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The Alberta Clinical Engineering Society Newsletter

December 2000 - Volume 8 Number 2

Presidents Letter

by *Denny Mellott, C.E.T.*
ACES - President

We are ready to wrap up another year. Unfortunately we got off to a bit of a late start with Y2K but we hope to remedy that this year. Our AGM is scheduled for February 21, 2001 (please see included preliminary agenda). This past year our main focus was the ACES/IBET conference that was held in Calgary during October. It went well, next years conference is already being planned for the fall of 2001 in Vancouver. Chuck Evans from our ACES group is on the organizing committee for that conference. Mean while back at home in Alberta we are looking at getting more of our house in order and involving more of the province in ACES by having our meetings via videoconference at multiple locations. We are also considering extending our bounds if there is interest from Saskatchewan. All of these issues and more will be discussed at the AGM this February. Please see the included agenda for the AGM. I hope to see you all there!

ACES AGM

The Next ACES Annual General meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2000.

See the end of this newsletter for details!

New ACES Mailing Address:

Alberta Clinical
Engineering Society
#372, 918 - 16th Ave N.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2M 0K3

New ACES Webpage URL:

<http://www.aces.ab.ca/>

We Welcome Your Input...

Do you have an opinion? A beef or

bouquet? Maybe a great article idea? Please feel free to contact the ACES Newsletter Editor with any comments, concerns, ideas or articles you would like to see published. You can e-mail your information to Kay Henke at:

biomed@mail.chr.ab.ca

Western Regional Biomedical Engineering Conference 2000

By *Alex Sackiw, B.Sc., C.E.T.*
ACES - Conference Director

Coast Plaza Hotel, Calgary,
Alberta, Canada
October 19, 20 and 21, 2000

This years Biomedical Conference proved to be yet another successful event co-sponsored by the Alberta Clinical Engineering Society and the Institute of Biomedical Engineering Technology in British Columbia. All in all, the event went rather well as this was a year of innovation.

Attending this years conference were approximately 43 delegates, 26 vendors and 19 trade show booths playing host to an entourage of invited guests from private companies and public institutions. This year was the first time we had **representation from 4 provinces and territories, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and the North West Territories**. The only downside was that Calgary, the host city had a poor showing, only 2 individuals were in attendance. Those two people are currently the president and treasurer of ACES. This may be in part, caused by the conference having a professional development overtone rather than the usual service course orientation which was desired by their management.

A new feature of the conference was the "Vendor Showcase". Introduced this year, the showcase was a brutal four hour, non-stop, fast paced look into the future of medical product development and new technology. Eight companies were given a ½ hour each to present their latest and greatest of what's "coming down the pipe". This presentation gave the Biomed the knowledge to become proactive in the equipment planning arena and to help guide purchases in a logical direction. Touted by many as a great experience, I'm sure this style of presentation will remain entrenched in future conferences.

The presentations and seminars were generally described as "exceeding expectations" and of "high quality", but the exceptional session was on BIS monitoring offered by the Director of Electrical Engineering of Aspect Medical, Mr. John Shambroom. His talk was described as "excellent" and "awesome". Well

worth a repeat performance since many delegates noted they had trouble choosing which presentations to attend as they were all worth seeing.

I hope this personal insight into the conference is of value to you. The next scheduled conference will be next year about the same time in Vancouver, B.C. The organizers for that conference are currently Alastair MacArthur and Ron Green in B.C. and Chuck Evans in Alberta.

Conference Scrapbook

Pictures by Denny Mellott & Farah Ali

Some pictures that were taken at the October conference are available on the ACES website (<http://www.aces.ab.ca/>) under the link "Conference 2000 Scrap Book". Be sure to stop by and check them out!

Calgary Regional Health Authority Update

by Gary Taylor & Dave Edmonds

What's new in Calgary Regional Health Authority department of Clinical Engineering:

1. Equipment Management System goes regional. The four Clinical Eng. shops are now on an Oracle platform. This common database provided by Epoint Technology will allow the regional CE department to manage demand and preventive maintenance of Medical Devices on four Acute Care sites, Community Clinics, and Home

Care programs. Department performance and equipment life cycle costs will be the end benefit

2. Clinical Eng. is now in partnership with the IT Services for supporting the Clinical Devices. The Biomed will be supporting all PC tied to the Medical Device. IT will support the NT WAN and word-processing equipment. Specialized clinical software will also be under the care of IT

3. Clinical Eng. has recently expanded the anesthesia service program to the Foothills Medical Center and the Alberta Children's Hospital. The Service support includes both Gas Machines and Vaporizer management.

4. New Children's Hospital is approved for construction. The site location is soon to be finalized. New Building for the Children's Hospital to open in 2005.

