
The Radiographer

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The Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists was founded in 1931, chartered as a professional and scientific society dedicated to education, communication and patient care.

As a not-for-profit corporation, the Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists Inc. is a chartered affiliate of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists.

The M.S.R.T. is nonsectarian, nonpartisan, and noncommercial, and adheres to a policy of nondiscrimination regarding nationality, race, color, creed or age.

From the president . . .

Approximately six months ago I started thinking about this undertaking. I panicked! I didn't have a vision! I didn't have goals! I didn't even have a strategy! I thought to myself, "What have I done? I'm in way over my head!"

Then in the first of March it hit me! I don't need a vision! I don't need goals! I don't even need strategy! **WE do!**

The last few years, it has seemed to me that the MSRT does the same old thing, year after year. We fight for licensure, we put on a conference, and we try to get new members. Don't get me wrong! All very worthy pursuits! We need to continue these pursuits—they are our mission!

But we do need a vision, we need goals, and we need a strategy to attain them. This is my challenge to the Board of Directors this year. We need to define our vision. We need to open the soul of the MSRT and pour its

heart out for all to see. What do we as an organization want? What do we need? What are our strengths and our weaknesses? How can we use both? What are our opportunities and barriers? What can we do about each? We, as your Board of Directors, need to find the motivating vision that exists for this organization. We need to display it for everyone to see!

We have a mission. We will pursue licensure year after year after year. We won't give up. We know we are right! We need to encourage our co-workers to write letters and visit their senators and representatives, both on the state and federal level. We need to educate the congressmen. They, along with the majority of the population, don't realize that the people performing their radiologic procedures don't have to have any training in the state of Missouri. Education is the key to getting licensure passed. Talk to people whenever you get a chance.

We need, in my opinion, to get people excited and motivated! We need more people involved! I challenge every one of you to volunteer for a committee. I am sure the committee chairs would like for "committee chair" to no longer be synonymous with "committee." Think of the professional fulfillment and sense of accomplishment you could feel to have served your professional organization, the MSRT!

I realize I'm preaching to the choir. Now I give you, the choir, the mission of going out and singing our song. Tell people what we are all about, volunteer to help out, educate the public. If we don't do it, no one will. Besides, who better to sing our organization's and profession's praises and song than us!

Thank you.

Anne Rutz, M.Ed., R.T.(R)(M)

2000 MSRT Competition and Award Winners



Research Medical Center Team 8
First place winners in the Student Bowl



Left: Angie Gloriod, Rolla Technical, first place winner in the Student Essay competition.



Right: Maggie Ogden, Rolla Technical, first place winner in the Technologist Essay competition.

■ °2000 Student Bowl Winners

First Place: Research Medical Center School of Radiologic Technology □ Jerri Carroll; Jill Arnold, captain; Chris Bowers; June Langham, alternate; Jane McDonald, coach.

Second Place: Cox Health Systems School of Radiologic Technology □ Cassaundra Taylor; Nicole Addington, captain; Melissa Beeler; Kimberly Smotherman, alternate; David L. Frazier, coach.

Third Place: Nichols Career Center □ Paul Vanderlinder; Michelle Mertens; Melanie Smith, captain; Shanna Smith, alternate; Ronda Walch, coach.

■ °2000 MSRT Scientific Essay Winners

Student Essay

- 1st place □ Angie Gloriod, Rolla Technical Center
- 2nd place □ Carolyn Barnett, Rolla Technical Center
- 3rd place □ Elizabeth Raines, Rolla Technical Center

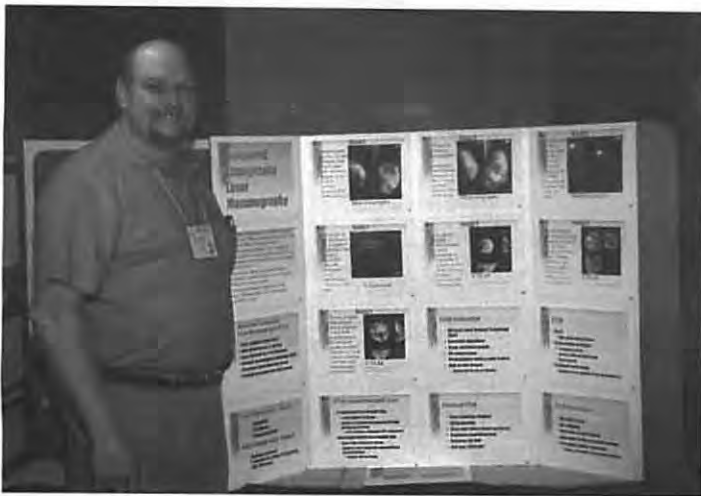
Technologist Essay

- 1st place □ Maggie Ogden, Rolla Technical Center



Andrea Stuart, left, Avila College, was the 2000 winner of the Robert A. Feldhaus Scholarship. Here she and Mary Feldhaus, right, share a moment together.

