

## Highlights of the 2010 AEIRS Annual Meeting



### 2010 Honors Lecture

The Association of Educators in Imaging and Radiologic Sciences has honored one of its own since the inception of the Honors Lecture in 1986. In 2010, Bruce Long, MS, RT(R) (CV), FASRT was invited to present this prestigious lecture. Bruce is a native of Illinois, receiving a certificate in radiography from St. Mary's Hospital, Centralia, IL and M.S. degree from Eastern Illinois University. Bruce moved to Indiana in 1985 to accept an assistant position in the Indiana University Radiologic Sciences program, Indianapolis, IN, where he currently serves as program director.

Bruce presented a lecture entitled *The Value of Writing in Radiologic and Imaging Sciences Education*. He has lectured and published extensively. Bruce is a strong advocate for research and writing in the radiologic sciences profession and served as a member and vice-chairman of the ASRT Editorial Review Board from 1991-2002. In addition to his service to AEIRS, he is also active in the Indiana Society of Radiologic Technologists and The American Society of Radiologic Technologists. Bruce most recently volunteered to serve as chairman of the newly established AEIRS mentoring committee.

### 2010 Life Member Inductee

Life membership in AEIRS is only granted to a few members who have demonstrated outstanding contribution to AEIRS and to the radiologic sciences profession. We are pleased to announce that Eugene Frank, MA, RT(R), FASRT, FAEIRS is the newest member to receive this honor. Supporting the profession has been a major part of Gene's career, as he has served AEIRS for twenty-five years. He has also been active in the ASRT and was a recipient of the Jean Widger Distinguished Author Award granted by the ASRT Editorial Review Board.

Gene was first employed by the Mayo Clinic Foundation in Rochester, MN where he remained for thirty-one years. Upon retirement from Mayo, Gene served as Program Director at Riverland Community College in Austin, MN.



*Eugene Frank, Life Member inductee, with sponsors (L to R) LaVerne Gurley, Jo Edwards, and Neta McKnight*

He has an extensive record of research and publications in the radiologic sciences and has presented lectures nationally and internationally. Please join us in congratulating Gene for his numerous accomplishments and this wonderful honor!



### 2010 AEIRS Fellow Elevation

The AEIRS Committee on Fellows is pleased to announce the elevation of Barbara Smith, MS, RT(R)(QM), FASRT. Barbara is an instructor in the Radiologic Technology Program at Portland Community College in Portland, OR. Barbara is active at the local, state, and national level and has lectured extensively for many years. Please join us in congratulating Barbara on this fantastic accomplishment!

## 2010 AEIRS Scholarships and Grants

The **2010 Elsevier Faculty Development Scholarship** was awarded to Cheryl O. DuBose, MSRS, RT(R) (MR) (CT) (QM). She is currently an education specialist student and she plans to begin the Educational Leadership doctoral program at Arkansas State University in August of 2010. Cheryl is a firm believer that higher education of radiologic technologists will promote the radiologic sciences profession. Cheryl currently serves as the Chairperson of the Magnetic Resonance Imaging Program at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, AR.



The **2010 AEIRS Research Grant** was awarded to Jennifer Yates, MS, RT(R)(M)(BD). Ms. Yates is the Director of the Radiologic Science Program at Merritt College in Oakland, CA. She is currently a doctoral candidate in adult education and organizational learning at the AEGIS Program: Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY.

Jennifer would like to express her sincere appreciation to AEIRS for awarding me a grant in support of my dissertation research study entitled *Complex Problem Solving in Radiologic Technology:*



*James Murrell congratulates Jennifer Yates, the 2010 Research Grant recipient*

*Understanding the Roles of Experience, Workplace Culture, and Reflective Judgment.* The study is meant to elucidate factors that support and challenge workplace learning through experience. Findings will be relevant to educators and curriculum designers who aim to launch radiography students on a trajectory of career-long learning, and for managers who hope to create workplace conditions that foster continuous skill improvement for the technologists in their employ. Her study is underway, with data collection near completion and Jennifer looks forward to sharing her findings with AEIRS members.

The **2010 AEIRS Invest in the Future Grant** recipient is Stacy Gregory. Stacey has been Clinical Instructor for the Radiologic Technology Program at the University of Arkansas since 2008. She is currently enrolled in a master degree program in workforce development in education at the University of Arkansas.



I would like to give everyone on the AEIRS board of directors a heartfelt thank you for awarding me with the AEIRS Invest in the Future scholarship.

Stacy greatly appreciates AEIRS generosity and will use the grant to help in the completion of her degree. She truly loves her job as a clinical instructor and working with students has become one of her passions. In the future Stacy hopes to teach radiography full time.

The **2010 AEIRS International Scholarship Travel Fund** was awarded to Nina Kowalczyk, PhD, RT(R) (CT) (QM), FASRT. Dr. Kowalczyk will be presenting her research on technology adoption in the radiologic sciences at the International Society of Radiographers and Radiologic Technologists (ISRRT), Gold Coast, Australia. This research focuses on testing the application of established theoretical models of technology adoption in the field of radiologic sciences. Nina very much appreciates being selected as the recipient for this scholarship. She looks forward to sharing her experiences and information gained from the 2010 ISRRT Conference with AEIRS members.