5. Calgary's increased population will benefit from 3 new MRI scanners.

6. Due to reorganization of the Facility Services we are now known as Support Services. The department of Clinical Engineering now reports to Allan Roles the Director of Engineering and Maintenance Services. Dave Edmonds has been appointed as the Regional Manager for Clinical Engineer after the resignation of Randy Craig.

Capital Health Authority Update

by Bill Rutledge

ACES - Past President

Edmonton Update – December 2000

It's December and I've just received the fifth polite reminder

that the previous four deadlines for this newsletter have passed. The year we approached with so much anticipation is rapidly heading to a close. It is hard to believe that 12 months have flown by so quickly.

I would like to briefly mention some of the changes in the Clinical Engineering community in Edmonton. Chuck Neill, formerly of Clinical Engineering Solutions (CES), has been hired by Capital Health to work at the University of Alberta Hospital site on the "Medicine Team". CES has now filled two positions in Edmonton: Orrin Stephen, formerly with Capital Health's Y2k Project, and Danny MacLean, formerly with the Grenville Regional Health District in Newfoundland! Nelson Moreira, just introduced last newsletter, has been hired full-time with Capital Health at the Royal Alexandra Hospital site and Homayoun Akhavansafa has recently begun work there as a casual employee. Homayoun comes to us with considerable experience as a clinical engineer in his native country of Iran. Daniel Naidu has also been confirmed as a full-time technologist at the Grey Nuns Hospital. Congratulations to all of you in your new positions.

The University of Alberta Hospital opened its new Emergency wing in September. Among the unique features is a separate Child Health Emergency sub-unit and extensive diagnostic imaging suites, including CT, for the patients in Emergency. Capital Health purchased \$1.4 million of additional patient care equipment, including Siemens monitoring equipment (new to us!). We also had to worry about the impact of installing a 4.7 Tesla

research MRI unit in the basement, one of the two largest such devices in the world we understand.

A major expansion to the Misericordia has been announced. These include conversion of 3 O.R. theatres to be a regional centre for Orthopedic Surgery, as well as opening of an Intensive Care Unit that has been closed since 1995. Clinical Engineering is hopeful that staffing and resources lost 5 years ago will be reinstated to coincide with its opening.

Finally, the Northern Alberta Renal Dialysis program is going to double its space at the Edmonton General to 23 machines in the next few months, and the Sleep Lab at the Aberhardt building of UAH is going to move to the Edmonton General in February. In quite a turnaround, the old Edmonton General site, once targeted for demolition, is now almost 100% completely occupied.

Work on our Regional Clinical Engineering Maintenance Management System has slowed to a crawl as we await the results of a request for proposal for programming expertise to help design and develop this software. We now hope programming will begin in earnest in January 2001.

Best wishes for 2001!

Chinook Health Region Update

by Kay Henke, R.E.T.

ACES - Communications Editor

Notes From Chinook Health Region:

The CHR is busy planning for the future of the Lethbridge Regional Hospital and the projected Population growth in the Region. A Master Plan has been developed and includes the following highlights:

1. Renovate the now vacant Auxiliary Wing to accommodate and consolidate several services currently located in different parts of the city.
2. Build a new three-story wing onto the Lethbridge Regional Hospital building to accommodate expanding programs such as Outpatients, Day Procedures, Day Surgery and Labour Delivery Recovery Post Partum.
3. Complete major renovations within LRH to address increased workload projections.
4. Reallocate existing space within LRH to provide more inpatient beds as required.

These plans would affect Biomed by the change of location and redistribution of equipment, and new equipment purchased.

Other Regions by **YOU !!!**

If you are available to jot down a few notes on what is happening in your region let us know!

ACES would like to extend a special thanks to all the 2000 Calgary Conference Sponsors.

Thank You!

Agilent Technologies

ASET

Associated Health Systems:
-Aspect Medical

Carestream Medical

Caster Town Limited

CSA

Dynamed Healthcare:
-Ohmeda
-Siemens

Essex Medical

Fibertech Canada E.R. Inc.

Health Canada
-Medical Devices Programme

Inset Specialties Limited

Malinckrodt Canada

Medtronic / Physio Control

Summit Technologies

Surgical Optics of Canada

Technicare

Trudell Medical Marketing :
-Colin Medical Instruments Corp.
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Welch Allyn Canada

Surgical Optics

Submitted by **Barrie J. Mill**
Manager, Sales and Marketing
SURGICAL OPTICS of Canada Ltd.

