

**PARDON
MY
FRENCH.**

Forward Through the Rearview Mirror: Reflections on ICRP Past and Future



Dr Claire Cousins
ICRP Chairwoman &
Consultant Interventional Radiologist
Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge, UK



SFRP
Reims, France
17th June 2015

Forward Through the Rearview Mirror: Reflections On and By Marshall McLuhan 1996



Forward Through the Rearview Mirror: Reflections On and By Marshall McLuhan 1996



Do you know why a car's windshield is so large and the rearview mirror is so small? Because our past is not as important as our future. Look ahead and move on.



What is ICRP?



- **International Commission on Radiological Protection**
- **International Cancer Research Partnership**
- **Institute for Culture Relations Policy**
- **Indonesian Conference on Religion and Peace**
- **International Coastal Revetment Products**



Beginning radiological protection

**First protection advice 1 year after discovery
x-rays:**

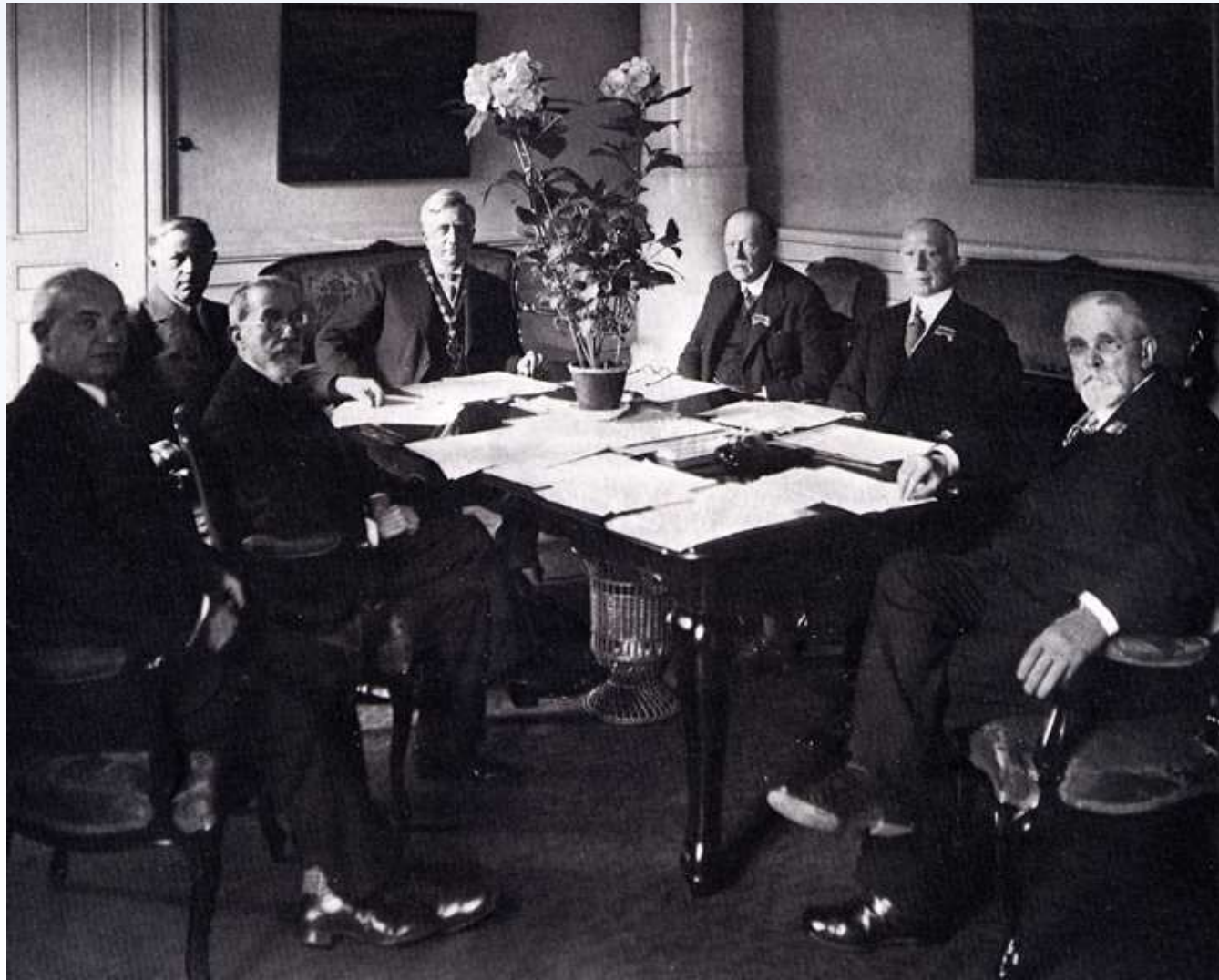
- **Make the exposure as short as possible**
- **Do not stand with 12 inches of x-ray tube**
- **Coat the skin with Vaseline and leave an extra layer on the most exposed area**

