

The Boice Report

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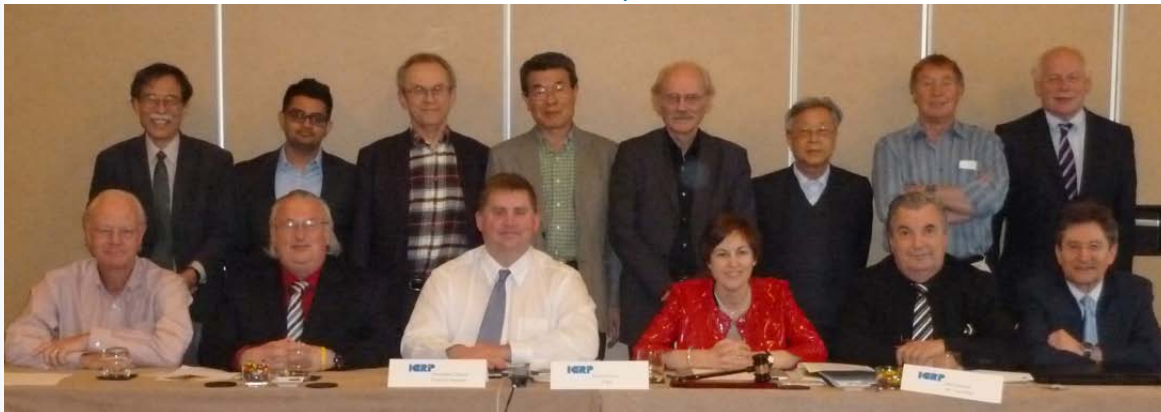
ICRP Main Commission—April 2012 Versailles Meeting

This new column in *Health Physics News* is intended to provide interesting brief reports on recent activities in radiation protection, radiation measurements, radiation science, and radiation health. Topics will include the latest from the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP), the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP), the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and governmental and nongovernmental organizations as they apply to radiation science.

The reports will be brief but with links to additional information. The title of the column has been in flux, starting with a “Boice Crying in the Wilderness,” “John’s Journal,” “Boice’s Voices,” etc., but we’ve converged on “The Boice Report.” This first column covers the recent ICRP Main Commission meeting that was held 15–18 April 2012 in Versailles, France.

- The First ICRP Symposium on the International System of Radiological Protection was held in Bethesda in October 2011 and proceedings will be published soon in the *Annals of ICRP*. The second ICRP symposium will be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, in late 2013.
- A draft report on astronauts and exposure in space was approved and will soon be available for consultation on the ICRP website (<http://www.icrp.org/>).
- A draft report on security screening was approved and will soon be available for consultation on the ICRP website (<http://www.icrp.org/>).
- Several task groups were approved to look at issues involving medical exposures: Mitigating Secondary Cancer Risks in Modern Radiation Oncology, Justification of Imaging of Asymptomatic Individuals, Ion Beam Radiotherapy, Cone Beam CT, and Occupational Protection in Brachytherapy.
- An interim report on lessons learned from the Fukushima accident was presented and is expected to be in final form at the October 2013 Main Commission meeting to be held in Fukushima City.
- ICRP Publication 116 was recently published: *Conversion Coefficients for Radiological Protection Quantities for External Radiation Exposures* (<http://www.icrp.org/>).
- Extensive discussions were held on funding needs to support radiation protection activities—an important issue not only for ICRP but also the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements and NCRP.
- Elections will be held April 2013 for service during the 2013–2017 term.
- The photograph on page 13 is of the ICRP Main Commission, which consists of 13 members and the scientific secretary.
- Stimulating exchanges with the French Institute for Radiological Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN), the Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN), and the Society for Radiation Protection (SFRP) brought to mind the current dialogue surrounding a possible name change for the Health Physics Society—would “Health Physics” impart as much understanding as “Radiation Protection” in the names of these organizations above?

ICRP Main Commission, 15–18 April 2012 in Versailles, France



Back row, left to right, Ohtsura Niwa (Japan), Paritosh Amin (ICRP intern), John Cooper (United Kingdom), Jai-Ki Lee (South Korea), Jacques Lochard (France), Zi Qiang Pan (China), R. Jan Pentreath (United Kingdom), Hans Menzel (Switzerland); front row, William Morgan (United States), John Boice (United States), Christopher Clement (Scientific Secretary), Claire Cousins (United Kingdom Chair), Abel González (Argentina, Vice-Chair), Eliseo Vañó (Spain); missing from photo, Nataliya Shandala (Russia)