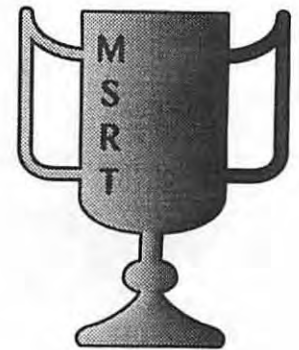




Norm Hente, first place winner in the Technologist Scientific Poster Display competition.



Liz Falkenrath, first place winner in the Student Scientific Poster Display competition.



■ **2000 MSRT Scientific Poster Display Winners**

Technologist Category

First place □ Norm Hente

Second place □ Maggie Ogden, Rolla Technical Center

Student Category

1st place □ Liz Falkenrath, Rolla Technical Center

2nd place □ Lori Stuckmeyer, Rolla Technical Center

3rd place □ Melinda Hagenhoff, Rolla Technical Center

Brenda Matthews, right, was the 2000 winner of the Mallinckrodt Award of Excellence. The award is presented each year to a registered technologist, physician, or non-RT who has made unusual or exceptional contributions to the radiologic sciences and/or the society above and beyond those normally required by the society. Nominations are presented to the Board of Directors, whose members make the final selection. Presenting the award, left, was Nikki Thielmann.



**Shawn Snider
Ulysses D. Murray Lecturer
2000**

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Missouri radiologic technologists fight for quality health care

Three Missouri residents were among 70 radiologic technologists from across the country who converged on Congress to convince lawmakers that federal minimum standards for the profession will increase patient safety.

The second annual grass-roots lobbying events, called "R.T. in D.C.," April 2-4, attracted radiologic technologists from 28 states.

Radiologic technologists Michael Ward of St. Louis, Donita Shipman of Smithton and David Frazier of Springfield asked their federal legislators to support the Consumer Assurance of Radiologic Excellence Act or CARE Act. The proposed legislation would set minimum

educational and licensing standards for personnel who perform imaging examinations, except sonography, and those who plan and deliver radiation therapy.

Missouri is one of 15 states as well as the District of Columbia that has no educational or training license laws. Studies show trained, educated registered technologists deliver higher quality care than those who are not. However, poorly trained individuals perform thousands of tests and procedures every day, said DuVonne Campbell, director of government relations for the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. "Poor quality images can lead to additional testing and delays in treatment as well as needless

anxiety for the patient," she said.

U.S. Rep. Rick Lazio, R-N.Y., is expected to introduce the CARE Act into the House of Representatives this year. ASRT members rallied support from legislators as part of their efforts to seek additional cosponsors. Eight legislators have confirmed that they will cosponsor the CARE Act and others will contact Rep. Lazio with support, she added. ASRT, sponsor of "R.T. in D.C.," represents more than 83,000 registered technologists.

"Everyone did an impressive job this year," Ms. Campbell said. "Everyone came ready to go and united in a mighty voice. We continued to gain ground."

District Data

■ District 3:

Meeting will be held in September.

■ District 4:

Had meetings in September, October, November, January, February, March and April.

At the March meeting an Educational Scholarship Award was presented to Mike Cullinane, and officers were elected. The following officers were installed at the May meeting:

Mike Cullinane, president; Raul Valdez, vice president; Donna Wamhoff, secretary; Amy Hedrick, treasurer; Dean Brake, 4th District representative; Linda Exum, member-at-large; and Samara Moore, program chairman.

■ District 5:

District 5 has been newly revitalized under the direction of Benjamin Morris, R.T.(R)(T)(CT).

The group met March 9 and elected the following officers: Ben Morris, Springfield, president; Breanna Storm, Joplin, vice president; Tammy Laster, Springfield, secretary/treasurer; and Heather Brown, Springfield, 5th District representative.

Upcoming meetings:

Saturday, June 24—9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at St. John's in Joplin. Worth 2-3 credits.

Saturday, October 14 at Hammons Heart Institute at St. John's in Springfield. Speakers will include Cindy Daniels. For more information, call Joan Hedrick at (417) 885-2982.

■ District 7 (Radiation Therapy):

The annual fall meeting will be held in October at Ellis Fischel Hospital in Columbia.

■ District 8 (Mammography):

The group will meet in October in Columbia.

■ Remember ...

Share your news with friends!

If you have news of your district, please share it with your district representative! We want to know what's going on in your area.

ASRT members discuss future roles of radiologic technologists

Rapidly advancing radiologic technology and declining work force numbers to implement new procedures led some of the profession's best and brightest and their industry supporters to brainstorm solutions at two related May annual meetings.