Wolfram Fuchs, USA 1896

ICRP

- **Founded in 1928, International X-ray and Radium Protection Committee**
- **Renamed International Commission on Radiological Protection ICRP in 1950**
- **Registered charity UK**
- **Main Commission and five Committees**

The Steering Committee of the 2nd International Congress of Radiology Stockholm 1928, which decided the creation of the X-ray and Radium Protection Committee



**Antoine
Béclère, glove
covering
radionecrosis
left hand**

In the beginning.....



Restaurant Hasselbacken, Stockholm, Sweden

In the beginning..... First ICRP dinner



First Chairman & First Publication

INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR X-RAY AND RADIUM PROTECTION

on the proposal of the Radio-Physics Section adopted by the Second International Congress of Radiology in Stockholm, July 27th, 1928

1. The dangers of over-exposure to X-rays and radium can be avoided by the provision of adequate protection and suitable working conditions. It is the duty of those in charge of X-ray and radium departments to ensure such conditions for their personnel. The known effects to be guarded against are:

- (a) Injuries to the superficial tissues;
- (b) Derangements of internal organs and changes in the blood.

I. *Working Hours etc.*

2. The following working hours etc. are recommended for whole-time X-ray and radium workers:

- (a) Not more than seven working hours a day.
- (b) Not more than five working days a week. The off-days to be spent as much as possible out of doors.
- (c) Not less than one month's holiday a year.
- (d) Whole-time workers in hospital X-ray and radium departments should not be called upon for other hospital service.

II. *General X-Ray Recommendations.*

- 3. X-ray departments should not be situated below ground-floor level.
- 4. All rooms, including dark-rooms, should be provided with windows affording good natural lighting and ready facilities for admitting sunshine and fresh air whenever possible.

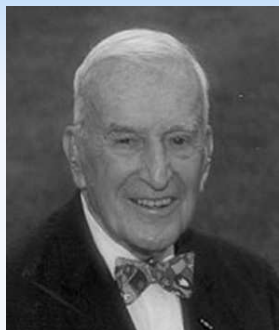


Rolf Sievert
Chairman 1928-1931



Rolf Sievert
1928-1931 &
1956-1962

Rene Ledoux
Lebard
1931-1937



Lauriston
Taylor
1937-1950



Ernest Rock
Carling
1950-1956



Edward
Pochin
1962-1969

C. Gordon
Stewart
1969-1977

Bo Lindell
1977-1985

Dan
Bennison
1985-1993

Roger Clarke
1993-2005

Lars-Erik
Holm
2005-2009

Claire Cousins
2009-

Dr. Claire Cousins:

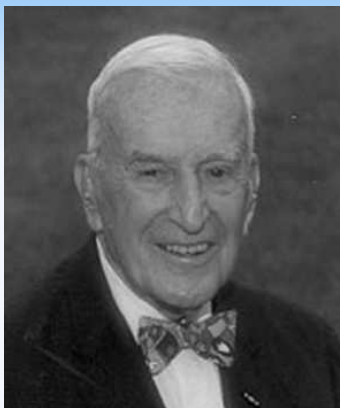
- **Lead Consultant Vascular and Interventional Radiologist**
- **Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, UK**
- **Member ICRP since 2001**
- **Chair Committee 3, 2005-2009**
- **Chair ICRP 2009-date**

