

## AEIRS 48th Annual Meeting

The 48<sup>th</sup> AEIRS Annual Meeting was held at the St. Anthony Hotel in beautiful downtown San Antonio, TX July 15-17, 2015 with 196 educators in attendance. The JRCERT hosted pre-conference Accreditation and Site Visitors Workshops on July 14 and 15 at no additional cost to AEIRS attendees. MIC sponsored our annual “Welcome Reception” the evening of July 15. This social event included light hor d’oeuvres and drinks, providing a fun atmosphere for all attendees to browse the conference partners’ displays/booths, visit with old friends and to make some new acquaintances.

Kelli Haynes, M.S.R.S., R.T. (R), 2015 AEIRS Annual Meeting Chair, opened the conference on July 16<sup>th</sup> by welcoming all attendees to San Antonio. Paula Pate-Schloder, M.S., R.T.(R)(CT)(CV)(VI) received the honor of presenting the 2015 Honors Lecture entitled *Building Tomorrow’s Leaders*, on Thursday morning. As always, Paula presented this topic with heartfelt passion and humor! She reviewed the basic types of leadership and emphasized that leadership style may vary depending upon the context. Sometimes leaders must change their style due to the specific circumstances. Paula discussed the characteristics of great leaders including confidence, purpose, courage, ethical fitness, and the ability to prioritize. She then turned the discussion toward the role



of educators in identifying and mentoring future leaders, both in the clinical setting and in preparing graduates to assume leadership roles. In summary, here is her advice to educators: Do what you know; do what you don’t know; take a risk; make connections; get out of the classroom; apply if you want to be recognized; join and participate in professional organizations; ask; and help others become



leaders! Congratulations Paula for being awarded this esteemed honor!

The Annual Meeting Business Session Luncheon was held on Thursday, July 16 to conduct the business of AEIRS, install new Officers, update members of the Board activities over the past year, to recognize AEIRS Fellows, Life Members, Honorary Members, Past Presidents, associated Organization Representatives, and to award AEIRS scholarships and grants. The luncheon also included the annual “Pass the Hat” activity to raise money to support AEIRS Research and Education Advancement Funds. Thanks to a very generous matching contribution from Supertech, this activity raised \$3786.00.



Kenya Haugen, D.M., M.S., R.T.(R), AEIRS Chair of the Board, welcomed attendees to the educational sessions the Friday morning, July 17<sup>th</sup>. A Silent Auction was also held on Friday afternoon, raising an additional \$2048 to support AEIRS

Research and Education Advancement Funds. Thanks to all who participated in supporting our research and educational grant/scholarship missions!

Please join us in congratulating Carole South-Winter, Kelli Haynes, Valerie Christensen, and the many volunteers who devoted time, gifts, and energy to make the 2015 Annual Meeting such a success! Thanks also to our great sponsors and conference partners: Elsevier Publishers, JCERT, Pima Medical Institute, Simtics, MIC, Kettering National Seminars, Voxel MR Resources, BodyViz, Trajecsys Report Systems, E\*Value, ASRT, and Supertech. We greatly appreciate your support!

## Education Overview

The two day conference included presentations on a wide range of educational topics crossing all radiologic and medical imaging disciplines.

**One theme of the conference focused on strategies to help educators develop our graduates to grow as well-rounded professionals.**

Jamie Baker, M.Ed., CDM and Mahsa Dehghanpour, Ed.D, CMD presented their approach to incorporate peer review into the professional curriculum. Their presentation, entitled *It's Not Personal: Instructing Students to Give/Receive Constructive Criticism*, demonstrated a variety of educational methods used with their junior level dosimetry students. These methods include the use of Wikis for student peer review, as well as mini-lectures from faculty in real-time which allow the facilitator to bring immediate attention to issue that need more attention. On-line polling is also incorporated in the course to increase student participation in the peer review process and the use of HTML allows the creation of virtual, fictional patient case studies to use within an inter-disciplinary team case conference activity.



Susan Gregorie, M.M., C.I.I.P., R.T.(R)(M)(MR)(CT)(QM) introduced the audience to the role of the Certified Imaging Informatics Professional (CIIP), a credential available to imaging informatics personnel through the Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine (SIIM), the leading healthcare association supporting imaging informatics through research, education, and discovery of innovative solutions to advance imaging informatics,



and the American Board of Imaging Informatics (ABII). Through her presentation entitled *RT to CIIP: How to Prepare Students for the Journey*, Susan shared a wealth of information available through SIIM and the ABII to help educators introduce this career path to students, as well as to provide guidance to our graduates interested in a career in informatics.

