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November 1 (December issue)

All material must be sent electronically.
Advertisements and images to be sent as high resolution PDF, TIF, EPS, JPEG files.

You are invited to comment in relation to the ISRRT Newsletter editorial content and make suggestions for future issues.
All comments will be considered by the Editor and her Committee.

Advertisements/Secretariat

A section is reserved for the advertising of educational programs, courses or new radiological texts.

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ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The ISRRT Newsletter would like to invite readers and others to take advantage of the extent of our circulation and advertising service.

The ISRRT Newsletter reaches 72 countries, 4500 associate members, libraries and schools of radiography, government bodies and professional societies.

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As I write this message, I am still in awe of the extremely successful congress, hosted by the Korean Radiological Technologist Association in Seoul, Korea. The 19th ISRRT World Congress from October 20-22, 2016, boasted an attendance of 2,000 delegates who had access to 330 oral presentations and 220 poster presentations. The social events surpassed all expectations. It was extremely encouraging to note the active participation by not only the speakers but by the delegates participating in the discussions that followed from the presentations. I sincerely hope that many of these well researched presentations will be written up and published. Well done to all those involved!

The congress was preceded by a meeting of the ISRRT Board of Management and a Council Meeting. At the Board meeting, members reported on the progress made with respect to the strategic initiatives identified at the strategic planning meeting held in January 2016. The actions taken thus far related to the strategic goals of:
– Collaborate to develop and promote international standards
– Empower societies
– Advocate for the profession

with the underlying foundation principles of communication and governance; were also discussed at the at the pre-council meeting in Seoul.

The Council meeting had excellent representation from 57 countries worldwide with active participation. The changes to the statutes (previously circulated) were adopted.

We would like to congratulate and welcome Sharon Wartenbee onto the ISRRT Board as Regional Director of the Americas. Bodil Andersson was elected by the Europe-Africa region to replace Dimitris Katsifarakis who will take over as CEO from January 1, 2017. We look forward to welcoming Bodil onto the ISRRT Board.

As the global body representing Radiographers/Radiological Technologists, the ISRRT is invited to participate at many international forums. Below are some of the meetings that we were represented at:

Dimitris Katsifarakis represented the ISRRT at the 1st European Congress of Medical Physics, from September 1-4, 2016 in Athens. The EFOMP-ISRRT joint Session, namely, ‘Radiographers’ input for improving a safety culture for medical Imaging and therapeutic procedures’ was held on September 2, 2016.

At the invitation of the Japanese Association of Radiological Technologists I attended the 32nd Japan Conference of Radiological Technologists from September 14-16, 2016 held in Gifu, Japan as a guest lecturer.

In September 2016, Sandy Yule attended lectures on the theme ‘Leading the Way’ at the International Conference on Advance Practice and staffed the ISRRT booth during this congress held at the Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, UK.

Stewart Whitley attended the annual British Institute of Radiology seminar on the IRMER update and radiation protection. The course was provided in order to ensure that
users were aware of the latest regulations regarding the use of medical radiation and an update on IRMER regulations and the use of DRLs and Radiation PPE.

Sandy Yule and Maria Law attended and presented at the International Congress of Radiology (ICR) from September 21-24, 2016 where the ISRRRT hosted a Radiographers’ tract. They also held a meeting with Argentinian Society in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Napapong Pongnapong and Dimitris Katsifarakis represented the ISRRRT at the IAEA workshop on ‘Developing a quality framework to enhance patient care in diagnostic radiology’ in October 2016 in Thailand. This workshop was endorsed by the ISRRRT.

The Chinese Society of Imaging Technology (CSIT) invited me as President and Sandy Yule (CEO) as guest lecturers and to attend a meeting with the Board of the CSIT in Suzhou, China in October 2016.

Philippe Gerson introduced the ISRRRT at the 1st congress for the Bulgarian association of radiographers in imaging diagnostic and therapy in Bulgaria – a new Society that was inaugurated in January 2016.

I attended the 3rd Regional Workshop in Radiation Safety Culture in Healthcare: Focus in Paediatric Imaging which was jointly hosted by IRPA, WHO and IOMP where I made two presentations and participated in the workshop. The workshop was held in Cape Town, South Africa on November 3, 2016. We would like to acknowledge the Society of Radiographers of South Africa for their valuable sponsorship towards this workshop.

To ensure the smooth running of the ISRRRT, finances of the Society have to be carefully managed. Stewart and Sandy met with the ISRRRT Portfolio Manager to ensure that targets are being met with respect to funds. Investments and the funds available for workshops and projects were discussed. Finance issues related to the appointment of the new CEO support service were also closely examined.

Dr Alexander Yule, fondly known as Sandy, will officially retire as CEO of the ISRRRT after 14 years of dedicated service. We really appreciate all that Sandy has done for the ISRRRT. We would like to release Sandy into the hands of his good wife, Alison, so that they may enjoy his well-deserved retirement years together.

Dimitris Katsifarakis has been appointed to provide the CEO support services for the ISRRRT as of January 1, 2017. Meetings are being held with the SCoR to finalise the memorandum of agreement for the provision of the administrative support. The address of the ISRRRT will be changed to that of the SCoR. These are the initial steps related to change in the ISRRRT governance model related to structure and process as identified as an area of concern on the surveys undertaken for strategic planning purposes. We look forward to a smooth transition.

Best wishes over the festive period – stay safe!

Dr Fozy Peer
President, ISRRRT
This is my last report as CEO of the ISRRT and I could not have wished for a more enjoyable and happy ending to my career in radiography as that which took place at the ISRRT World Congress in Seoul.

When I qualified as a diagnostic radiographer in Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1960 I hoped for a successful career in a profession which was largely unknown to me. Little did I imagine what the world of radiography would open up for me.

I have been very fortunate in having had the support and encouragement of my wife Alison and my family over the years and of course the world wide family of our profession. I am extremely proud to be able to call myself a radiographer which allowed me to work in a profession which is respected by many organisations throughout the world. Over the years I have seen both the profession and the ISRRT make great advances in health care and technology while at the same time ensuring that the patient always comes first. Through its workshops and educational programs the ISRRT has continually strived to maintain and improve services to the patient and I am sure that this will continue in the future.

