

NEWS BRIEFS

Philips and Picker Medical Systems Formed In Joint Venture

The United States (US) Department of Justice has not opposed a joint venture of the medical divisions of the N.V. Philips' Gloeilampenfabrieken of The Netherlands and the General Electric Co., p.l.c., (GEC) of the United Kingdom. The new company, combining Philips Medical Systems Division and the GEC's medical subsidiary in the US, Picker International, will be called Philips and Picker Medical Systems. The company will be based in the greater New York area.

Frank A. Hopkins, chief executive officer of the new company, said that all existing products of both companies will be supported for the normal lifetime of each system.

[For more information, contact: Rachel Braun, Hill and Knowlton, Inc., International Public Relations Counsel, 420 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10017, (212) 697-5600.] ■

DOE Extends Brookhaven National Laboratory Contract

The United States (US) Department of Energy (DOE) has extended its contract with Associated Universities, Inc. (AUI) for the operation of the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) in Upton, New York. The DOE's Chicago Operations Office negotiated the five-year extension of the current contract, which expired December 31, 1987, with AUI, a consortium of nine northeastern universities.

BNL, which employs approximately 3,200 persons, had a DOE opera-

ting budget for fiscal year 1987 of approximately \$162 million, with an additional \$42 million in construction and equipment funds. On-site administration of the operating contract with AUI is provided by DOE's Brookhaven Area Office, under the direction of Area Manager Jerry Bellows.

[For more information, contact: Brian J. Quirke, US Dept. of Energy, Chicago Operations Office, 9800 South Cass Ave., Argonne, IL 60439 (312)972-2423.] ■

SNM Technologists Offered Liability Insurance Plan

The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) Insurance Administrator, Albert H. Wohlers & Co. of Park Ridge, Illinois, has announced a special enrollment period for the Professional Liability Insurance Plan available to members of the SNM Technologist Section. The closing date to apply for this coverage is June 1, 1988.

The Professional Liability Insurance Plan provides financial backing in the event of a malpractice suit. SNM members covered by the plan will receive up to \$1 million in protection per claim, with a total of up to \$1 million of annual coverage. Other benefits to pay for legal fees and court costs are also built into the plan.

The plan is available to all SNM Technologist Section members who are employed by an organization or who are self-employed, and comes with a money-back guarantee.

[For further information, contact: Albert H. Wohlers & Co., Administrator, SNM Group Insurance Plans, 1500 Higgins Rd., Park Ridge, IL

60068-5750 1-800-323-2106. In Illinois: 1-312-698-2221.] ■

Society Director Named ASAE Fellow

Henry L. Ernstthal, executive director of The Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM), has been named a Fellow by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), based in Washington, DC. He is one of eight members so honored this year by the ASAE, an individual membership organization composed of more than 15,600 association executives and suppliers from the United States (US) and 27 other countries.

Fellows must be nominated for the honor and supported by three letters of recommendation. A panel of judges chooses Fellows by evaluating their experience, civic activities, achievements and future promise. This year the ASAE selected Fellows from a field of about 40 qualified nominees, and will be presenting the awards at its spring convention in March in Dallas, Texas. ■

New Managing Editor Appointed to *Newsline*

Karla Harby has been appointed managing editor of the *Newsline* section of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, replacing Suzanne Winge. In 1984 Ms. Harby earned a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University, where she specialized in science reporting. Since then she has written about health and science subjects for a variety of publications, including *Psychology Today*, *Nation's Business*, and *Better Health & Living*. She is a member of the American Medical Writers Association. ■