The concept of formal service learning was also addressed in Lori Nugent's presentation, *Care-Provider Skills through Service Learning*. Lori Nugent, M.Ed., R.T.(R)(MR) is the MR Program Director in the School of Medical Imaging and Therapeutics at MCPHS University in Boston, MA. She presented an overview of the hands-on, directed volunteer work she has incorporated as a formal class into the MR program. These service learning experiences allow students to observe and practice communications skills, emotional intelligence, and professional responsibility in a service oriented setting outside of the classroom and MR environment. The skills mastered in the formal service learning course are then transferred to the clinical setting, helping students feel more confident in the MR clinical areas.

The importance of radiation safety and responsible patient safety practices was addressed in Terri Fauber's presentation, *Pelvic Shielding and Gonadal Dose*. Dr. Fauber presented original research regarding the effects of proper collimation and gonadal shielding in minimizing patient exposure during routine imaging. As educators, we have the responsibility of educating our students on best practices in terms of radiation safety; however, there is a real disparity between what is taught in the educational program and what is practiced by our graduates in professional practice. A lively discussion ensued and additional information will be forthcoming in the form of a guest editorial in the next edition of AEIRS journal, *Radiologic Science and Education*.

**A second theme of the conference related to the integration of new educational approaches and technologies into the curriculum.**

Shirley Ann Johnston, M.S., R.T.(R)(T), DMD and Mathew Marquess, M.B.A., R.T.(R) shared an interesting approach to orienting and preparing students for clinical rotations through their presentation, *Innovative Instruction: Using Boot Camp for Accelerated Clinical Programs*. The boot camp is 6-9 days in length and focused on inter-professional education of radiation therapy and medical dosimetry students. This experience helps students learn the vocabulary associated with radiation oncology, as well as the basic concepts of radiation oncology, in a safe setting. The interdisciplinary setting also demonstrates and supports the coordinated roles of both professions within radiation oncology practice. The boot camp incorporates a variety of educational methods, including laboratory sessions, role playing, use of standardized patients, and virtual simulation.



Carmen George, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R) led a lively discussion of how technology can be incorporated into the classroom to energize and engage students in the learning process. Carmen's presentation entitled *Don't Kick Technology Out of the Classroom* challenged educators to embrace technology to help maintain order in the classroom. She presented Web 2.0 methods such as blogs, online discussion boards, multimedia, and virtual environments which can easily be implemented into the curriculum. These technologies require students to interact and participate on a computer or hand-held, mobile device. Helping students master this technology allows them to access information anytime and creates an environment where students can share information and learn from one another.

The concept of the flipped classroom was discussed in a presentation by Tanya Custer, M.S., R.T.(R)(T) and Tammy Jones, M.P.A., R.T.(R)(M). Flipping the classroom is one method of moving toward a more learner-



centered educational environment. A flipped classroom format requires self-directed learning to occur through various methods prior to meeting face-to-face in the classroom. The role of the faculty members shifts from lecturer to serving as an active learning facilitator. Through their presentation, *Using the Flipped Classroom in the Education of Radiation Science Students*, Tanya and Tammy reinforced the concept of cognitive load theory emphasizing the importance of "chunking" data into 7 bits of information. They also suggested the use of short videos and interactive on-line

activities in addition to readings to help students master the concepts and theories presented in the self-learning component of the course prior to coming to the classroom.

## The final theme emerging related to educator professional development and care of self:

Jaclyn Verret Peters, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R) opened Friday's sessions with a discussion of Situational or Contingency Leadership Models to help the attendees discover leadership methods which would positively impact on student performance. In her presentation, *Does Your Leadership Style Influence Your Students' Motivation and Performance*, Jaclyn used the Fielder's Contingency Model and Hersey and Balchard's Situational Leadership Theory to demonstrate the influence points necessary to create appropriate situational dynamics and factors that directly relate to student competence, commitment, and maturity.

Jeannean Rollins, M.R.C., R.T.(R)(CV) provided a literature review of workplace burn out. In her presentation entitled *Is this Normal? A Look at Burnout Syndrome*, Jeannean described her quest in conducting an extensive review of literature to better understand the warning signs and symptoms of burnout syndrome. She presented a comprehensive definition of burnout relative to a variety of careers on a global scale, emphasizing that compassion fatigue and burnout are different conditions. She also shared some great resources for measuring and combatting burnout.

*Clinical Instructor Relationships: Why am I always in the middle?* presented by Debra Poelhuis, M.S., R.T.(R)(M) was designed to help novice clinical instructors prepare for experiences they may often encounter in this new role. Through active discussion, she explored how clinical instructors are identified, recruited, and prepared for this new role and asked attendees to describe the characteristics of a good clinical instructor. Most clinical instructors are excellent clinicians, but very few have actual teaching skills. Debbie emphasized the importance of good communication skills and presented a variety of methods to help new faculty members assess their skills and experiences in clinical supervision and assessment.