This was very ably shown during the ISRRT World Congress in Seoul where radiographers from all disciplines gathered together to share their knowledge, experience and friendship.

I would like to thank all my friends and colleagues and express my sincere gratitude for the personal support you given to me over the years that I have been CEO of the International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists and also that of your societies and members.

My 14 years as CEO have been exciting, eventful and enjoyable and both my wife Alison and myself have met colleagues from each of our member countries and made many good and lasting friends. I cannot say that I will not miss the work involved but Alison and myself look forward to a relaxing number of years at home with the family and continuing to travel the world.

Alison and I were both overcome by the expressions of support and thanks shown to us during the World Congress in Seoul and would very much ask you to pass on our thanks to your societies and individuals for the generous gifts and donations presented.

Alison and I wish the ISRRT, member Societies, colleagues, friends and the profession a long and successful future and assure you that we have many happy memories.
This year has been a fruitful and productive year with workshops funded and supported in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Vietnam and Suriname in Latin America in partnership with PAHO as well and Board Member attendance at a number of WHO and IAEA important meetings where the radiographer and radiological technologist voice was heard.

Just recently at the World Congress in Seoul, South Korea, the ISRRT Board approved the budget for 2017. This will be an unusual year financially as we see the new Chief Executive Officer Support Services, Dimitris Katsifarakis, taking up office from January 1, 2017 to replace Dr Sandy Yule who retires December 31, 2016. Sandy will be supporting the new CEO during a period of transition for the first six months of 2017. We owe a lot to Sandy who has been prudent in looking after our limited resources over the years.

Additionally The Society of Radiographers will be providing the administration support to the Chief Executive Officer Support Services, Dimitris Katsifarakis.

The official ISRRT address as a registered Charity will be transferred to the address of the Society of Radiographers in London from January 1, 2017.

We are pleased to announce that next year workshops have been approved to take place in: Côte d’Ivoire, Jakarta, Indonesia, the Dominican Republic in conjunction with PAHO and ASRT as well as Managua, Nicaragua in partnership with RAD-AID.

These workshops will be sponsored by a number of member organisations in partnership with ISRRT to help reduce the overall cost to ISRRT.

The ISRRT 2015 accounts have recently been approved by our official accounts Wormald & Partners based in Bristol, UK. The accounts demonstrate good management of our resources and these have now been submitted to the UK Charity Commissioners which is a legal requirement. These can be seen on the Charity Commissions website under registered charity number 276218. See (http://apps.charitycommission.gov.uk/showcharity/registerofcharities/registerhomepage.aspx)

We are always looking for new Corporate sponsors and I am pleased to announce that Rothband (the trading name of WSR Medical Solutions Ltd) a UK manufacturer and distributor of Personal Protective equipment and Accessories used in the world of medical imaging has recently become a Silver member. We are delighted that Paul Dixon, Managing Director and a radiographer has committed his company as one of our valued sponsors and supporters. Pictured photo below is Paul Dixon, Rothband and Stewart Whitley, Treasurer, ISRRT, shaking hands on the occasion of Rothband becoming a Corporate Sponsor).

All of our activities are funded by member societies, associate members, corporate sponsors and surplus income from World Congresses. The Board members are grateful for your on-going financial support.

We look forward to the future and assure you of our ongoing commitment to be prudent and good stewards of our limited resources.

Stewart Whitley and Paul Dixon.
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Thank you for your Service to the ISRRT
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we will miss you, ISRRT Board

In Honour of
Dr Alexander (Sandy) Yule, CEO/Secretary General ISRRT

ON behalf of the ISRRT Board of Management, our heartfelt thanks to you for your exceptional service and dedication to the ISRRT and to our profession. It has been an honour and pleasure working with you. Words will never capture the contributions that you personally have made to the radiography profession. Your exceptional demeanor is unique and will be difficult to emulate. The memories and friendships that you have made will forever be treasured.

Globally you have impacted the profession such that you have left a legacy in the radiography world impacting healthcare. You have most certainly positioned yourself as the doyen of radiography. We as the current ISRRT Board will cherish our memories of the time spent with you and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the impact that you have made on each one of us both individually and as a group.

The adage ‘behind every successful man is a woman’ is definitely true. We wish you and Alison everything of the best in your well-deserved retirement years.

As a Board, we took some time to celebrate with Sandy and Alison at the World Congress in Seoul to honour and appreciate all the time and work they have contributed to the ISRRT.

We would like to share some of these photo memories with our ISRRT members.

Sandy and Alison You will be missed...

Love and best wishes.

Sincerely
Fozy Peer, Stewart Whitley, Donna Newman, Maria Law, Alain Cromp, Philippe Gerson, Terry Ell, Napapong Pongnapang, Dimitris Katsifarakis, Boniface Yao, Check Wee Tan

For those that haven’t known Sandy for long, the following two pages contain a little history about Sandy.
Sandy was born in Aberdeen, Scotland and trained as a Diagnostic Radiographer in the School of Radiography, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

In 1972 Sandy moved with his family to commission the new Radiology Department in The University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. In addition to hospital work Sandy was President of the Society and College of Radiographers, UK, from 1983 to 1984 and was also Chairman of The Radiographers Board of the Council for the Professions Supplementary to Medicine (CPSM). Following changes in legislation Sandy became a Council Member for the new Health Professions Council (HPC) now the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). Until August 2014 he was a Chairman for The Fitness to Practice Panel. Sandy is an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE), Honorary Doctor of Science, City University, London, Fellow of the College of Radiographers, Honorary Fellow of the Welsh National School of Medicine, Honorary Fellow of the Australian Institute of Radiographers and Honorary Member of the Society of Radiographers in Finland and a Justice of the Peace. Sandy has also received honorary membership in the Finland Society, Canadian Society and the Australian Society.