Dr. Claire Cousins:

- **Leads successful team, all male consultant colleagues**
- **Works with radiation every day**
- **4-6 interventional operating lists per week**
- **Works one in six nights and weekends on call**

**Endovascular x-ray
guided abdominal
aortic aneurysm repair
(EVAR)**

Conventional surgical aortic aneurysm repair



George Kaye
1928

**Lauriston
Taylor**
1934, 1937,
1947-1950

Walter Blinks
1950-1955

Eric Smith
1956

Bo Lindell
1957-1962

David Sowby
1962-1985

Mike Thorne
1985-1987

Hylton Smith
1987-1997

Jack Valentin
1997-2008

**Christopher
Clement**
2008-

France and ICRP

Rene Ledoux Lebard, Chair

Henri Jammet, Chair C4 and C3

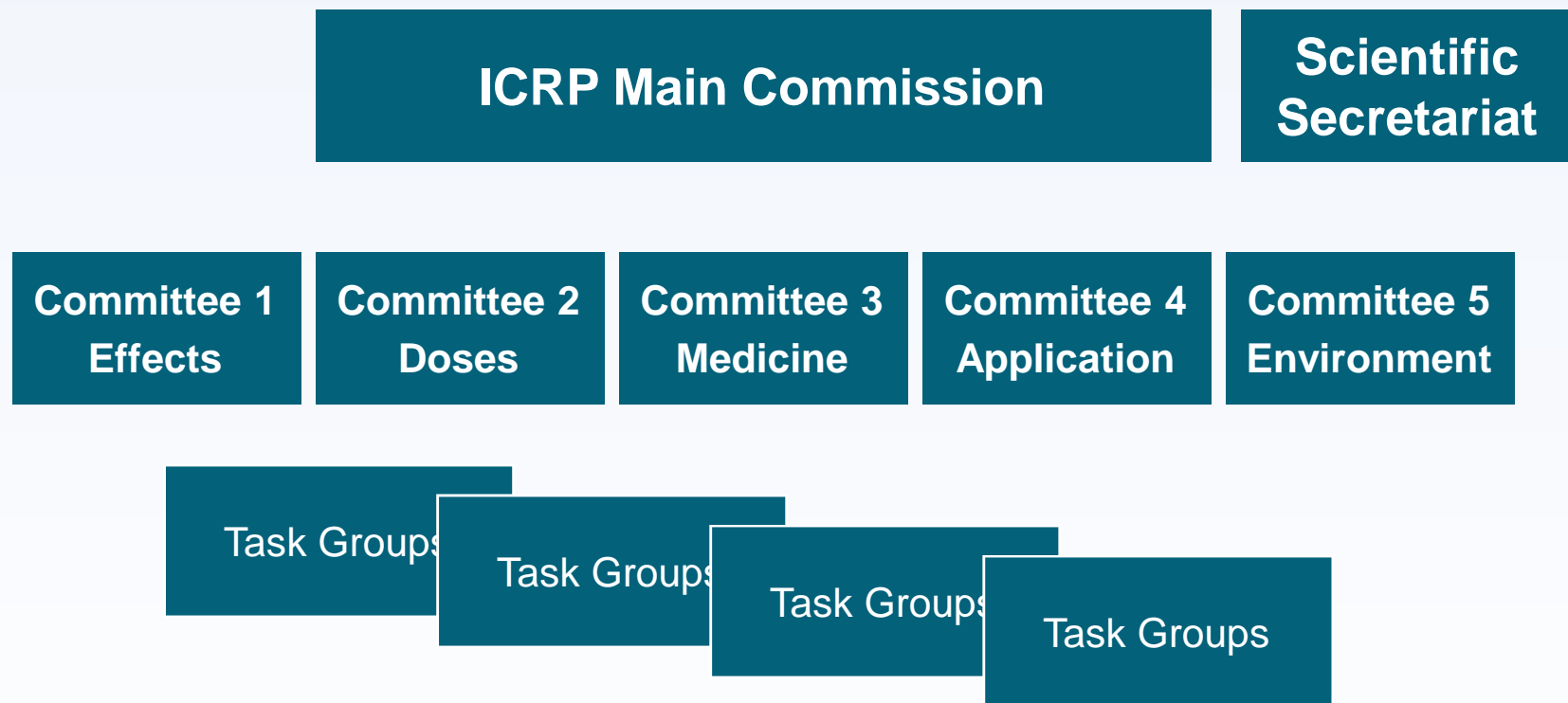
France and ICRP

Annie Sugier Chair C4

Jacques Lochard Chair C4, Vice Chair

Advance for the public benefit the science of radiological protection, in particular by providing recommendations and guidance on all aspects of protection against ionising radiation

- **Main Commission Chair + 12 members**
- **Four year terms**
- **Previously 4 & since 2005, 5 Committees**
- **Scientific Secretariat**
- **Publication series since 1959**
- ***Annals of the ICRP* since 1977**



An independent, international community of experts in radiological protection
More than 230 experts in radiological protection science and policy
from 33 countries and six continents

Main Commission

Chair: Claire Cousins, UK

Vice-Chair: Jacques Lochard, FR

11 other members

