

The Official Journal of the Missouri Society of

Radiography



The Radiographer
The Official Journal of the
Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists
An Affiliate of the American Society of Radiologic
Technologists

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## In this Issue:

| Rad Pad   | 4  |  |  |  |
|---|----|--|--|--|
| Letter from the President                               | 5  |  |  |  |
| Legislative Report                                      | 7  |  |  |  |
| Report from Exhibit Committee                           |    |  |  |  |
| ePoster Survey  |    |  |  |  |
| Announcing the MoSRT 85 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference | 11 |  |  |  |

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 MoSRT is nonsectarian, nonpartisan and noncommercial, and adheres to a policy of nondiscrimination regarding nationality, race, color, creed or age.

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### **MoSRT Volunteering**

The Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists (MoSRT) is an organization designed to support Missouri technologists, yet not all Missouri Technologists are supporting the organization. This is quite evident when reviewing the list of MoSRT board members and American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) delegates. The list in reference is provided on page 3 of this journal. Upon reviewing the list you will notice many names repeated for different tasks. These are the same people who have kept our organization going and who continue to advocate for your rights. These people put together the continuing education credit programs, enlist speakers for these credits, arrange food and sponsorship for the continuing education credit programs, help to lobby for state licensure, provide district meetings, organize essay, exhibit and scholarship competitions and provide you with information about what is going on in Missouri for technologists. The people on that list do so much for Missouri technologists that I wonder what more great things could be done and accomplished with each new member to the society . Each member would bring new ideas , new processes and help the society progress.

What great things would you bring to our organization and to the technologists of our great state? What skills and talents can you provide that would help our organization to advance and become a better a organization? What can you do to make the MoSRT the organization of choice for all Missouri technologists? How can you help the MoSRT be a leader for other state organizations? These are the questions you should ask yourself. If you act who knows how great this organization can be.



### From the President

Dear MoSRT members,

It is my honor and pleasure to serve as the President to the members of the Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists, MoSRT. Thank you for selecting me. This is an exciting time for the MoSRT. As you may have heard, we will be celebrating our 85<sup>th</sup> annual conference; which is a Jubilee year-Sapphires and Silver! It's hard to believe that we have been active for such a long time! Wow! That says a lot about Missouri...

I am so excited about our conference it is going to be fabulous. We have such an amazing Program Chair – Kristi Littleton and Conference Coordinator Carla Allen. These ladies will not let us down they have been planning an exciting conference for the members. The theme will be: "Treasured Past Unlimited Future"

Our conference will be held in Columbia, Missouri at the Holiday Inn Executive Center.

I want to extend and send out well wishes to two of our members: Norman Hente and Martin Henson. Norman is our Radiographer Chair and Martin is our Photographer & Historian. Please keep them in your prayers; they are a huge part of this organization and its history.

Now, if you are reading this message, you are viewing our newly updated Radiographer Newsletter, which has been designed by Jessica Dines – Radiographer Co- Chair. The Radiographer is designed to keep you the members up-to-date on the business at hand: current legislative issues from our LAC Chair Diane Hutton, student events and activities from our Student Intern Chair Casey Feigly and Student Activities Chair Janet Akers and meeting information, etc. Please check out our wonderful web page and site which has been designed by Joe Oller – Webmaster. Joe keeps the site up to date with great information and opportunities – such as Student Bowl, Student Scholarship, Student Essays and Exhibits, Technologist Essays and Exhibits, Registration, Membership and much more.

Let me take this time to welcome and introduce to you the new board officers members elected at the business meeting held during the annual meeting last April in Columbia, MO.

President Elect - Dustin Ward Vice President – Casey Feigly Secretary – Rebecca Doss Treasurer – Donita Shipman

I also look forward to sharing the upcoming year with an outstanding group of board and committee members. They all come to the organization with a wealth of knowledge and insight. I have been actively involved with our society since 2009 on the local and state levels. I began as a volunteer and Judge for the Student Bowl, Student Bowl Chair, District 1 Rep, Vice President, and now President in 2016.

I'd also like to bring your attention to upcoming events and opportunities for involvement:

Our 85<sup>th</sup> annual meeting will return to Columbia, MO in 2017 RT in JC in February/March 2017 – Missouri Licensure Support

Our Theme for next year's conference is "Treasured Past Unlimited Future"

Call for speakers!! Please let me know if you are interested in speaking at our next meeting.

As we move into another great year for imaging specialists, I would also like to outline some goals for our organization:

Determination to build our membership and volunteers – remember "membership is the life's blood of an organization!"