Sandy has a lifetime of involvement of contributing to his local, national and international profession but thought it was interesting to share some of his involvement in his national and local societies. Sandy joined the Welch Branch of the SCoR in 1973 as a council member for Wales. Sandy served on a number of committees for the SCoR including the Radiology and Education Committees. Dr Yule became President of the SCoR in 1983 and was awarded FCR in 1984.

As for Sandy’s international involvement, Dr Yule joined the ISRRT as a council member for the United Kingdom. He was then elected to the position of ISRRT Treasurer and finally Sandy was appointed as the ISRRT Secretary General/CEO in 1993 and has served in this position until December 2016.
This article wouldn’t be complete without recognising Alison for her contribution to the ISRRT and thanking her for all her tireless hours representing the ISRRT at all the official events in the exhibit hall. Alison has not only manned the ISRRT booths but is someone that the professionals have befriended over the years and they looked forward to seeing and hearing from her about the ISRRT. In 2012 at the 50th ISRRT World Congress in Toronto Canada the ISRRT paid tribute to Alison for her dedication to the ISRRT by awarding her an ISRRT Honorary Membership and an ISRRT Silver Pin to recognise Alison’s contribution to the ISRRT.

The ISRRT is extremely proud of Dr Sandy Yule’s involvement in our profession over his 22 year career with the ISRRT. The ISRRT believes his involvement has made a huge impact to healthcare globally. We leave you with these final words:

‘Thank you Dr Sandy Yule and Alison from the ISRRT Board’
free e-book for ISRRT members

The British Institute of Radiology has just published *The Safe Use of Ultrasound in Medical Diagnosis* edited by Gail ter Haar.

Sonographers and other practitioners increasingly need to be knowledgeable about the safety of a diagnostic ultrasound scan as the onus has shifted from the manufacturers to the person performing the scan. This book, now in its third edition, is written for the practitioner and covers basic concepts important to the safe use of ultrasound and directs readers to extensive literature on the topic.

As part of the BIR’s open access initiative, BIR Open, the eBook version is

FREELY AVAILABLE ONLINE at:

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as well as in print
Im Seyoung is the winner of DRoTY 2016. Im is currently a Radiological Technologist at the Samsung Medical Center, Seoul, South Korea.

His case demonstrates the potential dose management opportunities for both patient and operator during the transcatheter closure of an Atrial Septal Defect (ASD) in adults, after a change in the cine-fluoroscopy rate. In this retrospective study, Im Seyoung tested his hypothesis that a change in the cine-fluoroscopy rate from 15 frames/sec to 7.5 frames/sec should indicate a benefit in absorbed dose for the both lenses and thyroid without procedural difficulty.

The submission for patient and staff dose reduction is very central and important to Philips, evident by the DoseAware and Allura cath lab dose reduction offering. The submission is inspiring with your efforts to reduce patient and staff dose in transcatheter closure Atrial Septal Defect procedures.

Congratulations.

The prize for winning the contest is a trip to ECR in Vienna in March 2017.
Abstract

Background:
Approximately one fifth of all x-ray examinations are performed by dentists and a high proportion of those images are carried out on children and young people. Dental radiology predominantly involves low dose techniques. However, some radiosensitive organs and tissues are in close proximity to the radiation beam and/or scatter, including the thyroid gland. Globally, guidelines on the use of lead collars to protect the thyroid differ widely and the evidence-base is limited. The development of Cone Beam CT (CBCT) has highlighted the impact that thyroid shielding high atomic number materials can have on image quality.

Objectives:
Identify whether:
1. Use of lead shielding significantly reduces the radiation dose to the thyroid during several dental radiographic examinations;
2. Rectangular collimation helps to reduce the radiation dose to the thyroid significantly during intraoral examinations and if so, whether wearing a thyroid collar reduces the radiation dose significantly further or not;
3. Image quality is reduced when a thyroid collar is worn during small field of view CBCT and/or dental panoramic examinations.

Method:
Anthropomorphic phantoms will be used to carry out dosimetry and image quality tests. Absorbed dose to the thyroid will be measured using thermoluminescent dosimeters; image quality will be measured quantitatively using contrast-to-noise ratio; subjective image quality will be carried out using resultant images by a panel of observers who will give their opinions via a questionnaire of statements and a rating scale of agreement.

Anticipated Outcomes:
This research will identify whether thyroid protection is key to reducing radiation dose, in a range of dental radiology examinations that are routinely carried out, on those most sensitive to exposure – the young. It will also identify whether the use of thyroid protection has a negative impact on image quality, to the detriment of potential diagnosis, when using extraoral imaging methods. It is expected that the results will be published as 2-3 papers in suitable peer-reviewed publications.
**Best Abstract Awards**

**Poster Presenters**
- In Gil Hwang (Korea)
- Satoka Someya (Japan)
- Sara Na (Korea)
- Chun-Yi Chiu (Taiwan)
- Yang-Sub Lee (Korea)
- Wansun Kim (Korea)
- Tomoyuki Kurosawa (Japan)

**Oral Presenters**
- Takanori Masuda (Japan)
- Yoshitaka Nakamura (Japan)
- Sundaran Kada (Norway)
- Wei Yow Sim (Singapore)
- Da Hee Jung (Korea)
- Jael Seo (Korea)
- Jun Zhao (China)
- Seung Jae Lee (Korea)
- Xiao-Hui Priscilla Chen (Singapore)
- Chiou-Shiung Chang (Taiwan)
- Michael Ying (Hong Kong, China)
- Jodi Mitchell (Australia)
A non-radiographer attending an ISRRT World Congress

Report by Rachel Bullard, ISRRT Production Editor

THIS is my 14th year as the Production Editor of the ISRRT newsletter and I celebrated it by attending a World Congress for the first time. As you’ve been reading on the previous pages, this year the 19th World Congress was held in Seoul, South Korea.

For many years I have experienced the World Congresses through the material submitted to be published in News & Views, but this year it was wonderful to be able to attend the event and be among the 2,000 or so radiographers of all disciplines from around the globe who gathered to network, to learn from each other and to cement friendships.

Being in the publishing industry and self-employed it is not often that I get to experience something like this.