Scientific Secretariat

Chris Clement, CN

Nobuyuki Hamada, JP

Lynn Lemaire, Exec Assistant

C1 - Radiation Effects *William Morgan, USA*

C2 - Doses from Radiation Exposure *John Harrison, UK*

C3 - Protection in Medicine *Eliseo Vano, SP*

C4 - Application ICRP Recommendations *Donald Cool, USA*

C5 - Protection of the Environment *Carl-Magnus Larsson, AUS*

Main Commission 2013-2017

Lynn Lemaire
Executive Assistant

Nobuyuki Hamada
Assistant Secretary

- **Students on secondment from CNSC (Canada)**
- **4 month attachments with ICRP**
- **10 students to date**
- **Invaluable work on ICRP history and glossary**

- **ICRP is a charitable organisation**
- **Expert members recruited from different areas of radiological protection**
- **Members unpaid and voluntarily give time and effort for the success of ICRP**

- **Main Commission meetings 1-2 times per year**
- **Committee meetings annually**
- **Combined biennial meetings**
- **Task groups (TG) meetings as necessary**

232 Members (91 MC + Committees)

128 Numbered publications

20 Active Task Groups

13 Fundamental Recommendations since 1928

5 Standing Committees

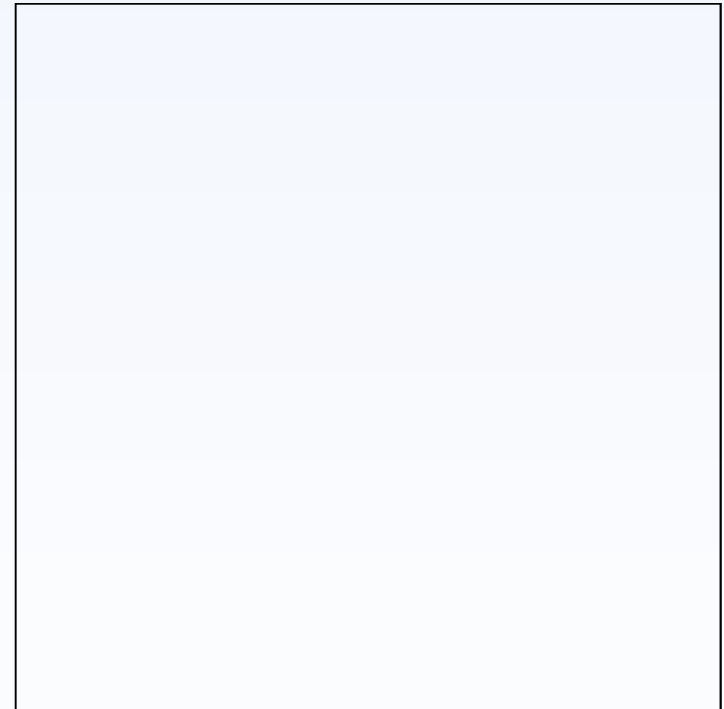
1 System of Radiological Protection

- **Most recently updated in *ICRP Publication 103* (2007)**
- **Based on science, ethical and social values, and experience**
- **Forms the basis of radiation safety standards, legislation, guidance, programmes, and practice worldwide**