Increase student involvement in the organization through the student leadership development program and student activities - remember the students are our future for the organization

Have a driving force to achieve Missouri Licensure – we are educationally trained and competent

Building up our committees and the mentoring process in the society organization – sharing knowledge and working together

Continue to provide excellent meetings for our members through the state and Districts – networking

I would like to thank all our members who continue to support our state society. I am very excited about the direction that Missouri Imaging Specialists will continue to take in the future.

Warm Regards,

Marilyn "Mj" Lewis Thompson, MBA RT (R) (M) MoSRT President and Chairman



# Legislative Action Committee

Missouri Radiologic Technologists,

MoSRT wants to update the radiologic technologists in our state on the next steps that the Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists are taking towards enacting licensure for R.T.s. Again, we will be working with lawmakers to introduce a bill for consideration during the 2017 legislative session in Jefferson City.

The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, the MoSRT and our lobbyist, Mike Grote, began working several months ago to develop a draft bill to discuss with lawmakers. This workgroup has invited several interested medical imaging organizations to provide suggestions and feedback and we are currently conducting biweekly calls to further refine our draft bill.

Once the bill has been finalized it will be posted to the MoSRT website (<a href="www.mosrt.org">www.mosrt.org</a>) and we hope that you will take a look at it. After the bill is introduced, please participate in the efforts to protect patients by securing licensure for radiologic technologists by contacting your lawmakers and asking them to support us in our effort. MoSRT believes that in order to ensure that patients receiving medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments receive safe, high quality care that the individuals providing those services are educationally prepared and clinically competent health care providers. Working together Missouri radiologic technologists can help to ensure that patients receive imaging and therapy care from individuals who meet the state's requirements for licensure.

Patient safety and public safety is at the center of the licensure bill and should be important to all of us. We all know that the equipment that radiologic technologists use on a daily basis is high tech and has the benefit of helping to diagnose illness and injury quickly; however, the radiation that is used to produce these incredible images can be harmful to the patient if the exam is not performed correctly. Lawmakers need to know that the amount of radiation that they or their family may be exposed in an imaging examination to is totally dependent on the training of the individual operating the equipment.

MoSRT invites you to participate in the next R.T. in J.C. advocacy event on February 8, 2017 in Hearing Room (HR) 2 at the state capital in Jefferson City. This event provides you with an opportunity to speak directly with your lawmakers about the importance of education, certification and competency standards for individuals performing medical imaging and radiation therapy and the need for licensure. Make sure to watch our state affiliate website <a href="www.mosrt.org">www.mosrt.org</a> and the ASRT website at <a href="www.asrt.org">www.asrt.org</a> for continued updates about our advocacy efforts. If you have questions about MoSRT or our licensure campaign please email me at <a href="main.hutton@mosrt.org">diane.hutton@mosrt.org</a>. The MoSRT looks forward to working with you and Missouri lawmakers to ensure patients receive quality medical imaging and radiation therapy care provided by qualified individuals.

Diane Hutton BA, RT(R)
Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists
Legislative Activities Chair
MoSRT District 1 President

## MOSRT Update on Scientific Exhibits – The Move Towards ePosters

Style used to be an interaction between the human soul and tools that were limiting. In the digital era, it will have to come from the soul alone.

Jaron Lanier – Computer philosophy writer and scientist

Scientific exhibits have long been an integral component of medical conferences. These media have spanned the gambit of simple posters, to incredibly elaborate table top constructs, each geared at catching the eye of the judges while showcasing the work done by the authors. As our society has pushed in to the digital realm, so too has our professional organizations. Daily, our journals arrive electronically, our correspondence is swiftly sent via e-mail, and the web has become the primary outlet for all that is new in our fields. The challenge is that even though we have fully embraced this technology, the last bastions of the analog world still lurk in the exhibit halls where cardboard and paper mâché dominate the landscape.

Challenging this paradigm has been a slow process. Although most professional organizations have moved to electronic submissions of posters for exhibition, the migration to a completely digital format has been both arduous and at times, even controversial. The problem that groups have struggled with resides in both logistics of delivery as well as quality of content.