More importantly, helping at the ISRRT booth enabled me to meet many of the board members and associate members who I have been corresponding with via email for many years.

I see your faces all the time through images I publish in the newsletter, but it was wonderful to meet so many of you in person, and hopefully as nice for you to finally put a face to my name after this long.

At the ISRRT stand many delegates told us how much they appreciated the effort that everyone puts into this newsletter, and we had many offers from members to submit articles to publish – some of which have already been written and appear in these pages.

I would like to thank the ISRRT Board, the delegates and the people of Seoul for making me feel very welcome and part of your close-knit profession.

In particular, I would like to thank Sandy Yule for his valued support and friendship over the years and wish Sandy and Alison health and happiness in his retirement.
VERT helps to transform Cancer Care in Africa

The VERT classroom at Groote Schuur hospital.

Many African centres are installing more advanced technology in order to establish more targeted treatment protocols for their patients. Certain key skills are necessary in order to move from 2D to 3D conformal radiotherapy protocols. The Access to Care (A2C) Programme in Cape Town is a collaborative training venture between the University of Cape Town and the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, who have partnered with Varian Medical Systems to bring Varian’s international Access to Care training program to South Africa. The integrated, theme-based A2C course takes participants through a step-by-step learning process, emphasizing a multi-disciplinary team approach. VERT plays a key role in the course delivery.

The A2C program uses advanced computer technology to create virtual radiotherapy environments. Educationally, this is at the leading edge of radiotherapy training globally. VERT forms a key part of the teaching equipment to offer a 3D virtual Linac in the classroom, helping to bridge the gap between theory and practice.

In the A2C program the emphasis is on the practical “hands-on” learning to ensure that participants become confident in the necessary skills that would allow more complex treatment protocols to be implemented. Teaching environments were created to allow simulation of the treatment protocols and thus to enhance the learning experience. Two virtual classrooms were created at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town housing a VERT™ system and Varian Eclipse™ treatment planning software. The VERT system is the first installation of its kind on the continent.

Throughout the 3-week programme the VERT system and the Eclipse software is used to teach 3D treatment protocols in a variety of sites: pelvis – (cervix, prostate); neuro; breast; and, head and neck. VERT simulates the radiotherapy environment enabling the treatment team to learn in a non pressured, safe and cost-effective way.

The planning laboratory enables students to use the Eclipse TPS software to learn how to create complex radiotherapy treatment plans. Working much like a flight simulator, the VERT system allows visualisation of patient anatomy and shows the effect of treatment plans on the patient. Likewise, VERT Physics allows the team (RO, MP & RTTs) to learn the dosimetry needed to create QA protocols for patient safety.

VERT enables the radiation oncology teams to experience the treatment process in the same way they would use the real equipment. Additionally, it gives them the opportunity to experience simulated treatment set-up errors and to see the effects they can have with misplaced dose in nearby organs at risk. The combination of VERT with the Eclipse laboratory provides the students the best virtual environment to learn, to explore and to increase their knowledge, skills and confidence in contemporary treatment planning and delivery methods. The Cape Town Access to Care team notes: “You only have to see the faces of the participants using VERT to understand the impact of this exciting, interactive learning environment. It puts modern radiotherapy theory into practice in a safe and fun way.”

What Access to Care students said:

“There was clarity and interaction”
“Put structure to 3D concept”

“Well done! This course was a 5 star one. Thanks for changing the outlook of cancer management in Africa. You are a committed people, very knowledgeable & unselfish, MERCI!”

VERT will offer a virtual Linac in the classroom for more Access to Care projects in Africa.

For more information Email: sales@virtual.co.uk
Sharon Wartenbee  
**RTR, BD, CBDT, FASRT**  
Regional Director, The America’s

Ms Wartenbee is a diagnostic radiologic technologist and bone densitometry technologist at Avera Medical Group McGreevy Clinic in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA. With over 35 years of experience, she has credentials from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) in radiography and bone densitometry. She has also obtained bone densitometry certification from the International Society for Clinical Densitometry (ISCD).

Professionally, Sharon had held offices and chaired numerous committees in the local and state organisations where she continues to be actively involved in legislative activities. She was awarded “Life Membership” in the South Dakota Society of Radiologic Technologists in 1996.

On the National level, Sharon has represented the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) on various project groups, task forces, commissions, and committees. She is currently serving as a Bone Densitometry Chapter Delegate in the House of Delegates and is a member of the ASRT Practice Standards Council. Sharon was elevated to a “Fellow” of the ASRT in 2009.

Sharon is experienced as an educational meeting coordinator and has lectured locally, at state affiliates, and national organisations.

Aneesa Ali  
**Regional Co-Ordinator Public Relations and Communications, The Americas**

Aneesa is a diagnostic radiologic technologist and MRI Technologist with 16 years experience in the radiology field. She has credentials from ARRT in both radiography and MRI as well as CAMRT credentials in radiography.

Aneesa is currently pursuing a Degree in Ultrasound and is expected to complete it by January 2017.

She has held the position of President of the Society of Radiographers in Trinidad and Tobago and continues to work with the Society both locally and internationally.

Aneesa has worked on projects within the Caribbean teaching MRI and CT and currently she is serving on the organising committee for the 2018 ISRRT World Congress to be held in Trinidad and Tobago, April 2018.
Bodil T Andersson is a registered diagnostic radiographer and a university lecturer at the Lund University, Sweden. She has a Doctoral degree as well as a Licentiate of medical science degree.

Professionally, Bodil is working as a university lecturer and responsible for the radiographer program at Lund University. She has been a partner in developing a Master Program in radiography and currently planning for an education on advanced level in a specialisation in radiography. She is also a member of an international committee. Bodil has experience from being the leader of a research group and the deputy head of the department of Health Sciences at Lund University for several years. She is also deeply engaged in several research projects regarding radiography. As her interest is radiographers’ professional competence and ethical demands, this is the focus of her research. Bodil has long experience from educational meetings as coordinator and has lectured locally and at congresses and conferences nationally and internationally. She is a supervisor for students on Bachelor and Master level.

