Mentoring within AAPM – SCAMP update

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What is SCAMP?

- SCAMP = Science Council Associates Mentorship Program

- Established to recognize and cultivate outstanding researchers at an early stage in their careers, with the goal of promoting a long-term commitment to science within AAPM

- Uses the process of ‘shadowing’ to integrate the Associates into the scientific activities of the organization.

What is SCAMP?

- The program includes six Associates, each assigned to shadow one member from the AAPM Science Council, Research Committee, Therapy Physics Committee, Imaging Physics Committee, or Technology Assessment Committee

- The Associate participates in selected meetings of the Mentor’s Committee and would join and contribute to one Task Group (chosen with input from the mentor).

- The Associate shadows AAPM-related activities of the mentor, including committee phone calls, abstract review, Young Investigator judging, committee activities at the Annual Meeting, etc.
**SCAMPs**

- SC Associates (SCAMPs) participate in the program for **one year**

- SCAMPs are funded for **up to $4,000** per Associate (to cover travel costs including flight, hotel, and meeting registration) to attend two consecutive AAPM Annual Meetings, including the pre-meeting activities associated with each Committee

- The Science Council Associates are announced, and a picture along with a short biosketch of each SC Associate posted on the AAPM website.

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**SCAMPs Yr 2017**

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**SCAMP eligibility criteria**

- PhD candidates or early career Medical Physicists **within 5 years of earning his/her doctoral degree**.

- Must be a **member of AAPM** at the time of application (any membership category) and maintain membership for the duration of the award period.

- Pending membership status not acceptable.

- Prior Mentorship Program recipients are ineligible.
SCAMP application

- **Cover letter** outlining:
  - Current contributions to Medical Physics research
  - Describing future career plans
  - Reasons for interest in the Mentorship program
  - Specify the committee(s) and/or committee member(s) of interest and/or member(s) therein
- **CV** (no more than 4 pages)
- Brief **letter of support** from supervisor

SCAMP unanticipated benefits

- **SCAMP mentor becomes a coach:**
  - Often SCAMPs are at the career decision point
  - SCAMP mentors provide valuable “independent” mentorship (beyond the academic mentor)
- **SCAMP once, SCAMP for life:**
  - SCAMPs remain active in the SCAMP community
- **SCAMPs beyond SCAMP:**
  - SC Working Group on Student and Trainee Research (WGSTR)
  - Activities beyond the mentor’s committees

Summary

- **Fast-track** most promising junior AAPM members to be active members of AAPM
- “**Extra**” mentorship of SCAMP mentees from their SCAMP mentors (e.g., help with independent career advice in addition to their academic mentors)
- **Active involvement** of SCAMP mentees (e.g., in WGSTR, one of the WG FUTURE spin-off working groups)
- Plans to **engaging/mandating SCAMPs** (as well as other prospective junior AAPM members) to be involved in (most) TG reports.
- **Mirroring SCAMP** model in other Councils (e.g., Professional Council as presented today)