Imagine if you will, an annual meeting where roughly 150 individual authors wish to exhibit their work. In a traditional hall, visitors could casually stroll through the tables, briefly stopping to read those posters that piqued their interests, and then move on...a model that could be best described as on demand viewing. In a digitally augmented hall, unless there are 150 presentation stations, a bottle neck occurs in that audience members viewing capacity gets limited by the number of posters that can be shown at once, simply because it's not economically feasible to have 150 computer stations set up. The work around for this is that posters either get pushed to the web, so that viewers have on demand access, or electronic posters just get printed and displayed in the hall, hearkening back to the more traditional model. The challenge with these two solutions is that, in the example of the former, the authors risk never having their work seen as it gets buried among all of the other web links, or in the case of the later, the electronic poster really isn't electronic so it just becomes another version of the traditional exhibit.

From a quality standpoint, the issues are more subtle. One must first realize that each author possess very different skill sets. This comes in to play when two authors present two equally educational scientific projects, but one of the authors is technologically savvy while the other just possess rudimentary skills. The differentiating factor becomes the glitz factor of the animations and 3-D modeling as opposed the actual quality of the content. The failing of this argument, is that this already holds true in the traditional setting with table top exhibits. In many cases the differentiating factor comes down to the creativity and craftsmanship of the author over the actual quality of the content.

So the question becomes, why should we even go digital for scientific exhibits? In reality there are several compelling reasons for doing this but before answering, one must understand what an "ePoster" is. An ePoster is electronic version of an educational poster or exhibit with some unique characteristics. Unlike a traditional poster (which often starts out by being produced electronically), an ePoster contains multimedia content that couldn't otherwise be displayed. This could be such things as 3-D models, animations, or other types of dynamic elements, and at their best, they are not just electronic versions of a static poster nor are they just automated slide shows on a loop. The advantages of these ePosters is that they give the author the ability to deliver a more powerful and compelling message.

Aside from enhancing information delivery, there are other compelling reasons for going digital. One of the most commonly noted is that going digital can be of a much lower cost to produce than the typical felt backed poster board exhibit. Even in the case when ePosters are printed out, the costs (hovering around \$20) are still considered to be relatively cheap in comparison to the traditional exhibit. When this is coupled with the fact that producing a digital version can be much easier and quicker than employing the crafting techniques necessary for quality, it's easy to understand why table top projects are dying out. Further, the freedom afforded by going digital means that authors can send their posters to multiple judges to allow for prejudging, in effect streamlining the whole evaluation process. Finally, the standardization that is required by having a digital platform facilitates objective judging based on content, as opposed to subjectively trying to compare two very disparate traditional exhibits, where both have quality content, but the delivery of that content is significantly different.

So how do we strike a balance between these two? That is the challenge that the MOSRT is faced with. To help answer this question, a short survey will be sent out to our membership to see what they want, followed by using this information to establish the new criteria for submission. Currently, the proposed approach includes an incremental transition to digital by first requiring electronic submissions of exhibits (whether it be a true ePoster or simply a digital photograph of the current table top exhibit) followed by bringing an additional hard copy (printed out posters or free standing displays) to the conference for display. One benefit of this approach is that these exhibits would be prejudged, which would allow for the winners to be showcased throughout the conference, and the traditional exhibit hall would still be open as normal without adding the expense of many multiple display stations. This process would also include having winning exhibits electronically displayed in lecture rooms in between speakers as well as having a limited number of display stations continuously cycle through the winning entries. The last advantage to this approach is that it would enable archival to the web of the authors work for later review by the MOSRT members.

Regardless of which approach is ultimately adopted, we are looking forward to the exciting opportunities that this will bring.

About the Author: Jeff Galen, MEd, CNMT is the Program Director of the University of Missouri's Nuclear Medicine Training Program as well as a co-chair of the MOSRT Exhibit Committee

## ePoster Survey

|  | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Strongly agree | Not applicable |
|--|-------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Overall I think switching to an ePoster is positive.                        |                   |          |                |                |
| 2. Overall I think the ePoster is comparable in price to a traditional poster. |                   |          |                |                |
| 3. The convenience of having the ePosters judged electronically is helpful.    |                   |          |                |                |
| 4. The ePoster is affordable.  |                   |          |                |                |
| 5. The ePoster is better than other similar products.                          |                   |          |                |                |

6. Have you ever entered an exhibit? Yes No

7. If you have never entered an exhibit would you have if ePoster was an option?

Yes No

8.Comments:

## Missouri Society of Radiologic Technologists 85th Annual Conference





"Treasured Past

## **Unlimited Future**"

-earn CEs

April 5th - April 7th, 2017

- -student activities
- -support your profession
- -let your voice be heard

For more info visit www.mosrt.org

**Holiday Inn Executive Center** 

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