On a National level, Bodil has been the President of the Swedish Society of Radiographers and currently she is the Vice President. She has more than 25 years of experience of being a member of the society and during this time she has been working in various project groups, commissions, and committees.

She has been a sub-committee member and co-chairman on the scientific committee of the European Society of Radiology (ESR).

On an international level, Bodil is a member of the ISRRT Board as Regional Director, Europe, prior to this position Bodil was the ISRRT Regional Coordinator for Public Relations and Education, Europe.

Mrs Dominique Zerroug from the French Association of Radiographers was awarded the Marion Frank Award this year for her outstanding contribution and efforts to the continuous professional development workshops she has run for many years in Africa, Vietnam, Romania and Mexico.

Dominique is a loyal volunteer always there to help her colleagues anywhere in the world by imparting her wealth of knowledge.

Dominique has been an active member of the French Association for more than 40 years and has been an ISRRT Council Member for a long.

She was radiographer and afterwards the Director of a radiographer school close to Paris.

She was a close friend of Marion Frank.
AROUND 160 radiographers from six African countries gathered together at the Venus Hotel.

Due to the huge difficulties in getting visas, some radiographers and especially the ISRRT Regional Director for Africa, Mr Boniface YAO were not able to join us.

Despite this situation, we held a successful workshop. Thanks to the motivation and efforts from the local organising committee led by Mr Kiss Banza, President of the Congo Society.

The theme was “Optimization in radiation protection and security for the patient.”

Our workshops have always had the same format with morning lectures and small workshops with limited participants during the afternoons.

As usual, these workshops have been led by Dominique Zerroug and Jocelyne Legoazigo, retired school Directors in France and forever motivated to educate radiographers in Africa.

Mr Robert Aziagba, from Togo, was also responsible for a workshop about radiation protection.

We would like to thank the following companies who helped us to manage this event, Hitachi, Stephanix, Primax International and Guerbet.

We plan to organise the 10th workshop for 2018 in Dakar, Senegal, with sessions in English and French, this way we hope to attract more than 200 radiographers from more than 14 countries.
BULGARIA currently has approximately 1,000 radiographers. They graduate from university after a 3 year education program including diagnostic, CT, MRI, nuclear medicine and radiotherapy. They do not perform ultrasound.

The Bulgarian Radiographer’s Association was created in January 2016 and therefore very new. Previously it was separate associations who represented radiologists, therapists and radiographers.

In January 2016 with the support of the radiologists, they decided to become independent even though they had a very good relationship with medical doctors and physicists.

Some of the Bulgarian members have been at ECR and they have been informed that all the radiographer associations in Europe are independent. Thanks to our Regional Director Dimitris Katsifarakis, I have been in touch with Nadya Dzhankova, a Board Member and also with the Bulgarian President Mrs Petya Gagova who is a lecturer at the University of Sofia.

They invited me to attend their First Congress that was organised in Sofia at the Suite Hotel.

Before this they held congresses but were included in the radiologists conferences.

The congress was very well organised, with 40 papers and around 10 posters and had 150 participants attending from the capital Sofia and the rest of Bulgaria.

I gave a presentation about ISRRT, it was the only presentation in English and the conference room was full. I got very positive feedback from people who were very interested in the ISRRT activities, and especially workshops. For this reason I presented a proposal to organise an ISRRT EFRS workshop in 2018 in Sofia.

After the conference there was a general assembly and 40 radiographers decided to register with the association. They nominated regional directors from the different provinces of Bulgaria. It was so wonderful to be among motivated radiographers (mainly women) who wanted to grow their association.

On Saturday evening, an entertaining dinner was held with Bulgarian specialities and local dances.
PARI hosts National Symposium and Workshop and celebrates 60 years

Makassar, South Sulawesi
November 3-5, 2016

Over 400 members from different provinces of the Indonesian Society of Radiographers (Perhimpunan Radiografer Indonesia or PARI) came together for the National Symposium and Workshop on Cardiac and Vascular Imaging on November 3-5, 2016 in Makassar, South Sulawesi.

2016 is also the 60th anniversary of PARI, which was celebrated during the symposium. Souvenirs were presented to the former Presidents of PARI. The Vice-President, Dr Napapong Pongnapang and the Director of Education, Prof Maria Law attended the symposium and participated in the celebration.

PARI was started in Jakarta on October 21, 1956. Formerly, PARI had the name with Persatuan Asisten ontgen Indonesia (United of Rontgen Assistant Indonesia), then changed to Persatuan Ahli Radiografi Indonesia (United of Radiographers Indonesia) in 1980. In 2008 PARI had the official name Perhimpunan Radiografer Indonesia (Indonesian Society of Radiographers). The President of PARI is elected from National Congress every four years. In 2015 Mr Sugiyanto, S.Pd, MAppSc (MRI) was elected as President at the 13th National Congress of PARI in Surabaya, East Java.

Dancing and singing entertained at the Opening along with speeches from the Head of South Sulawesi Provincial Health Office, Dr H. Rachmat Latief, Sp.PD, M.Kes, FINASIM.

Dr Pongnapang started off the symposium with the topic “Role of radiographers in justification and optimisation of medical exposure – international perspective”. It was followed by a talk from Dr Rossie MD, Sp.B., BTKV with the topic “Roles of Imaging Diagnostic in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery”. The event for the day ended after 11:30 pm.

Topics for Day 2 included: “Overview of Radiology Examination in Cardiac and Vascular” as presented by Prof Dr. H. Bachtiar Murtala, Sp.Rad.(K). There was also a presentation from Prof. Maria Law on...
“Accreditation for Radiography Education – Any chance to go global?”
There was a Symposium with radiographers talk, presented by Mr Purwantono (with topic: Cardiac CT) and Mr Irfan Rivai (Cardiac CT in Pediatric) both of them from Jakarta, Mr Suryasuryono bin Hussein from Malaysia (MR Cardiac) and Mr Purwanto from South Sulawesi (Run-off CT Angiography).