Surgical Optics of Canada
Head Office
RR #1, Leslieville Alberta T0M 0H0
(403) 729-3516

Surgical Optics of Canada Ltd. is a service organization dedicated to the repair and maintenance of rigid and flexible endoscopes, power drivers, Phaco hand-pieces and fiber-optic cables. We are centrally located in the Red Deer/ Leslieville area of Alberta where we are well serviced by year-round roads and equidistant from the international airports of Calgary and Edmonton. It is rare for either airport to be closed due to weather conditions and it is unheard of that they be closed simultaneously.

Because we are not affiliated with any 'scope manufacturers or suppliers of cleaning apparatus we are able to (and fully capable of) service all brands and models of endoscopes. Although we are a stand-alone operation, we do have strong ties to a seven-year-old dedicated endoscope repair company in the USA. (Currently this facility is repairing approximately 25,000 assorted 'scopes and instruments per year.) It is from their experience that we derive our expertise.

In most instances, we offer a 3 to 4 working day turn-around time for repairs to rigid and flexible endoscopes, and 4 to 7 days for Phaco's and power drivers. All work is guaranteed.

In order to improve delivery and to reduce downtime we have entered into a working partnership with a major courier service. This courier has guaranteed next day delivery, weather permitting, from most places in the Western provinces to Red Deer and, of course, from Red Deer back to your facilities. Part of our negotiations included large quantity rates

that we pass on to our clientele. Please call for details on obtaining these rates for your facility. Your valuable instruments are covered during transit, at no charge to you, under our liability insurance.

To summarize, Surgical Optics of Canada Ltd. offers:

- One stop service for all your
 - endoscopes
 - power driver
 - Phaco handpieces
 - and fiber optic cable
- Rapid turn-around time
- Competitive pricing
- Reduced freight rates
- Freight insurance
- Guaranteed work

We look forward to being of service to you as and when the need arises. Should you require additional information, please contact the head office -

Matthias at (403)729-3516.

ACES Newsletter

ACES IS NOW SENDING ALL NEWSLETTERS VIA EMAIL.

To be sure you are on the ACES E-mail list forward your Email address to Denny Mellott
denny.mellott@crha-health.ab.ca

All Newsletters are now being sent out in "PDF" format. To Read a PDF file simply download an Adobe

Acrobat Reader from
<http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>

The Adobe Acrobat Reader software is free and available for all computer platforms. Use of this reader ensures that the document will print correctly formatted on every system with no added expense. If you have any comments or questions about receiving or reading ACES E-mail Newsletters please feel free to contact Brandon Beaudry at 407-3861.

Archives of the **ACES Newsletters** are also available on the **ACES Website**.

<http://www.aces.ab.ca>

Member " Feedback "

ACES is an organization dedicated to our members and the field of Clinical and Biomedical Engineering. As a member of ACES you are entitled to provide your input into the activities of the committee. Please forward all ideas and comments directly to a member of the ACES Executive. For a list of your executive please see the:

ACES Web Page @

<http://www.aces.ab.ca>

Special Recognition

If someone you know has made an outstanding contribution to the field of Biomedical or Clinical Engineering please nominate that person by sending an email message outlining that contribution to:
denny.mellott@crha-health.ab.ca

JOIN ACES !!

To enjoy the benefits of ACES, and ensure that you continue to receive the ACES newsletter and meeting notices, Become a member ! Complete the following Information form, and return with payment in the amount \$10.00 to:

**Alberta Clinical
Engineering Society**
#372, 918 - 16th Ave N.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2M 0K3

Name: _____

Hm Address: _____

City/Prov: _____

Postal Code: _____

Ph: (____) _____

Email: _____

Business Information:

Company: _____

Position: _____

Department: _____

Room: _____

Address: _____

City/Prov : _____

Postal Code: _____

Ph:(____) _____ Ext: _____

Email: _____

Agenda

ACES AGM 21 Feb 2000 17:00

Venues TBA

Time	Item	Action
17:00	Welcome and Registration	
17:10	Establish Video Links	Telus
17:15	President's Address	Denny Mellott
	<i>Society Business</i>	
17:20	1. Adoption of the previous minutes.	Robin Fair
17:25	2. Treasurer's Report	Bruce Powell
17:30	3. Other Committee Reports - Conference Committee	Alex Sackiw Chuck Evans
17:40	4. Society Membership - Society and Membership fiscal year definition - Membership dues - due dates - Membership cards – style, type and duration	Denny Mellott
17:55	5. Widening Membership Horizons - Opening membership to Saskatchewan Biomed - Bylaw changes and other issues if membership is expanded to Sask. Biomed	Denny Mellott
18:15	6. Election of New Executive - Call for nominations - Elect new Executive	Denny Mellott
18:30	<i>Presentation - Asset Tracking</i>	Robin Fair
18:50	Supper	
19:30	End	