**SAMPLE COVER LETTER FOR SENDING FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**

Dear Dr. Kai,

In accordance with Dr. Oka's suggestion, I am providing you with the First Announcement of the Joint ANS/HPS Topical Meeting entitled "Applicability of Radiation-Response Models to Low Dose Protection Standards," to be held on September 23-26 in the Tri-Cities, Washington. I have the pleasure of serving as General Chair of this meeting.

As I’m sure you know, national and international scientific organizations that make recommendations for radiation protection have adopted the linear, no-threshold (LNT) dose-response model, which assumes that radiation is harmful at any dose level above zero. However, many credible scientists reject the linear dose-response model at low doses, for good reasons. Due to large statistical uncertainties, epidemiological studies have not been able to attribute adverse health effects in persons with small radiation exposures (less than 0.1 Gy absorbed dose or 100 mSv effective dose) protracted over a period of many years. The underlying dose-response relationships at molecular levels appear mainly non-linear (Health Physics

Society position statement PS-010, 2015). Some scientific data even show

beneficial effects from low-level radiation, and recent low-level radiation research confirms adaptive response and cellular-level repair mechanisms at low dose.

This conference will be focused on getting to the core of this issue and, hopefully, finding a way to provide regulators with better guidance on how to take advantage of modern science to more realistically deal with the human response to low levels of radiation.

We very much hope that you will be able to participate in the conference, since input from Japan is very much needed--especially in the light of the enormous damage done by unfounded fear of low-level radiation following after the Fukushima accident.

Please circulate this announcement to your colleagues ….. and start planning for a way to help this meeting become a success.

Sincerely,