On the third day, there were two workshops separately sponsored by Philips and Siemens who are some of the major vendors in Indonesia. The workshops were on post-processing of cardiac images. Monitors were provided by the sponsors.

There are 24 programs in radiography education in Indonesia producing 1,200 graduates each year. In 2016, there are three study programs of four years Diploma, and 21 study programs of three years Diploma. As in most western countries, a higher percentage of the radiographers are females.

During the Symposium, whenever the chairman said “Indonesian Radiographers”, the audience would respond by shouting in Indonesian “Together, Prosperous, Worldwide” This obviously showed our intention to go international. We are looking forward to achieving international accreditation of our programs.
Sri Lanka celebrates World Radiography Day

Hotel Ramada Colombo, Sri Lanka
November 6-8, 2016

Report by V.G. Wimalasena, President SRTSL

THE Society of Radiological Technologists Sri Lanka celebrated the World Radiography 2016 with an academic session and paying gratitude to Prof. Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen.

The first event for the day was the academic session held at Hotel Ramada Colombo on November 6, 2016. About 125 members participated and three lectures were held. Dr. Suharshi Silva, chest physician, gave a lecture on “Chest X-ray, physician’s perspective”. Dr. Prasad Abeysinghe, Consultant Oncologist, gave a talk on “Role of radiotherapy in cancer management in a modern set up”. Dr. Mohan Rajakaruna, Consultant Cardiologist, gave a valuable lecture on “Contrast media and interventional Cardiology”.

The new volume of the magazine Radiographer was launched during the session. The President highlighted the importance of providing high quality images and treatments, as it is our duty to serve the people providing the highest quality in patient care.

The second event took place at the Department of Radiology, National Hospital of Sri Lanka on November 8. The most important event was garlanding and honouring Prof. Roentgen. More than 100 people attended the event.

The students of the Sri Lanka School of Radiography displayed large number of X-Ray art photographs. Banners and posters were displayed at many hospitals in the country.
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THE 5th Myanmar Medical Radiation Technologists Conference and the Commemoration of World Radiography Day 2016 was held at the Chatrium Hotel, Royal Lake, Yangon on November 12, 2016. Delegates from Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, Australia and throughout Myanmar attended.

The opening ceremony was held at 8am and on behalf of the Minister of Health & Sports, the Permanent Secretary Dr Thet Khaing Win delivered the opening remarks. The President of Myanmar Medical Association Dr Ye Mra and Dr Lin Tun Tun, the President of Myanmar Radiology Society also gave speeches. The ISRRT Vice President for Asia Australasia Dr Napapong Pongnapang delivered a speech. A message from the President of ISRRT was also delivered along with a message from the Regional Director for Asia Australasia.

Following the opening some radiological texts books donated by New Zealand through the World Radiography Educational Trust Foundation to the two universities of medical technology were handed over by Dr Napapong Pongnapang, ISRRT Vice President Asia Australasia to the Rector of the University of Medical Technology (Yangon) Dr Theingi Hlaing and the representative of the University of Medical Technology (Mandalay) Ms Mya Mya Chaw Su and Ms Aye...
Thida Moe Moe.

The scientific session started with a fantastic lecture given by Dr Napapong Pongnapang. The theme of the conference “An Ethical Approach to Imaging Services”. The Plenary Lecture was given by Dr Tint Lwin, Consultant Radiologist and from the technologist point of view, Ms Mya Mya Chaw Su, Lecturer of University of Medical Technology (Mandalay) spoke of how the Code of Ethics was important for technologists.

Dr Lin Tun Tun revealed the development of radiography in Myanmar with historical documented pictures. This gave the new technologists an insight as to how their profession was started after World War II, with pictures.

On behalf of Sea Lion Co Ltd and GE Core Imaging/Contrast Medium, there was a Quiz Test for the participants during the lunch break. The aim of this event was to give a participant the chance to attend the Radiology Asia 2017 Conference if he/she scored highest marks.

Two participants were awarded.

There was a total 13 scientific papers presented. The Gala dinner was held at the M3 Food Centre. Lucky draws added to the fun for the participants.
GUAM is a 582 km² tropical island located in the Western Pacific Ocean. It is the largest of the thousands of small islands that comprises the sub region of Oceania, called Micronesia. Guam was discovered by Spanish, Ferdinand Magellan, in 1521, however, the native Chamorros had already been inhabitants for over 4,000 years.

Guam is currently owned by the US. It became a US territory in 1944. Its current population is roughly 175,000 people and the country’s economy depends on the US military, and tourism spending. Jobs are concentrated in the service industry as well as spread among different sectors of the local government.

Within the last couple years, Guam has experienced growth in its health care sector. A significant portion of Guam’s healthcare workers come on a contract or visas to work in the hospital or local clinics. There is local nursing program but limited availability for allied health, and none for radiology. There is also no local governance or regulations for the profession.

Since my arrival on the island about one year ago, I have been actively trying to work with the local community college to design and implement a radiology program. Also, efforts are being made to establish a local chapter of the ASRT to help advance the profession. As the Radiology Director at the local public hospital, I am looking to establish a continuing education program that will especially benefit the technicians who received their radiology training informally, that is, on the job and consequently are not required to pursue continuing education.

With the recent celebration of National Radiology Week, additional efforts included a highlight of the profession in the local newspaper and a discussion of radiology at two events at the local elementary school to 2nd and 5th graders. The goal was to educate the future leaders of tomorrow on the profession, and to inspire them to consider a career in radiology as they grow older. The event was well received.

It is hoped that in the next several years, Guam can establish a local Allied Health program and therefore produce a pool of local staff to the healthcare facilities around the island. Not only will this have a significant financial impact for the healthcare organisations because they wouldn’t have to rely on contracting off island professionals, but will also allow provision of a more effective and efficient delivery of quality healthcare by well trained professionals.