The conference ended with a JRCERT presentation on assessment of student learning. Leslie Winter, M.S., R.T.(R) and Jay Hicks, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R) provided a historical perspective on current day assessment processes. They shared that multiple external pressures have led us to be more accountable and transparent in our assessment practices over the past 25 years. Discussion was also held regarding the principles found in the New Leadership Alliance for Student Learning and Accountability's Committing to Quality and Assuring Quality publications.

## 2015 AEIRS Honors and Awards

We were proud to once again acknowledge and honor those members of AEIRS who embody the pursuit of excellence through education, service to the professions and sharing of ideas. At the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual AEIRS Meeting, the Board of Directors was pleased to elevate two members to the status of Fellow, induct one new Life member and one new Honorary member.

**Paula Pate-Schloder, MS, RT(R)(CV)(CT)(VI) - Fellow**

Paula Pate-Schloder, MS, RT(R)(CV)(CT)(VI) served as the 2015 Honors Lecturer and was also elevated to the status of AEIRS Fellow at the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual AEIRS Meeting. Paula is an associate professor in the Medical Imaging Department, Misericordia University in Dallas, PA; having served as a faculty member for over 23 years. Paula also has extensive clinical and administrative experience in the radiologic and imaging profession, as well as risk management. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Radiography from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ and a Master of Science degree in Education from Misericordia University. Paula is an experienced lecturer and author. She has presented at the local, state, and national level. Paula is past president and chair of the Board of AEIRS and she has directed two strategic planning processes for our organization. Please join us in congratulating Paula for these prestigious honors!



**Mari P. King, Ed.D., R.T.(R) – Fellow**



Mari P. King, Ed.D., R.T.(R) was elevated to Fellow status at the 2015 Annual AEIRS Meeting. She has worked in academia for 38 years at Misericordia University including serving three years as Health Sciences Division Chair, two years as Faculty Senate Chair, and three semesters as acting Chair of the Medical Imaging Department. In 2006, Dr. King was selected to assume the position of Vice President of Academic Affairs at Misericordia University and served in this capacity through 2014. In 2015, Mari returned to the Department of Medical Imaging as a full time faculty member. Dr. King is an experienced consultant and lecturer, as she has presented at the local, state, national, and international levels. During her prestigious career, Mari has been an active member of AEIRS for 24 years providing all levels of AEIRS leadership, serving as the AEIRS liaison to ASRT and representing AEIRS at the ASRT Leadership Academy for Educators. Please join us in congratulating Mari for this respected award!

**Donna Lee Wright, Ed.D, R.T.(R) - Life Member**

One of the highest honors the AEIRS can bestow upon a member is the gift of Life membership. This honor was bestowed upon Donna Lee Wright, Ed.D, R.T.(R). Dr. Wright currently serves as a Professor and Department Chair of Imaging Sciences at Morehead State University in Morehead, KY. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC; a Master of Science degree in Health Occupations Education from North Carolina State University; and a Doctorate in Adult Education from North Carolina State University. Donna is a true scholar having published 23 peer-reviewed manuscripts and 13 scholarly publications, as well as presenting many times at the local, state, national, and international levels. Dr. Wright holds Life membership in the North Carolina Society of Radiologic Technologists and the North Carolina Health Occupations Students of America. She has been active in AEIRS for many years and was recognized as a past Honors Lecturer and was elevated to Fellow in 2003. Please join us in congratulating Donna for this esteemed honor!



**Valerie Christensen, R.T. (R)(M) - Honorary Member**



Valerie Christensen has served as AEIRS Executive Secretary since 2001 helping to manage the organization, our AEIRS Board of Directors, and our AEIRS members' needs with exceptional service. Val's dedication to the Board, our members and the profession was recently honored by bestowing an Honorary Membership to her at the 2015 Annual AEIRS Meeting. Valerie is a Fellow in the Wisconsin Society of Radiologic Technologists and still practices part time as a mammographer. She has been an ASRT member for 39 years, a Wisconsin Society of Radiologic Technologists member for 37 years and a member of the New Mexico Society of Radiologic Technologists for 15 years. Valerie has enjoyed working with many AEIRS Boards over the years and we are thrilled to congratulate her for this honor.

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**A great time was had by all and we look forward to seeing you July 14-15, 2016 at**

**The Benson Hotel in Portland, OR for the 49<sup>th</sup> AEIRS Annual Meeting!**