



ILLINOIS RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY
STATE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY
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Membership Update May, 2005

New Leaders for Illinois Radiological Societies

The Illinois Radiological Society as well as the Chicago Radiological Society and the Central Illinois Radiological Society have changed leadership through recent elections and appointments. The officers of the three organizations are as follows:

Illinois Radiological Society

President: W. Ross Stevens, MD, Springfield; **President-Elect/Treasurer:** Leonard Berlin, MD, FACR, Skokie; **Secretary/Assistant Treasurer:** Kate A. Feinstein, MD, FACR, Chicago; **Past President:** Richard A. Mintzer, MD, FACR, Northbrook

Chicago Radiological Society

President: Abraham H. Dachman, MD, FACR, Chicago; **President-Elect/Secretary-Treasurer:** Carl L. Kalbhen, MD, Arlington Heights; **Vice President/Program Director:** Jay L. Korach, MD, Chicago; **Past President:** Edward Melian, MD, Maywood

Central Illinois Radiological Society

President: Denise S. Hooper, MD, Springfield; **Vice President:** Eric P. Justin, MD, Springfield; **Secretary/Treasurer:** Mandar A. Pattekar, MD, Peoria; **Past President:** W. Ross Stevens, MD

Resident Physician Section

President: Steven M. Zangan, MD, University of Chicago; **Vice President/President-Elect:** Gretchen L. Conroy, MD, Rush University Medical Center; **Secretary/Treasurer:** Joe Carabetta, MD, University of Chicago; **Program Director:** Rodney Corby, MD, University of Chicago; **Past President:** Nandita Guha-Thakurta, MD, Cook County Hospital

Councilors and Alternate Councilors to ACR

Illinois is represented in the ACR's governance structure through Councilors and Alternate Councilors prorated by the membership. The formula is reviewed every three years and the number of Councilors is determined. Based on the IRS membership, IRS representation has been increased from 11 Councilors to 12. Councilors and Alternates also serve as members of the IRS Executive Committee. The **Councilors** include: Raymond E. Bertino, MD, FACR, Peoria; Kate A. Feinstein, MD, FACR, Chicago; Thomas H. Grant, DO, FACR, Chicago; Mathew J. Kuhn, MD, Springfield; Edward Melian, MD, Maywood; Richard A. Mintzer, MD, FACR, Northbrook; Michael J. Racenstein, MD, Skokie; Ruth G. Ramsey, MD, FACR, Chicago; Eric J. Russell, MD, FACR, Chicago; W. Ross Stevens, MD, Springfield; Aruna Vade, MD, FACR, Maywood; and Kathleen A. Ward, MD, FACR, Maywood. Current **Alternate Councilors** include: Leonard Berlin, MD, FACR, Skokie; Abraham H. Dachman, MD, FACR, Chicago; Gary L. Dillehay, MD, FACR, Maywood; Edward C. Elliott, MD, Decatur; R. Edward Hendrick, PhD, FACR, Chicago; Carl L. Kalbhen, MD, Arlington Heights; Jay Korach, MD, Chicago; Ellen B. Mendelson, MD, FACR, Chicago; William Small, Jr. MD, Chicago; and Gary S. Zwicky, MD, FACR, Peoria.

Leonard Berlin, MD, FACR Appointed to ACR Council Steering Committee

IRS President-Elect Leonard Berlin, MD, FACR has been appointed to the ACR's Council Steering Committee (CSC). The CSC represents the Council between meetings, providing communications pathways between the State Chapters, the Council and Board of Chancellors. The CSC also provides the Board of Chancellors with a sounding board for the Council reaction to issues not covered by current Council policies.

IRS Members Part of Capitol Hill Blitz

On Tuesday, April 12th, members of the Illinois Radiological Society attending this year's American College of Radiology Annual Meeting and Chapter Leadership Conference met with members of Congress and key staff members on Capitol Hill to discuss the pressing issues of over-utilization of medical imaging, self-referral, medical liability reform and physician reimbursement. Among more than 400 ACR members visiting more than 290 congressional offices, the Illinois delegation met and discussed these issues with legislative aides and chiefs of staffs of both United States senators and several key congressmen representing the State of Illinois. The highlight of the day for the Illinois ACR members visiting Capitol Hill was meeting Illinois freshman Senator Barack Obama. In addition to the ACR councilors and alternate councilors who represent Illinois Radiological Society, the Illinois delegation included several members-in-training from both the Chicago Radiological Society and Central Illinois Radiological Society.