Nicole Dhanraj, Ph.D., RT(R)(CT)(MR) is the Radiology Director at the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority. She is a contract employee that was hired on a temporary two year contract and also a volunteer with Rad-Aid, an ambassador with World Radiology Education Trust Fund and a member of the ISRRT.
As the newly elected Regional Director for The Americas, I had the privilege of attending the PAHO/WHO World Radiology Day 2016 at the Regional Office of the World Health Organization for the Americas in Washington, DC, USA. It was held on Wednesday, November 9th, 2016, (one day later than usual) due to the USA elections being held on Tuesday, November 8.

The day was filled with excellent speakers on the theme of “Radiological Findings of Abnormalities Associated with Zika Virus. The first speaker of the day was Andrea Poretti, MD, Assistant Professor of Radiology and Radiologic Science from Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, MD, USA. His lecture was entitled “Neuroimaging Findings in Congenital Microcephaly Due to Intrauterine Zika Virus Infection.” Next on the agenda was Jonel Di Muro, MD, Hospital Luis Razetti, Barcelona, Venezuela who spoke to us via WebEx. He spoke on “Ultrasound Findings of Congenital Syndrome Associated with Zika Virus Infection.” Our next speaker was Priscilla (Penny) Butler, MS, Medical Physicist and Senior Director, Department of Quality and Safety, American College of Radiology, USA. Ms Butler gave an excellent presentation on “Radiation Exposure on Medical Imaging.”

We heard next from two different countries via WebEx regarding their experiences with the Zika virus. Adriano Hazin, MD, Instituto de Medicina Integral Professor Fernando Figueira, Recife, Brasil gave a report entitled “In The Eye Of The Zika Hurricane In Brazil.” “Dealing With Zika In Trinidad and Tobago was presented by Karen Sohan, MD, Mt Hope Women’s Hospital, Trinidad and Tobago. The sessions closed with open discussion and questions regarding the topics.

Invited organisations attending the PAHO/WHO event included American College of Radiology, American Public Health Association, American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Association of Academic Health Centers International, International Society of Radiographers and Radiologic Technologists, Johns Hopkins Medicine, and World Federation of Pediatric Imaging. The lectures were available via WebEx both in English and Spanish to anyone wishing to participate.

I was pleased to meet with Dr Pablo Jimenez, Regional Advisor in Radiological Health for PAHO/WHO and Kayiba Medlen, MPH, RT (R) (M). We discussed the 2018 ISRRT World Congress that is being held in Trinidad and Tobago in April, 2018. All countries are encouraged to attend and enjoy the excellent educational opportunities which will be offered. More information will be available as the date gets closer. There was also discussion on the need for workshops in the Latin American countries and working together with the countries as deemed appropriate. ISRRT will continue to work with PAHO/WHO and support their endeavors.

Left to right: Sharon Wartenbee, ISRRT Regional Director for The Americas, Kayiba Medlen, PAHO/WHO Radiological Health Program, Dr Pablo Jimenez, PAHO/WHO Regional Advisor in Radiological Health.
ISRRT

20th WORLD CONGRESS

April 12th to 15th 2018
Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

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868 712 1744
My Dear Colleagues,

I’d like to personally invite each of you to the ISRRT 20th World Congress with the global theme “We Care”.

It’s an exciting time for the Society of Radiographers of Trinidad and Tobago as we look towards hosting you on the April 12-15, 2018. The world of radiography, medical imaging and radiation therapy is an exciting area to be a part of, and we are inspired by your dedication, hard work and care for our profession so that we are always at the cutting edge.

I’d like to give you an idea of what you can expect and what we hope to achieve over the next few months.

**Website Launch** – 12th December 2016
**Call for Papers** – 12th January 2017
**Deadline for Abstract Submission** – 12th August 2017
**Registration opening** – 12th July 2017
**Closing of Early Registration** – 12th January 2018

Our local and regional colleagues and our government and corporate partners are very proud of where we are today and excited about where we are headed.

You are truly our greatest asset today and tomorrow, and we cannot accomplish what we do without your support. I ask you to stay engaged, keep us proactive and help us shape the next World Congress to total success. My personal respect and thanks goes out to all of you.

Reshma Maheepat
President
Society of Radiographers of Trinidad and Tobago
Following the last ISRRT Strategic planning meeting the Board discussed different ways in which it might contribute as a global stakeholder to the strengthening of radiation protection in medicine at this year’s World Congress.

As a partner and global stakeholder in the ‘Bonn Call-for-Action’ the ISRRT Board thought it important enough to include in the ISRRT’s strategic plan the ‘Bonn Call-for-Action’ as one of their key strategic priorities, which is to contribute to and promote radiation protection safety culture.

Included as part of this strategic priority was the ISRRT initiative to notify member societies about the role the ISRRT plays in radiation protection and safety through its ISRRT response to the Bonn Call-for-Action. One initiative selected was to host a Pre-Congress Workshop on challenges of radiation protection in the 21st century in the form of a forum with panel discussions where members could discuss the challenges and best practice that was happening in their countries related to radiation protection and radiation safety with each contributor given an opportunity to suggest ideas for consideration in determining the priorities and next steps in the ISRRT’s response to the Bonn Call-for-Action from its members themselves.

The ISRRT want to again thank all participants in this excellent forum and for their excellent participation and sharing of best practices and challenges that their countries are facing.

The outcome from Pre-Congress workshop will be used by the ISRRT Board in prioritizing the next steps for the ISRRT to focus its ongoing response to the Bonn Call to Action.

Board members have agreed to champion different projects and bring them back to the next Board meeting for general update and to report the progress for sharing at the next World Congress.

At the Workshop as Director of Professional Practice, I invited the Professional Practice Regional Coordinators to participate as speakers themselves or give names of other speakers from their region that might like to contribute to the program.

The decision was made to divide the forum into three sessions with the morning session addressing the Team approach to Justification and Optimization and how countries are using guidelines in their every day to day practices.

The Director of Professional Practice, Donna Newman spoke on the Global aspect of Justification and Optimization using a team approach and the radiographer/technologist role. The presentation included information on the Basic Safety Standards and where to find information on Justification and Optimization and understanding what it all means and how to apply this in everyday practice.