Contribute to an appropriate level of protection for people and the environment against the detrimental effects of radiation exposure without unduly limiting the desirable human actions that may be associated with such exposure

Includes:

- **Strengths**
- **Challenges facing RP**
- **Objectives**
- **Initiatives**



ICRP objectives:

- **Improve dissemination Recommendations**
- **Scientific work improving the System of RP**
- **Raise awareness of RP in medicine**
- **Protection of the environment integrated into System of RP**
- **Positive relationship with RP organisations**
- **Best practices applied to ICRP governance**

ICRP initiatives:

- **Publications at low or no cost**
- **Recommend research to strengthen System of RP**
- **Hold regular ICRP symposia**
- **Increase participation in RP & other forums**
- **Openly seek nominations for new members**

- **Established biennial symposia**
- **Established Special Liaison Organisations**
- **Held open nominations for members with nearly half new membership (20% women)**
- **Developed ICRP Code of Ethics**
- **Change of publisher from 2013**

- **Recommended areas of research to UNSCEAR and other organisations**
- **Integrated protection of the environment into the system of radiological protection (Pub 124)**

- **New initiative in 2011**
- **Designed to broaden awareness and increase collaboration**
- **Aim for diverse global venue**
 - **Bethesda 2011**
 - **Abu Dhabi 2013**
 - **Seoul 2015**
 - **Paris 2017**

With other international organisations:

- **ICRU**
- **IAEA**
- **UNSCEAR**
- **WHO**
- **IRPA**



- **New system to improve relations**
- **More organisations invited 'Special Liaison' status**
- **Representatives invited to Committee meetings to discuss specific issues and to join Task Groups to bring expertise**
- **Inclusion in Symposia**
- **Additional meetings with Main Commission**

- **Number of organisations increased to 18**
- **Mainly European, International & USA**
- **Encourage more global representation of organisations**
- **Liaise with more radiology organisations to engage with health professionals**

- **Publications at low or no cost dependent on finances**
- **Improved finances will allow ICRP to promote training and research to improve system of RP**
- **Members + Scientific Secretary already attend many RP meetings; increase representation whenever possible**

- **Nearly 200 nominations for new ICRP members; review & refine electoral process**
- **3rd International Symposium in Seoul, Korea 20th - 22nd October 2015**
- **4th Symposium in Paris, early October 2017**

- **As a charity, ICRP does not have large financial reserve**
- **Several planned strategies require capital spend and increased financial resource**
- **Engaged fundraising company, CCS**
- **Now embarking on full campaign**

- **Campaign priorities:**
- **Maintain and improve ICRP's current System of Radiological Protection**
- **Broaden awareness of RP and access to ICRP recommendations**
- **Increase engagement with professionals, policy-makers and the interested public**

**Aim to raise €10 million over
the next five years**

- **Review of the constitution ICRP**
- **Refine the election process**
- **Work on priorities for next Strategic Plan**
- **Produce plain language overview of the system of radiological protection and summaries of recommendations**
- **Open access to first 50 years publications**

- **Increase salaried staff**
 - **Communications officer**
 - **Fundraising officer**
- **Consider other types of membership**
- **Award funding to young RP professionals in training**
- **Expand use of social media**

ICRP:

- **has a long history in providing recommendations and guidelines in RP**
- **will continue to be a leading authority in RP**
- **recognises the need to**
 - **listen**
 - **evolve**
 - **address difficult issues**
 - **interact with both RP professionals, other organisations and the public**

**If you want something said, ask a
man; if you want something done ask
a woman**

Margaret Thatcher

All in the line of duty!

www.icrp.org