IRS Retains Legislative Consultant

The Illinois Radiological Society has retained Michelle Gentry-Wiseman of Springfield, an experienced government relations specialist, to monitor legislation in Illinois as it impacts radiologists and radiation oncologists and to guide the Legislative Affairs Committee as it moves forward on legislative issues in the future. Ms. Gentry-Wiseman started her lobbying career more than 15 years ago as a legislative liaison with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). She stayed with IDPH from 1990 and 2003 in a variety of positions including Chief of the Division of Governmental Affairs, Chief of the Division of Health Care Facilities and Programs, Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Medical Services, agency Chief of Staff, and eventually, Assistant Director. Prior to joining IDPH she interned on the Illinois House of Representatives staff. While on legislative staff, her focus was health care, aging, women's issues, alcohol and substance abuse and other non-Medicaid related human service programs. As an analyst for the Appropriations Committee, she reviewed and made recommendations for funding on the budgets for the Department on Aging, Department of Public Health, the Medical Center Commission, Health Care Cost Containment Council and Illinois Department of Alcohol and Substance Abuse.

IRS Members Awarded Fellowship in ACR

Six members of the IRS were awarded Fellowship in the American College of Radiology during the Convocation at the ACR meeting in early April. Those receiving their Fellowship designation (FACR) were: **Jagan M. Ailinani, MD, FACR**, Carbondale; **Joseph P. Alenghat, MD, FACR**, Peoria; **Terry M. Brady, MD, FACR**, Peoria; **William F. Hartsell, MD, FACR**, Downers Grove; **William G. Spies, MD, FACR**, Chicago and **Carter S. Young, MD, FACR**, Peoria. IRS members who are interested in applying for Fellowship should download an application from the ACR web site (www.acr.org) and submit it to Fellowship Committee Chair, Gary L. Dillehay, MD, FACR. The candidates most successful in being awarded Fellowship are those members who have been practicing for at least 15 years, or at least 10 years if very active in organized radiology.

Four Illinois Residents Selected to Attend ACR

Four residents from Illinois were selected to serve as resident delegates to the American College of Radiology meeting in Washington in early April. IRS and the ACR jointly sponsored three residents from Illinois: **Anand Shivnani, MD**, Department of Radiation Oncology, Northwestern University Medical Center, Chicago; **Christopher McKinney, MD**, Department of Radiology, SIU School of Medicine, Springfield; and **Rodney Corby, MD**, Department of Radiology, University of Chicago Hospitals and Program Director, Resident Physician Section, Chicago. In addition, the Central Illinois Radiological Society sponsored a fourth resident, **Kimberly Villarreal, MD**, Department of Radiology, OSF St. Francis Hospital in Peoria. A total of 108 residents attended the ACR meeting under scholarships from ACR and the various chapters. The resident schedule at the ACR meeting is a combination of special programming designed specifically for residents as well as attendance at the regular sessions held during the ACR Annual Meeting and Chapter Leadership Conference.

IRS/CRS Meets with BlueCross/Blue Shield

Representatives of the IRS and CRS met with Will Harms, MD, MM, Medical Director of BlueCross/BlueShield of Illinois, in March to describe in detail Breast MRI and its qualifications for medical reimbursement. In a follow-up letter, IRS President Richard Mintzer, MD, FACR thanked Doctor Harms for his "prompt and decisive action with regard to Breast MRI." This is the second meeting the IRS and CRS had with Doctor Harms, the first being a year ago when they were successful in reversing Blue Cross/Blue Shield's proposed decision not to reimburse for Full Field Digital Mammography. In his letter to Doctor Harms, Doctor Mintzer stated "Once again, patients covered by BC/BS are well served having a Medical Director that understands the need for reimbursement of new medical technologies." Doctor Mintzer also provided Doctor Harms information on Virtual Colonoscopy and suggested a meeting to discuss a plan for reimbursement by BC/BS of this valuable colorectal screening tool possibly reducing the need for the more expensive and invasive conventional colonoscopy.

Dachman Testifies on Virtual Colonoscopy

On March 16th, Abraham Dachman, MD, then president-elect of the Chicago Radiological Society and member of the IRS Executive Committee, testified before the U.S. Senate Cancer Coalition in support of virtual colonoscopy or CT colonography. Doctor Dachman has been involved with the development of this relatively new test for colorectal cancer screening since 1994. In his presentation, Doctor Dachman justified two key points: Federal legislation is needed to foster colorectal cancer screening, and steps should be taken to extend coverage for CT colonography as a means to improve compliance for colon cancer screening. Doctor Dachman indicated there is a growing body of scientific literature that shows CT colonography is safe, cost effective, highly accurate and very acceptable to patients.

Mark Your Calendar for IRS/CRS/CIRS Meeting

The next annual meeting of the Illinois Radiological Society is tentatively scheduled for Thursday and Friday, March 16-17, 2006 in Chicago. It will be a joint meeting of the Illinois Radiological Society, the Chicago Radiological Society and the Central Illinois Radiological Society with emphasis on Breast Imaging and Treatment. The meeting will also feature the presentation of the Steven M. Pinsky, MD Resident Research Awards. Watch your mail and email for future information.