 2009 NACP received one application for this grant. Lars Nyvang, Department of Medical Physics at Aarhus University Hospital, was selected by the NACP Award board to be the winner of 3.500 EUR. Lars Nyvang will use the grant for a visit to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Clifton Ling in order to discuss his ideas concerning dosepainting in the treatment of hypoxic tumors, and to learn about QA of RapidArc dose delivery as well as planning of RapidArc treatments.

Early 2008 Siemens and the council of NACP came to an agreement for a “Siemens – NACP grant” with the aim to support a clinically working physicist visiting a Siemens installation in the field of Medical Imaging (Radiology, CT, Molecular Imaging or MRI). Furthermore, the intention is to encourage research and development as well as to promote and strengthen the relations and cooperation between European physicists within this field. The deadline for application was May 01<sup>st</sup>, and NACP received 2 applicants. After evaluation by the NACP Award board, together with the Siemens representative, the winner Christoffer Laustsen, MR Research Centre at University of Aarhus, received 2.500 EUR to visit Department of diagnostic radiology, University of Minnesota. The purpose of his 6 month visit is to learn the novel technique proposed by professor Michael Garwood from the Department of diagnostic radiology at the University of Minnesota and to incorporate this technique into experimental setup for proton and sodium studies.

A well established system of criterias (relevance, up-todateness, originality and usefulness) for selecting the winner from the applicants of the NACP grants” was used.

In 2009 the members of the NACP Award board was as shown in the table below. Siemens participated in the Award board when the winner of the Siemens-NACP award was appointed.

<b>Field</b>	<b>Finland</b>	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>Norway</b>	<b>Denmark</b>	<b>Award holder representative</b>
<b>Radiation therapy</b>	Simo Hyödynmaa	Per Nilsson	Karsten Eilertsen	Mette Skovhus Thomsen	
<b>Nuclear medicine</b>	Mika Teräs	Michael Ljungberg (secretary)	Mari Gårseth	Søren Baarsgaard Hansen	Johan Lindqvist SIEMENS
<b>Radiology/MRI</b>	Miika Nieminen	Annette Fransson Andreo	Hilde Olerud/ Kjell-Inge Gjesdal	Jolanta Hansen	Johan Lindqvist SIEMENS

During the end of the year Siemens reported that they want to suspend their award from 2010. The council understand the reason to be too few applicants and the fact that Siemens gets a very narrow exposure with this award. They want to focus more on advertising, exhibitions etc.

### Initiation of a NACP Radiological Physics Committee

Upon request from Hans-Erik Källman (Sweden) and Anne Catrine Martinsen (Norway), NACP decided to initiate a new committee dealing with issues related to radiological physics. Preliminary terms of reference was created within the council.

The preliminary terms of reference was sent to the NMO together with a request to appoint a representative to the committee. In due time before the December council meeting representatives from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden were appointed. According to the “rotating list”, the representative from Norway should be the leader of the committee. The committee sent their proposal for final terms of references, and these terms of references were approved by the council in the Dec meeting. The members of the committee are: Jolanta Hansen (Denmark), Toni Ihalainen (Finland), Kirsten Nygaard (leader, Norway) and Hans-Erik Källman (Sweden), and the committee started their work in January 2010.

### Website matters

The web pages has continuously been updated, but due to technical matters all proposed changes, updates and improvements have not been possible to perform.

### Future strategies

The council discussed the following strategies for the future:

- A new task group/committee in Nuclear Medicine Physics
- Initiation of a NACP dosimetry task group
- Common job advertisement on the NACP web-pages
- Finland as a possible organiser of the NACP2014 Symposium
- Create guidelines for the reports from the award winners

### Account

The NACP (organisation number 802400-5343) have at it's disposal a bank account in Handelsbanken (Solna, SWEDEN). Cathrine Jonsson, now president (the NACP treasurer until September 2008) has the right to make withdrawals from the account. Transactions in SEK, during 2009:

	Transactions					
	Date	Withdrawal	Deposit	Balance	EUR	
	Interest	2008-12-31		62,00	30245,07	
	Företagspaket	2009-01-01	1250,00		28995,07	
Till Finnish Assoc of Hospital Physics	Invoice web-domain etc	2009-04-03	892,96		28102,11	82
		2009-12-31			28102,11	

The amount on the account 2009-12-31 was: **28 102 SEK.**

**Stockholm , March 03<sup>th</sup>., 2010**

Cathrine Jonsson  
President