



THE *BILLET* STC NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the STATE of TEXAS CHAPTER of the HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY

Volume 39, Number 1 • Specialists in Radiation Safety • March 2018

The STC-HPS Annual Student Presentations & STC-HPS EC Meeting

The Annual Student Presentations & STC-HPS Executive Council Meeting will be held at Texas A&M University–College Station

[The Billet STC Newsletter Home](#)

[Future STC Meetings](#)

[Executive Council Meeting Minutes](#)

[April 7, 2018 Annual Student Presentations & STC-HPS EC Meeting Online Registration](#)

[Affiliates Roster](#)

[Chapter Leadership](#)

[Subscribe](#)



Abstracts from the December 2017 Affiliates Fair

If you weren't able to make it to the December 2017 meeting, these abstracts will let you know what you missed.

In Memoriam: Captain Howard L. Kusnetz (USPHS ret)

Extracted from published obituary in the Houston Chronicle, Dec. 31, 2017

Texas NIRDS Meets

Texas NIRDS Meets on the Possible Harmonization of ALARA Investigation Levels for Clinically Exposed Healthcare Workers across Texas Medical Center Member Organizations

Congratulations on Your CHP Examinations

Congratulations Bill Gordon & Michael Martin

**Annual Student Presentations & STC-HPS
Executive Council Meeting
Texas A&M University- College Station
April 7, 2018**



*Texas A&M Institute of Preclinical Studies
800 Raymond Stotzer Parkway, Suite 2060
College Station, TX 77843-4478
<http://tips.tamu.edu/>*

*The State of Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society (STC-HPS) will be hosting the Student Presentations in College Station, TX, on Saturday April 7, 2018 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. This meeting provides an excellent opportunity to learn about Texas student projects and a chance to network with your STC-HPS friends and colleagues. Please do come, join us for some delicious lunch (Barbecue) and support the students!
The Executive council meeting will be held on April 6, 2018 at 6 pm
1111 Research Parkway, Rm 126C*

Meeting Registration

Online registration is preferred. Please click [here](#) to register!
When you register online, you can pay online with credit card or mail in a check.

OR

Complete and mail a registration form.
Please click [here](#) to download the Registration Form.

The Preregistration Deadline is March 31, 2018

Hotel Information & Reservations

<http://group.home2suites.com/STCHPSMeeting>

**300 Texas Avenue, S. College Station
Texas 77840 USA TEL: +1-979-703-8288
FAX: +1-979-703-8287**

A block of 10 rooms (King Studio suites for \$114/night + tax, complimentary breakfast, complimentary WiFi) has been reserved for the evening of April 6, 2018. To reserve one of these rooms, please call **979-703-8288** and reference “**STC-HPS Meeting**”
This block of rooms is available until sold out, or until **March 16, 2018**.

*See you all in College Station!!
Latha Vasudevan, President-Elect STC-HPS*

Abstracts of Presentations at the Affiliates Fair, December 2017

Presentation Abstracts

- [Activities of the Texas Preventative Radiological and Nuclear Detection Program](#)
John Hageman
 - [Radiological Operations Support Specialist \(ROSS\): A NIMS-Typed Position](#)
Ruth McBurney/Roland Benke/Ken Gavlik
 - [Partnerships: The Foundation of Successful Emergency Response](#)
Monica Martinez
 - [Emergency Response to Radiological Events in North Texas – Events and Status](#)
John C. White
 - [Utilizing Fallout Planning Tool \(FPTool\) for Emergency Response in Atmospheric Detonations](#)
Katie Cook
 - [Activities of the Texas Radiation Advisory Board](#)
John Hageman
 - [Iodine-131 MIBG Therapy at Texas Children's Hospital](#)
Jay Poston
 - [STC-HPS Student Assistance Program, TLRWC news and Educational Workshops](#)
Linda Morris
 - [Communicating in Stressful Situations](#)
John W. Poston, Sr.
 - [Radiological Safety Program Management-Lessons from Hurricane Harvey](#)
Otu Inyang
 - [Alternative Calibration/Check Source Materials for Beta/Gamma Instruments](#)
Nathan Smith
-



