



# BMETS Newsletter

February 2010

<http://www.BMETS.org>

SEP 2009—Aug 2010  
**BMETS Officers**

President:

Rob Bain, Sinai Hospital

Vice President:

Lola Lyttle-Hill, Sinai Hospital

Treasurer:

Vicki Chapman, Johns Hopkins Hospital

Secretary:

Roy Leake, Retired BMET

## THE PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

We are beginning the second half of our year and off to a good start. MD publishing wants to feature us as society of the Month and I am hoping we can get pictures and information to send them. I have reached out all members as well as called those that I am aware have specific items. Your help is greatly appreciated as we need to get in front of the media to encourage our profession.

I have awarded 3 scholarships to students and am working on a venue similar to what we originally planned at the College to meet the Students and see the facility. I think that an event there would serve two purposes. First we would get to see for ourselves how the program is supported by the school and second, interaction with not just 3 but all the students would be good and allow them to not miss class. Many work multiple jobs, are taking care of families and not just full time students as was the case before.

I also strongly expressed the need for this event to both Dan Freedman and Pat Turner as a win-win for the school and the BMETS. If we don't get some kind of participation I stated the membership may not support the Scholarship in the future which I feel would be a mistake. We need to be positive about our future and nor hurt the recipients of the award to achieve our goals yet balance what the organization needs with the reality of the situation.



**Rob Bain**

In saying that I have spoke with Atlantic Blomedical and we are going forward with BMET member training on x-ray and other topics and may elect to use the dues to give members the option of free training. We need to advance our professional skills in computers , high tech devices and other areas that were not covered well, (lab equipment is one of these) I have been thinking about this for over a year and feel now is the time to act, I don't want us to be just a social club. Thanks for your time and support. You, the members, are a huge help by coming and participating in our meetings.

It is a pleasure to serve

Rob Bain  
CBET MS  
BMETS President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
CHECK THE WEB PAGE FOR UPDATES

March 2010—Conquest Imaging, Snyder's Willow Grove Restaurant, Linthicum, MD

April 2010—Monthly Meeting, Sponsor and Location to be announced at a later date

May 2010—May Bash, Sponsor and location to be announced at a later date.

February 17, 2010 Monthly Meeting

**Sponsored by: Conquest Imaging**

SNYDER'S Willow Grove Restaurant, 841 North Hammonds Ferry Rd., Linthicum, MD. 21090

6:30—Buffet dinner, 7:30-Business meeting, 8:00— Presentation

**If you are not a member, then bring a membership application and \$45.00 for 2010 membership dues.**

**RSVP - No RSVP will be accepted after Monday February 15, 2010**

**[bmets.rsvp@gmail.com](mailto:bmets.rsvp@gmail.com)**

**RSVP's** ONLY Emails will be accepted - Place RSVP in the Subject line

What must be included in the RSVP's is:

1. Place RSVP in the Subject line
2. Name of ALL individuals coming to the Meeting.
3. Relative mind set for conversation and enjoyment.

Please send your RSVP's to [bmets.rsvp@gmail.com](mailto:bmets.rsvp@gmail.com) NLT: Monday, February 15, 2010.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Rob Bain MS, CBET

President BMETS

# AAMI Newsroom

January 26, 2010

## Technical Skills Not Enough for Biomed

To a rookie biomed, public speaking and capital equipment planning may not seem like necessary skills, but to advance in the profession they are becoming more essential.

We are quickly, if we haven't already, leaving the world where bench-top troubleshooting was sufficient," says Carol Davis-Smith, a director with Premier Inc. and chair of the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation's (AAMI) Technology Management Council (TMC). "Biomedical equipment technicians (BMET) have to have strong interpersonal, communication, written, and verbal skills."

Davis-Smith and other speakers will discuss advancement opportunities for BMETs with five years or less of experience during a symposium at AAMI's 2010 Annual Conference & Expo, which takes place June 26-28 in Tampa, FL.

Learning about capital planning also can enhance a technician's value. "A good tech knows when it is appropriate to fix something and when it needs to be replaced," Davis-Smith says. "We really have to help hospitals anticipate when technology should be repaired and when it should be replaced. Introducing a new technology may seem like a good idea until you find out how much it will cost to take care of it."

Communicating regularly with equipment users is key, Davis-Smith says. "Understand what they do, why they do it, how they do it, and truly solve engineering problems," she says. "Don't be afraid to ask questions because they

will see you as being interested. You will move from being the person in the basement who fixes stuff to someone they rely on as a real resource."

Show interest in budget matters to your manager. "Ask questions about your department budget and your capital budget. For example, what is the difference if a hospital buys capital equipment versus leases?" Davis-Smith says. "If you aspire to a leadership role, you have to ask the questions."

## Tackling Public Speaking

Brushing up on public speaking skills also can help move your career forward. Veteran biomed Dave Braeutigam remembers the first time he had to deliver a presentation. "I was sweating bullets and very nervous," he says. A colleague referred Braeutigam to a local chapter of Toastmasters International, an organization that helps develop public speaking and leadership skills. "When I presented early on I was extremely nervous," he notes. "The more I presented, the less nervous I got."

Now, as the director of biomedical engineering for Baylor Health Care System in Dallas, Braeutigam is a public speaking pro. "Most people have a bigger fear of public speaking than dying," Braeutigam says. Becoming an effective public speaker takes practice, and he advises fellow biomed to get an early start. "It is not a normal part of your job, but the more you do it the better you get," says Braeutigam, who will offer public speaking tips during the AAMI symposium.

