FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 23, 2012

# Risks and Effects of Radiation: Putting Fukushima in Context

CONTACT: Kelly Classic (media@hps.org)

Health Physics Society to Convene Panel of Leading Scientific Experts on Radiation and Nuclear Safety

Washington, D.C. – As the world remembers the one-year anniversary of the 2011 tsunami that devastated Japan and set off a tragic chain of events that included the nuclear reactor incident in Fukushima, the Health Physics Society will convene a panel of leading scientific and medical experts to report on the risks and effects of radiation on the Japanese and other populations. A first-hand account of the impacts on the Fukushima population will be provided. The discussions will include the health effects of radiation immediately following the event to present day, and analysis of future risks for the population. The panel will take place at 10:00am on Thursday, March 1, 2012 at the National Press Club.

Pressing questions discussed during conference will include:

- What have been the health effects from radiation on the populations living near the reactor?
- What future risks of radiation-induced cancer from Fukushima can be expected?
- What have we learned from Fukushima that should impact U.S. and state governments' radiation safety regulations?

#### WHO:

- John Boice, Sc.D. Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center
  - Member of the International Commission on Radiation Protection Task Group on Fukushima
  - US delegation to the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation
- Howard Dickson, CHP, CSP, CIH Past President, Health Physics Society
  - o Formerly Deputy Director of Technical Planning for TMI 2 Recovery
- Robert Emery, DrPH, CHP, CIH University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
  - o Appointed member of Texas Radiation Advisory Board
- Robert Peter Gale, M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc. (Hon) Imperial College, London
  - o Medical consultant involved in Chernobyl and Fukushima accidents
- Kathryn Higley, Ph.D., CHP Oregon State University, Department of Nuclear Engineering
  - o Former Reactor Supervisor for the Reed College TRIGA reactor
- Jeffrey Stehr, Ph.D. –University of Maryland, Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Science
  - o Forecasted the movement of the Fukushima radioactive plume
- Richard Vetter, Ph.D., CHP Mayo Clinic, Professor of Radiobiology and radiation protection
  - o Former Radiation Safety Officer
  - Congressional and Agency Liaison, Health Physics Society

### When & Where:

Thursday, March 1, 2012 10am-11:30am National Press Club, Zenger Room, 529 14<sup>th</sup> St NW, Washington D.C. 20045

### **RSVP To:**

Jessie Niewold
Jessie.Niewold@bm.com

## **HPS Media Inquiries:**

Kelly Classic, Outreach Editor Health Physics Society media@hps.org

INVITATION ONLY. RSVP REQUIRED.

Light breakfast will be provided.