AAPM RECOGNIZES RESEARCH IN MEDICAL PHYSICS

At the annual meeting of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, held in Calgary in August, Nagalingam Suntharalingam was presented with the William D. Coolidge Award, the association's highest honor. The award is given annually to an AAPM member who has had a distinguished career in medical physics.

In his research Suntharalingam has specialized in the understanding of high-energy photon and electron dosimetry and in the development of computer-augmented methods of delivering radiation treatments. He has also exerted a significant influence on the professional practice of radiation oncology physics. He is a past president of AAPM and a past chairman of the American College of Medical Physics and he has served as a consultant with the National Cancer Institute, the World Health Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

A native of Sri Lanka, Suntharalingam earned his undergraduate degree in physics in 1955 at the University of Ceylon. After coming to the US in 1960, he started graduate work at the University of Wisconsin in 1964, earning an MS in 1966 and a PhD in radiological science in 1967. He then joined the faculty of Jefferson Medical College (now Thomas Jefferson University) in Philadelphia, where he is now a professor and chief of the division of medical physics in the department of radiation oncology and nuclear medicine.

Also recognized at AAPM's meeting were the authors of two outstanding papers published in *Medical Physics*.

The Sylvia Sorkin Greenfield Award went to Christopher J. Henri, D. Louis Collins and Terence M. Peters for their paper "Multimodality Image Integration for Stereotactic Surgical Planning," which was deemed the journal's best paper in 1991. The paper describes the use of volumetric rendering of mri data in conjunction with digital subtraction angiography images to yield a three-dimensional image that can then be used to plan an optimal path for making surgical incisions.

Nagalingam Suntharalingam

Peters is an associate professor in the departments of neurology and neurosurgery, radiology, medical physics and biomedical engineering at McGill University, as well as codirector of the New Imaging Laboratory at the Montreal Neurological Institute's McConnell Brain Imaging Centre. Henri and Collins are graduate students in biomedical engineering at McGill University who are working under Peters.

The Farrington Daniels Award, which recognizes the best paper in *Medical Physics* on radiation dosimetry, was given to Robert J. Schulz, M. Saiful Huq, Natarajan Venkataramanan and Kazi Motakabbir for their paper "A Comparison of Ionization-Chamber and Water-Calorimeter Dosimetry for High-Energy X Rays." The paper describes how measuring dose by water calorimeter provides results comparable to those obtained by an ionization chamber. According to the authors, the water calorimeter offers a more direct means of measuring dose.

Schulz is now a professor emeritus of therapeutic radiology at Yale. Huq is an assistant professor of radiation oncology at Thomas Jefferson University. Venkataramanan is a medical physicist in the department of radiation therapy at Winthrop Hospital in Mineola, New York. Motakabbir recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Yale.

ZUMINO AND WESS ARE WIGNER MEDAL COWINNERS

Julius Wess of the University of Munich and the Max Planck Institute for Physics in Munich and Bruno Zumino of the University of California, Berkeley, were named cowinners of the 1992 Wigner Medal. They received the biennial award at a ceremony in July in Salamanca, Spain. The Group Theory Foundation, the presenters of the honor, cited them for "the development of the concept of supersymmetry in physics."

In the mid-1970s Wess and Zumino developed a renormalizable quantum field theory based on supersymmetry and involving spinor and scalar fields. Using Noether's theorem, which holds that conserved currents and symmetries go together, and prior work on supercurrents in two-dimensional models, the pair constructed