



**ILLINOIS RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**STATE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY**  
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July 12, 2002

To: IRS Members

From: Raymond E. Bertino, MD, President  
Email: [rebertino@illradsoc.org](mailto:rebertino@illradsoc.org)

Re: Member Update

We are pleased to provide you with this update of Illinois Radiological Society activities. Many of the issues are based on discussion and actions of the IRS Executive Committee that met in May in conjunction with the IRS Annual Meeting. To review the minutes from that meeting, please see the members-only section of the IRS web site at [www.illradsoc.org](http://www.illradsoc.org).

**We have enclosed again an address verification form for your review.** Please review the information that the ACR and IRS have on file for you, make any additions or corrections and fax (630-323-6989) or email ([info@illradsoc.org](mailto:info@illradsoc.org)) any corrected information to the IRS office. We are particularly interested in collecting email addresses to facilitate communications with members. Recent communications have indicated a great many email addresses are incorrect. Please return this information by July 26, 2002.

**The First Annual IRS Annual Meeting and Education Program** was a success with 68 radiologists registered for the event, which was held May 18-19, 2002 at the Westin River North Hotel in Chicago. There were a total of 23 faculty for the event. Industry support was obtained from 17 different companies and approximately 10 vendors were at the meeting. The program included sections for radiologists and radiation oncologists with programs on policy and clinical issues that affect the profession and had up to 10 hours of CME. Based on the success of the 2002 program, the Executive Committee approved a second program to be scheduled in the Fall of 2003.

**Three residents from Illinois have been selected to attend the ACR meeting**, to be held September 28-October 2, at the Loews Miami Beach Hotel in Miami. These residents will be sponsored by the IRS and the ACR. One radiology resident is selected from the Central Illinois Division with the selection rotated between Springfield and Peoria. Tom Vlahos, MD, from the University of Illinois program in Peoria will attend from the Central Division. Two residents are selected from the Chicago Division, one in radiology, who is always the Program Director of the IRS Residents Section, and one in radiation oncology that rotates among the three program institutions, Loyola, Rush and Northwestern. Taylor Stroud, MD, from the University of Chicago, will be the radiology resident and Mark Engleman, MD, from Northwestern, will be the resident in radiation oncology. The IRS was the first chapter to send a resident to the ACR Meeting and the ACR ultimately adopted the practice across all state chapters.

**Current membership in the IRS totals 1016 physicians and medical physicists.** This includes 579 members from the Chicago Division and 239 from the Central Illinois Division. 70 members have been awarded the Fellows designation and currently there are 198 residents. Some states include the residents as active members, while other states, including Illinois, did not. Including residents as active members would increase the number of councilors representing Illinois from 9 to 11. To achieve this added representation, beginning this year, residents will be counted as active members of the IRS. To see the Councilor and Alternate Council List, please refer to the IRS web site at [www.illradsoc.org](http://www.illradsoc.org).

**The IRS Executive Committee believes additional coordination between the IRS and its two divisions, the Chicago Radiological Society and the Central Illinois Radiological Society, would benefit all three groups.** Therefore, the IRS will be co-sponsoring three meetings a year with the CRS. Coordination of meetings with the CIRS is being considered. Possible CIRS activities will be discussed with the CIRS President, Ross Stevens, MD.

**The nominating committee submitted their nominations for officers, councilors and alternate councilors to IRS members on April 17 and the slate was approved by the IRS membership during the Annual Business Meeting on May 18. With the ACR shifting its Annual Meeting from Fall to Spring in 2003, resulting in a relatively short term, the Nominating Committee recommended the current officers remain in office for the 2002/2003 year which begins October 1, 2002. The slate of officers, councilors and alternate councilors for 2002/2003 are as follows:**

- |                               |   |                              |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Immediate Past President      | - | Gregory D. Moss, MD, FACR    |
| President                     | - | Raymond E. Bertino, MD       |
| President-Elect/Treasurer     | - | Ruth G. Ramsey, MD, FACR     |
| Secretary/Assistant Treasurer | - | Richard A. Mintzer, MD, FACR |
| <br>                          |   |                              |
| Councilor (3 Year Term)       | - | Raymond E. Bertino, MD       |
| Councilor (3 Year Term)       | - | Kate A. Feinstein, MD        |
| Councilor (3 Year Term)       | - | Ruth G. Ramsey, MD, FACR     |
| Councilor (3 Year Term)       | - | Kathleen A. Ward, MD, FACR   |
| <br>                          |   |                              |
| Alternate Councilor           | - | Michael Racenstein, MD       |
| Alternate Councilor           | - | Geoffrey L. Smoron, MD, FACR |
| Alternate Councilor           | - | Aruna Vade, MD, FACR         |
| Alternate Councilor           | - | Gary S. Zwicky, MD           |

**The IRS Executive Committee has asked the Socio-Economics for Residents Committee to review and recommend educational programs that can be offered to residents in the various residency programs in Illinois.** There are a number of programs prepared by the ACR on various socio-economic and non-interpretive issues. It was suggested that the IRS may wish to consider offering residents a one-day session as part of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) core competencies program, an outgrowth of the ACGME Outcomes project. Another possibility would be for the IRS to supply speakers on these issues to each of the residency programs in the state. These speakers would be chosen from members of the IRS who are at each of the programs. The Socio-Economics for Residents Committee was requested to review this issue and provide recommendations at the September meeting.

**The IRS Executive Committee also agreed to support the American Cancer Society's effort for the passage of Illinois House Bill #2112,** which would require insurers to provide coverage in Illinois for colorectal cancer screening examinations according to the most recent guidelines of the American Cancer Society. The current ACS guidelines call for men and women over age 50, and less than 50 if in a high risk category, to follow one the following five testing schedules: yearly fecal occult blood test; flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years; yearly fecal occult blood test plus flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years; double-contrast barium enema every five years; or colonoscopy every ten years.

**The IRS Executive Committee also passed a resolution on the benefits and limitations of mammography screening** for submission to the ACR for consideration at the 2002 ACR Annual Meeting. The resolution asked that the ACR reaffirm its position, consistent with such other organizations as the American Cancer Society and the National Cancer Institute, that all women over 40 undergo annual screening mammography. It also asked that the ACR undertake an educational program that discusses honestly and intelligently with ACR membership and the American public the efficacy of mammography and the realistic likelihood that a breast cancer may not be diagnosed on mammography. A copy of the full resolution can be found on the IRS web site at [www.illradsoc.org](http://www.illradsoc.org).

**The ACR is calling on radiologists for additional support for its legislative advocacy programs.** Currently only 20% of IRS members are members of the Radiology Advocacy Alliance (RAA) and only 12% of those individuals have contributed funds to RADPAC, the radiology political action committee. RADPAC enables radiology to support financially federal candidates who understand our issues. Once elected, these legislators can protect and advance our profession on Capitol Hill. RAA dues, however, while supporting the overall legislative effort, cannot be used to support candidates. Therefore, it is important for radiologists to become RAA members, and to contribute to RADPAC. These activities are particularly important in this election year. Two forms are included with this update, a Radiology Advocacy Alliance membership form for those who are currently not members, and a form for RAA members to provide contributions to RADPAC. Your support is much appreciated.