Abstract: Activities of the Texas Preventive Radiological and Nuclear Detection Program

John Hageman, MS, CHP

Texas recognizes that radiological and nuclear threats exist; thus, the State must and is taking steps to detect and report unauthorized attempts to import, possess, store, develop, or transport nuclear or radiological materials. In August 2015, Texas established the Nuclear Sector Working Group (NSWG) to advance the State's radiological/nuclear detection and response capabilities. The NSWG is an organization of public and private critical infrastructure stakeholders, working jointly to share information, identify and address common operational concerns, and increase the security and resiliency of Texas to preventively detect nuclear and radiological threats.

The NSWG partnered with the US Department of Homeland Security's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) to develop and sustain a robust Preventive Radiological and Nuclear Detection (PRND) program. This partnership supports the Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan 2015-2020 to reduce the risk of CBRNE incidents by enhancing early-detection and control capabilities.

Abstract: Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS): A NIMS-Typed Position

Ruth McBurney (CRCPD), Roland Benke (Texas ROSS), Ken Gavlik (Texas ROSS)

ROSS is a growing team of trained emergency responders with radiological health expertise and is an asset for state and local authorities. Volunteers are selected for US Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) training and complete requirements for an intermittent position with National Incident Management System (NIMS) typing. Hear how ROSS support emergency response operations. Meet ROSS in your state. Learn about ROSS tools and how to volunteer.

Radiological incidents add complexity to the response. Be prepared. Local ROSS can arrive on scene quickly and augment local expertise. Include ROSS in your emergency response plans and integrate ROSS with state and local emergency preparedness activities.

Abstract: Partnerships: The Foundation of Successful Emergency Response

[Monica Martinez](#)

Successful emergency response starts with partnerships. Inclusive planning, training, and exercise programs ensure responders are familiar with your facility and personnel and ensures that you are familiar with how you fit into the response structure during an emergency. This session will discuss the importance of building community partnerships with first responders and lessons learned from the Texas A&M University 2017 Nuclear Science Road Full-Scale Exercise.

Abstract: Emergency Response to Radiological Events in North Texas - Events and Status

John C. White

North Texas is the fourth largest Metropolitan area in the country. The Dallas-Fort Worth Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area comprises 15 counties, 143 municipal authorities, and 7.5+ million people. In 2015, the total financial impact was \$560 Billion. Texas is a 'Home Rule' State, so the local authorities bear the load for immediate emergency response, and the sheer number of local authorities makes response to a radiological event, which undoubtedly would involve a number of those authorities, difficult. To prepare for a radiological or nuclear event, Law Enforcement, Fire/Haz, Emergency Operations, and radiation professionals have made an effort to acquire equipment, establish cooperative agreements, schedule training, and have drills for radiological preparedness and response.

This presentation provides an overall view of the effort, its successes and failures, National and local training resources involved, and describes the effort to refit the largest Fire/Haz department with new and upgraded radiological detection equipment and sketches the future efforts in this ongoing project. At the conclusion of this presentation, you will have a Reference Sheet, a Bugout Bag Checklist, and have improved understanding of pursuing a complex response involving many authorities.

Utilizing Fallout Planning Tool (FPTool) for Emergency Response in Atmospheric Detonations

Katie M. Cook – Texas A&M University

Atomic fallout modeling provides emergency response teams with critical maps, data, and projections used to plan for or react to atmospheric nuclear explosions. One current modeling program is Fallout Planning Tool (FPTool). FPTool aids responders and planners with dose map overlays which can easily be integrated into Google Earth. FPTool is designed with the user in mind and can be utilized without in depth technical knowledge. A quick tutorial of this program will offer sufficient knowledge on how to implement this software and the pros and cons of its capabilities.