I am pleased to announce the 12th Annual Meeting of the Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards (CIRMS) to be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology from October 27–29, 2003. This year’s theme is “Radiation/Radioactivity Measurements and Standards in Industry.” The meeting is designed to address the needs of the industries and communities using medical, environmental, and occupational radiation and radioactivity standards. I invite you to check our web site, www.cirms.org, for updates on the evolving program.

CIRMS is an organization made up of leaders from the academic, government, and industrial sectors who are dedicated to identifying the needs for new measurement technologies and the development of new standards in the field of ionization radiation. These goals are accomplished by gathering leading experts in four subcommittee areas (medical applications; occupational, public and environmental radiation protection; industrial applications and materials effects, and homeland security) to present and discuss existing technologies and the needs for new technologies and standards in their respective areas. The information provided by these experts serves as input to the development of Measurement Program Descriptions (MPDs) that are planning tools for enabling new methodologies and new standards. These MPDs are then published in a summary report entitled: National Needs Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards. The third “Needs Report” was published in 2001, and drafting of the fourth report will be undertaken this year.

In addition to plenary presentations on Measurements and Standards in Industry, this year’s meeting will incorporate four parallel sessions of the subcommittees mentioned above that will concentrate on standards development, coordination of international standards, and review the progress made to address standards requirements for homeland security. We will continue the Student Travel Grant Program as it has been a huge success in recent years. There will be an opportunity for attendees to view poster presentations and tour NIST laboratory facilities. Presentations from foreign organizations and standards laboratories on the measurements and standards activities in their respective countries will also be included. As always, there will be ample opportunity to network with colleagues during the meeting, and at the dinner planned for Tuesday evening.

I would like to invite you to join us at the 12th Annual Meeting of CIRMS at the National Institute of Standards and Technology from October 27–29, 2003 and to participate in the important work of the Council. It is an excellent way of staying up to date on measurements and standards relating to ionizing radiation while having the opportunity to shape the future of the field.

Sincerely,
Geoffrey S. Ibbott, CIRMS President
UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas

MEETING FOCUS
The 12th Annual Meeting of the Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards will focus on radiation and radioactivity measurements and standards in industry. In the past twelve years, CIRMS has played an important role in serving as a public forum for discussion of radiation measurements and standards issues. The technical program this year will consist of oral and poster presentations and four parallel sessions that address the following topics:

- Medical Applications (diagnostic and therapeutic radiology, nuclear medicine)
- Homeland Security (environmental dosimetry, threat detection, first response)
- Occupational, Public and Environmental Radiation Protection (personnel dosimetry, electronic dosimeters, radiochemistry, waste analysis, bioassay, and environmental and internal dosimetry)
- Industrial Applications and Materials Effects (dosimetry for radiation processing, radiobiology, safety at radiation facilities)

REGISTRATION
The registration fee of $200 per person includes conference materials, coffee breaks, lunches, and a dinner. Please complete and return the attached interest card by July 1, 2003. Further agenda and registration information will be forwarded in late July to all who respond. Due to increased security, no on-site registrations will be accepted and all attendees must be pre-registered.

Electronic registration is available at: www.nist.gov/conferences.

PRESENTATIONS
A limited number of contributed presentations will be considered. Abstracts of contributed oral presentations and poster papers should be submitted for consideration before July 31, 2003 to:
Katy Nardi, CIRMS
P.O. Box 1238
Duluth, GA 30096
Telephone/Fax: 770-622-0029
email: knardi@cirms.org

ACCOMMODATIONS
A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hilton Washington DC North/Gaithersburg, (301) 977-8900 at a special rate of $123 single or double, plus 12% tax. Reservations must be received by October 1, 2003.

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