Board members of the ASRT Education and Research Foundation met with members of the Health Care Advisory Council (HCIAC) and independently to discuss trends in radiologic technology and radiation therapy.

To demand more respect and create more rewards for the profession, the council and the board agreed immediate and long-term strategies were necessary to avert an R.T. shortage crisis.

Lynn May, ASRT's chief executive officer, said this year fewer technologists graduated than were needed to fill existing positions. Population trends as well as more attractive health care and other high-tech fields point to a shortage within 10 years.

"We are aware a shortage is emerging," says May. "More than half of radiologic technologists are older than 40 and will be heading for retirement soon. Medical imaging is going to have to do more with less."

Steven Palmisano, chairman of the Foundation board, says key to all strategies to address the shortage is to make diagnostic imaging sciences more attractive—more stimulating educationally and more lucrative financially. Increased educational requirements and more timely continuing education will create a more flexible and adaptable work force with talents and skills, he adds.

"The Foundation has devoted a significant amount of time studying the direction of the profession and the future roles of radiologic technologists. The goal is to reposition the Foundation and make it more responsive to technologists' needs," says Palmisano. The foundation supports ASRT's efforts and initiatives to enhance patient care. To better address professional concerns, the Foundation created HCIAC two years ago "to establish a format through which corporations can provide and guide philanthropic sponsorship of research in the radiologic sciences, he says.

Proposed initiatives include an annual HCIAC-sponsored scholarship award program, execution of a R.T. continuing education needs assessment, a virtual radiologic research resource, development

of a quality/patient safety monitoring mechanism, establishment of an educator's leadership academy and more information exchange between vendors and customers about new equipment.

Trustees attending the ASRT Education and Research Foundation were Palmisano; Ginger Griffin, R.T.(R), FASRT; Barbara Burnham, R.T.(R), FASRT, FAHRA; Marie Parfitt Pattie; Judith Willis; Bill Kail, Ph.D., R.T.(R); Joe Palma and Frances Apple, R.T.(R), FASRT. John Campbell could not attend.

Those present for Foundation and HCIAC roundtable discussions were the trustees and Ron Walton of Elekta Oncology Systems; Palma of E-Z-EM Inc.; John Reich and Jack Albertson, both of GE Medical Systems; Philip Femano of Medical Imaging Consultants; Patricia Schmitt of Philips Medical Systems; Agnes Gonzales of Siemens Medical Systems; and Barbara Black of Toshiba America Medical Systems, Inc.

Other member companies of HCIAC are Nycomed Amersham, Marconi Medical Systems, Fuji Medical Systems, Bracco Diagnostics, Data Distributing, Berlex Laboratories and Agfa Medical Imaging.

Questions???

Call the MSRT toll free Hotline:

1-877-353-3599

ASRT Education & Research Foundation names 3 new trustees at annual meeting

Drawing on professionals from all facets of radiologic technology, the ASRT Education and Research Foundation named three individuals to serve on its board of trustees at its May annual meeting in Albuquerque, N.M.

- Joseph Palma is senior vice president of sales and marketing with E-Z-EM Inc. of New York. Palma, who has a master's of business administration in marketing, is also his company's representative to the Foundation's Health Care Industry Advisory Council, a panel of member companies that helps the board of trustees identify technological trends and shed light on areas needing additional research.

- Stephanie Eatmon, Ed.D., R.T.(R)(T), an educator for more than 20 years, is the radiation therapy program director at California State University, Long Beach.

- William Kail, Ph.D., R.T.(R), is

director of imaging services at St. Anthony Hospitals in Denver, several associated clinics and the hospital-associated School of Radiological Sciences.

The goal for their three-year terms is to help steer a new course for careers in radiologic technology and radiation therapy to attract more people to the profession.

Lynn May, chief executive officer of ASRT, discussed technologist shortages predicted to increase during the next decade.

"We are aware a shortage is emerging. More than half of the R.T.s are older than 40. We had more position openings this year than we did graduates. Perhaps part of the reason is the labor pool we traditionally have drawn from now has many other options. Also, the aging of the baby

boom generation will increase demands on health care at a time when the various professions have become less attractive than they were in the past. It's time we upgraded the profession to make it more desirable."

Incoming board members said they were pleased with their appointments.

"I feel obligated to contribute whatever is necessary to improve our profession," says Dr. Kail.

Echoing the sentiment, Dr. Eatmon said, "I love this profession; it's the greatest. Whatever I can do, I want to do."

Palma said he and his company supported the foundation and the industry council's efforts: "E-Z-EM is committed to education. The only way to elevate the radiologic technology profession and make it more rewarding and attractive is to elevate education."



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