## FDA Recall

Stryker Corporation – Instrument Division, Operating Room System II Surgical Navigation Systems

Recall Class: Class I

Date Recall Initiated: October 26, 2009

Product: Operating Room System II Surgical Navigation Systems

Product Name Stryker Catalog Number Serial#/Lot# Range

Navigation System II-Cart 7700-100-000 Serial #s 100715-100735

PC SPC-1 Assembly 7700-101-201 Lot # K7P00F6000

These devices were manufactured from March 31, 2009 through July 16, 2009 and distributed from March 31, 2009 through July 28, 2009.

Use: The Navigation System II is a computer-aided surgery platform that surgeons use to perform hip, knee, spine, neurology, and ears, nose and throat surgery. It contains a computer workstation that includes computer programs (software) and various components necessary to run the system.

Recalling Firm: Stryker Instruments, a division of Stryker Corporation, 4100 Milham Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001

Reason for Recall: The device may suddenly stop working, the screen may freeze, or the information may only be updated very slowly. These problems may affect all software products. These failures could result in delay in surgery, rescheduling of the procedure resulting in an additional surgery, risk of infection, increased disease symptoms, potential neurological problems, or injury due to the surgeon operating in an area where they did not intend to operate. Depending on the type of surgery, these failures could potentially lead to serious adverse health consequences, including death.

Public Contact: Customers should report any adverse events or product quality problems to Stryker Instruments by calling 1-800-253-3210, Monday – Friday, 8:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M. (Eastern Time)

FDA Comments: Hospitals that have the products with the above catalog numbers should stop using the product, immediately quarantine the product, and label it as a recalled product. As of October 30, 2009, the company corrected all U.S. units.

On November 4, 2009, the company requested that their customers take the following actions:

Review the letter and distribute it to all departments that are affected.

Quarantine immediately any affected product and label each one as a recalled product.

Complete and sign the enclosed reply form and fax a copy to the company.

Wait for the company's Field Service Representative to schedule the repair of the equipment.

Class 1 recalls are the most serious type of recall and involve situations in which there is a reasonable probability that use of these products will cause adverse health consequences or death.

Health care professionals and consumers may report adverse reactions or quality problems experienced with the use of these products to the FDA's MedWatch Adverse Event Reporting program either online, by regular mail or by FAX.

## TOOLS OF THE TRADE

**FLUKE****Biomedical**

<http://global.flukebiomedical.com/busen/home/default.htm>



**The ESA620 Electrical Safety Analyzer** represents the next generation in portable, manual electrical-safety testers for the biomedical technician and clinical engineer that are performing tests on medical equipment. With selections of three test loads, two protective earth test currents, and two insulation test voltages this versatile product can be used worldwide to test to their standard of choice: IEC60601, ANSI/AAMI ES60601, IEC62353, VDE 751, ANSI/AAMI ES1:1993, NFPA-99, AN/NZS 3551, IEC61010.

It comes standard with test leads for 2-wire protective earth measurements, and with optional leads offers the time-saving 4-wire technique. Additionally, the 20-A-device receptacle allows for testing of those devices that need it, so the technician is not limited to only test 15-A equipment. (US only)

Equipped with ten ECG posts, the ESA620 offers simulation of ECG and performance waveforms so both electrical safety and basic tests on patient monitors can be performed with a single connection. The unit is equipped with standard USB interface for computer control and data transfer. The ESA620 Electrical Safety Analyzer represents the next generation in portable, manual electrical-safety testers for the biomedical technician and clinical engineer that are performing tests on medical equipment.

## BMETS Web Site Statistics

**January 2010 = 17742**

**December 2010 = 10085**

**November 2010 = 13115**

---

## BMETS Monthly Meeting Sponsors

---



<http://www.medrad.com/>

April 2009



<http://global.flukebiomedical.com/busen/home/default.htm>

September 2009



**Northfield Instrument Services**

[www.northfieldinfo.com](http://www.northfieldinfo.com)

September 2009



**Global Medical Imaging**

<http://www.gmi3.com/>

September 2009



<http://www.steris.com/index.cf>

September 2009



**Pilot Medical Products**

<http://www.pilotmedicalproducts.com/Products.htm>

November 2009

---

---

## BMETS Monthly Meeting Sponsors

---



### Advantage Medical Cables

<http://www.advantagemed.com/>

November 2009

---



Official Leader in Used Ultrasound Parts, Probes, Systems, Service & Repair

<http://www.conquestimaging.com/>

February 2010

---

### National Biomedical/Clinical Engineering Appreciation Week — May 23-29, 2010

Sponsored by AAMI's Technology Management Council (TMC)

This annual celebration is specifically designed to promote the awareness of—and appreciation for—biomedical and clinical engineering professionals. So how can you celebrate?

Here are several ideas—developed by AAMI's Technology Management Council (TMC)—to help you mark this appreciation week in your community, facility, or biomed society. How you celebrate this national week is only limited by your imagination. Consider one of these creative efforts tested out by other colleagues.

- Hold an open house or ice cream social for other hospital staff in your biomed shop to introduce other staff to your department.
  - Arrange to give a presentation at a local school or career fair to discuss the biomed profession.
  - Invite local students, career counselors, and/or instructors to tour your biomed shop.
  - Arrange a catered lunch for your biomed department.
  - Hold a trivia contest (with prizes for winners) about the biomed field and/or your department.
  - Ask to have information about the observance included in your facility's staff newsletter.
  - Have a manager or representative of the department give a presentation about the department's efforts to the entire staff.
-