



# Membership Update

## December 2002

**Mark your calendar!** The 2003 Annual Meeting and Education Conference of the Illinois Radiological Society is set for September 13-14, 2003. The event will be held at the Feinberg Pavilion Conference Center at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago. Building on the successful Annual Meeting and Education Conference held in May, 2002, the 2003 program will again combine important clinical topics in diagnostic radiology and radiation oncology with socio-economic issues that impact all radiologists. The Program Committee is chaired by Raymond E. Bertino, MD and includes Leonard Berlin, MD, FACR, Ruth G. Ramsey, MD, FACR, Kate A. Feinstein, MD, FACR, Richard A. Mintzer, MD, FACR, Edward Elliott, MD, Mathew Kuhn, MD and Gary Dillehay, MD, FACR. For up-to-date information on the IRS Annual meeting, go to the IRS web site at [www.ilradsoc.org](http://www.ilradsoc.org).

**IRS opposes creation of self-referral facility...** The IRS Executive Committee has re-affirmed its opposition to medical personnel investing in diagnostic or treatment facilities for the purpose of referring patients to the facility. In a letter to the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board, the IRS drew attention to an effort underway to attract health care workers as investors in a PET scanning facility in the Chicago area. While federal law exempts nuclear facilities from the self-referral provisions, Illinois law is more stringent and provides no such exemption. In response to IRS's intervention, the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board notified the facility developers that health care worker investment in facilities to which they refer their patients could be a direct violation of the Illinois Health Care Workers Self-Referral Act, the enforcement of which falls under the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board. Any IRS member who is made aware of an infringement of the Illinois Health Care Worker Self-Referral Act should contact the Health Facilities Planning Board.

**ACR supports IRS mammography resolutions...** The ACR Councilors approved the mammography resolution that was submitted to ACR by the IRS and co-sponsored by Georgia. The resolution asked the American College of Radiology to 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, and that the ACR undertake an educational program that discusses with ACR membership and the American public the efficacy of mammography and the likelihood that a breast cancer may not always be diagnosed on mammography. Radiologists face high risks for malpractice suits because the promotion of annual mammograms has led to high patient expectations for the success.

**IRS supports tort reform...** The IRS Legislative Affairs Committee, chaired by W. Ross Stevens, M.D., has been directed to pursue and support tort reform at the state and national level. Tort reform is becoming an increasingly important issue as malpractice awards increase and insurance carriers discontinue coverage. Jay Korach, M.D. who is a member of the Legislative Affairs Committee will be helping to liaison with the Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS) in their efforts to pass tort reform in Illinois.

**Positive response for higher ACR dues...** The IRS and ACR are pleased with the positive response from members to the higher membership dues to support the important work of the ACR. Only a small percentage of members did not renew. As of September, the IRS membership totaled 982 individuals, including 528 from the Chicago Radiological Society, 238 from the Central Illinois Radiological Society and 216 residents.

**Call for volunteers...** The Illinois Radiological Society continues to look for good volunteers to serve on the various standing committees of the IRS. A Committee Volunteer Application is included with this Update. The level of activity with each committee varies as different issues rise in importance. Serving on a committee helps the IRS/ACR and the radiology community and can also help you. Fellowship in the ACR is contingent on active participation for the specialty and serving on committees helps demonstrate this participation. For a current listing of committees and committee assignments, please refer to the IRS web site at [www.ilradsoc.org](http://www.ilradsoc.org).

**Three new Fellowships approved for IRS members...** The ACR Fellowship nominations for **Glenn P. Glasgow, PhD, Kuhk Hong, MD, and Richard N. Messersmith, MD** have been approved by the ACR. Fellowship diplomas will be presented at the ACR Annual Meeting, scheduled for May 10-15, 2003 at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, DC. Candidates for Fellowship for 2004 should be identified and nominated by the IRS Executive Committee by May 1, 2003. IRS members who are interested in applying for Fellowship should contact Fellowship Committee Chairman Gary L. Dillehay, MD, FACR at Loyola University Medical Center's Department of Nuclear Medicine. His email address is [gdilleha@lumis.lumc.edu](mailto:gdilleha@lumis.lumc.edu). His telephone number is 708-216-3559.

**IRS approves 2003-2004 Officers and Councilors...** The Nominating Committee's slate of candidates for officers, ACR Councilors and Alternate Councilors for 2003-2004 were approved at the IRS business meeting held November 14 in conjunction with the monthly meeting of the Chicago Radiological Society. The terms for the new officers, Councilors and Alternate Councilors will begin in May 2003, following the Annual Meeting of the ACR. ACR councilors and alternates also serve on the IRS Executive Committee. The slate as approved is listed below. For a full list of officers and Executive Committee members check out the IRS web site at [www.illradsoc.org](http://www.illradsoc.org).

Immediate Past President	-	Raymond E. Bertino, MD
President	-	Ruth G. Ramsey, MD, FACR
President-elect/Treasurer	-	Richard A. Mintzer, MD, FACR
Secretary/Asst Treasurer	-	W. Ross Stevens, MD
Councilor (3 year term)	-	Mathew J. Kuhn, MD
Alternate Councilor	-	Edward Melian, MD
Alternate Councilor	-	W. Ross Stevens, MD

**IRS approves Bylaw amendments...** A series of bylaws amendments submitted to the IRS membership in October were approved at the IRS business meeting on November 14. In addition to some minor housekeeping issues, the amendments added a Finance Committee to the list of standing committees, added language officially recognizing the Resident Physician Section as a component of the IRS, added the chairs of key committees to the IRS executive committee and provided the opportunity for other leaders to serve on the IRS executive committee. Language was added to the effect that IRS members who serve as officers or on the board of directors of the Illinois Medical Society, or as ACR councilors or alternate councilors from other organizations also be included on the IRS Executive Committee without vote. To review the entire bylaws, please visit the IRS web site at [www.illradsoc.org](http://www.illradsoc.org).

**IRS continues support for resident education...** The IRS Executive Committee has approved the Socio-economics for Residents Committee recommendation that IRS conduct educational programs for residents to include non-clinical skills. The ACR's non-medical skills initiative included tapes and presentations on nine different programs. The IRS Executive Committee members will serve as instructors in their facilities as they were the best able to discuss the current issues.

As part of the Resident Physician program, IRS and ACR provide scholarships for three residents from Illinois to be resident delegates to ACR Annual Meeting. The delegates include one resident from CIRS that is rotated between Springfield and Peoria, and two residents from the CRS. One CRS recipient is the Program Chair of the Resident Physician Section and one resident is selected from the radiation oncology programs. The 2002 IRS Resident Delegates to ACR were:

CRS – Program Chair, Residents Section  
Taylor Stroud, MD, University of Chicago Hospitals

CRS – Radiation Oncology  
James Petrikas, MD, Northwestern Memorial Hospital

CIRS Resident – Peoria  
Athanasios (Tom) Vlahos, MD, OSF Saint Francis Medical Center

**The Illinois Radiological Society is your organization.** Please continue your membership. Help the IRS to gain new members. Keep your leadership informed so that we can best serve your needs and the needs of Radiology in Illinois.

Sincerely,

Raymond E. Bertino, M.D.  
President, Illinois Radiological Society