*James Murrell presents the International Scholarship Travel Fund award to Nina Kowalczyk*

## **2010 AEIRS Annual Conference**

Thanks to excellent organization, planning, and implementation by Carole South-Winter, Pete Barger, and the 2010 Annual Meeting volunteers, both events were a great success. The 2010 AEIRS Conference began with a preconference workshop conducted on July 6 & 7 by Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The pre-conference included with 45 individuals attending the accreditation workshop and 25 individuals participating in the site visitors' workshop.

The 2010 AEIRS Annual Meeting was held July 8 & 9 at the Venetian Hotel located in Las Vegas, Nevada with 194 attendees and conference partners participating in the event. Six great educational sessions and the Honors lecture were presented on Thursday, followed by a Board of Directors' reception for new members. The annual "Pass the Hat" was initiated by Carole South-Winter during the AEIRS business session on Thursday raising \$1,982, thank in part to a generous donation of \$1000 presented by Supertech.



*Carole South-Winter accepts a \$1,000 donation from Judy McNitt-Mell of Supertech*

On Friday, July 9 the meeting continued with 5 great sessions and an "Educators' Hot Topic Roundtable Discussion". As in previous years, Elsevier graciously sponsored a "Lunch and Learn" on Friday. Elsevier, also, made a contribution of \$360 to the research and scholarship fund based on the Lunch and Learn participants. The silent auction was held during both days of the conference and funds totaling \$1,310 were raised for the AEIRS Research, Education, and Advancement Fund. Thanks to all who contribute to our profession through the support of these activities!

A big thank-you is also extending to those exhibitors and sponsors participating in the 2010 AEIRS conference, including Advanced Health Education Center, Elsevier, The American Society of Radiologic Technologists, The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, Kettering National Seminars, Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions, REMS Software, Supertech®, iRadTech, and Wolter Kluwer Health/ Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins.

AEIRS is committed to present educational information pertinent to all imaging and radiation science educators throughout the United States. It is essential for all radiologic science educators to keep pace

with changing technologies in medical imaging and the radiation sciences. The AEIRS meetings are an excellent opportunity to network with other educators and to explore new ideas in education of radiologic sciences. Please be sure to join us for the 2011 Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida to be held June 8 & 9!

### Active Learning

Developing critical thinking and reflective judgment skills is important to all radiologic science educators. Therefore, it was no surprise that one common theme throughout the 2010 AEIRS Annual Meeting related to the importance of engaging students in active learning in the classroom, laboratory and clinical educational environments. Jennifer Yates, MS, RT(R) (M)(BD) energized the audience with interactive games for teaching radiographic physics. Course attendees played Bingo, participated in Immediate Feedback Assessment activities, and even had a chance to dance to the X-Ray Emission Spectrum Revolution. This session was followed by a discussion of learning activities to develop critical thinking, presented by Ann Verschuuren, M.Ed., RT(R) (M). In a presentation entitled *Making Educators Out of Radiographers*, Kellie Hart, MSRS, RT(R)(BD) emphasized the importance of active learning in the retention of new knowledge in both the classroom and clinical environment. Ms. Hart also stressed that all radiographers working with students have the opportunity to educate! The following day, Maryann Blaine, MAT, BSRT (R)(MR) and Lori Nugent, BS, RT(R)(MR) continued this theme by sharing a wealth of knowledge regarding the use of showcase, descriptive, and/or evaluative portfolios in radiologic science education. Portions of the portfolios discussed include a clinical competency component, a life-long learning plan, an assessment component including both performance evaluations and student self-assessment, and a philosophy component. Many portions of the portfolio require reflective writing which helps to enhance student critical thinking skills.

### Admissions Criteria

Although not all radiologic science programs practice selective admissions, those programs that do continue to struggle with the best criteria for student selection. Gloria Strickland, Ed.D. RT(R) (QM) (M) and Elwin Tilson, Ed.D. RT(R)(M)(QM)(CT) presented recent research on the role of cognitive factors such as grades and academic ability and student retention rates. The study analyzed data from ten year period; however the results of the study demonstrated no significant variables that could be used to predict graduation. These results support previous studies in which a statistically significant relationship could be identified between admissions criteria and attrition rates. Perhaps more attention should be focused on non-cognitive skills such as social skills, attitude toward success, and demographics. More information on this topic is available in this issue of *Spectrum*. If you are interested in sharing your admissions criteria with other educators through *Spectrum*, please submit your information and experiences to Nina Kowalczyk at [kowalczyk.1@osu.edu](mailto:kowalczyk.1@osu.edu).

Nina Kowalczyk, PhD, RT(R) (CT) (QM), FASRT  
Spectrum Executive Editor