Also included was a presentation of the guidelines and flow chart that was developed by the ISRRT. Copies of this flow chart were distributed to the audience to bring back to their countries. Those interested in receiving a copy of the flow chart and guidelines can download these on the ISRRT website at www.isrrt.org

Dimitris covered Patient Safety Culture and how this is essential in ensuring that radiation protection and safety is part of everyday practice as well as updating the audience on phase two of the Justification Project of a pilot project in schools in Europe to develop a module to be used by the educators to teach the student radiographer/radiological technologist on how to approach the Principle of justification in the clinical field, and how to fulfill their role on that, for the patient’s welfare. The project has already agreed by Schools leaders in the field and the ISRRT and further information on that is expected within the next eight months.

As radiographers/technologists we contribute everyday to Justification by ensuring the patients isn’t having a duplicate study, ensuring that the indication or symptom for the procedure matches the protocol that has been established in the Radiology Department and by drawing attention to the radiologist, and sometime to the referring physician, in some countries when issues arise that question if justification is appropriate.

Stewart Whitley led a panel discussion on how countries are using these guidelines in their every day practices. The following questions were presented to the audience to help collect feedback for consideration by the board in their next steps to the ISRRT response to the Bonn Call-for-Action.

Question 1: What is your process in your country to ensure that justification is a part of good practice?

Question 2: Can you share some best practices and challenges in your country to ensure safety culture exists and that optimisation is part of your every day practices?

Question 3: DRL’s are important locally regional and nationally is your country doing this and how are you establishing these practices.

Much discussion came out of these questions about practice issues, best practice and ideas for consideration for the ISRRT response to the Bonn Call-for-Action. The ideas of DRL’s came up and some countries shared what they are doing. It was discussed that it might be good to give a guide on how to determine DRL’s and for the ISRRT
to provide a position statement on DRL’s and maybe to undertake a pilot project perhaps starting with the Chest x-ray. These ideas were good and will be brought back for consideration to the ISRRT board.

Donna Newman and Stewart Whitley did a joint presentation to share with the member societies the new free downloadable book “Communicating Radiation Risk in Pediatric Imaging”. Previews of each chapter were discussed on justification, optimisation strategies when imaging children, how to develop a safety culture, how to communicate with both the patient and the family as well as how to describe benefit and risk. As a global stakeholder we asked our member societies to download the book at www.who.int/ionizing_radiation/pub_meet/radiation-risk-pediatric-imaging/en/ or on the website of www.isrrt.org

The third part of the workshop was a global look at radiation protection, safety culture and radiation safety in clinical practice with three distinct different modalities chosen in different areas of the world.

The speakers were asked to share their best practices, challenges and clinical experience of these subjects.

The first speaker was from the UAE, Mohamed Mahmoud ABUZAID, and his title was Global look at the Application of Radiation Protection in Clinical Practice, local perspective from UAE. It was very interesting to hear how safety culture, radiation protection and radiation safety are driven this area of the world. It was very apparent that they had a very sophisticated system and many best practices to share with other member societies. One challenge that arose from his talk was how to maintain independence from the government as the minister of health is involved in all aspects of radiation protection, regulation. Workshops and training have been undertaken with the IAEA on radiation protection and public awareness.

Another challenge is that not many of the people working there are local as they come from many areas of the world providing a multi nation, multi global workforce which adds layers to complexity of safety culture and systems while at the same time foreign experts still must adhere to the local culture.

Also discussed was the issue of trying to determine standards when having employees from the US and Western Europe with a different philosophical outlook and how to achieve standards of Education and regulate the profession when workers were coming from so many different systems in the world.

Our second speaker was Kim Gye淮wan from Seoul National University Hospital. The title of his talk was Radiation Protection in Korea: Nuclear Medicine Technologist Clinical experience. While nuclear medicine practice is highly regulated with so many rules to follow it was very apparent that is all dependant on the human factor and adhering to the best practices to ensure that radiation protection and radiation safety happened in their everyday practice.

Mr Gye淮wan gave a very good presentation on just what best practice meant in terms of justification, optimisation and quality control in their everyday life of work and shared some pearls of wisdom on how to assure that you have a good safety culture. He also spoke on how to create a workplace environment that allowed mistakes to be reported and allow best practice methods to be implemented. One challenge discussed was how to provide education specifically in radiation protection that covers all areas of practice with so many diverse cultures.

Our final speaker was the ISRRT Regional Coordinator of Professional Practice from the America’s Christopher Steelman from the Medical University of South Carolina Children’s Hospital in the United States. Christopher gave a presentation on the Radiologic technologist perspective - Radiation Safety Advocate in the Cath Lab a US practice. Mr Steelman gave wonderful examples of how interventional technologists subjected to radiation exposure in their everyday practice and examples of some hazards of the job such as the weight of the personal protective equipment including lead aprons.

Mr Steelman gave examples of many best practices that happen in his facility as well as describing that the radiographer/technologist is the advocate for the patient and as a technologist we must use our voices when we see poor radiation safety practices happening in our imaging facilities.

He also said that technologists are the experts in radiation safety and it is our responsibility to stay on top of the information regarding radiation protection and radiation safety.

He said that best practice happens when a safety culture happens
in the Cath Lab and that when a culture of advocacy is modelled. This is reinforcement if safety and training is established in everyday practice. Chris shared how to use the lead protection around the imaging table and that by default the tube should be positioned under the table to reduce the technologist exposure and to step back whenever possible to reduce exposure.

The one radiation safety challenge Mr Steelman brought up was that there are challenges in now to stand up for our profession and ensuring that protocols are adhered to.

Donna Newman led the second panel discussion posing several questions to the audience, with the following questions:

**Question 1:** What is the biggest challenges in radiation protection and safety in your country?

**Question 2:** What is the most important issues affection your country?

There was a good interaction and discussion from the audience. One good idea that came from the discussion was on the topic of radiation therapy focusing on the treatment of a cancer with radiographers/technologists having to create a simulation plan while still needing to adhere to ALARA at all times and not add to the cumulative dose a patient is receiving.

From this discussion, a technologist asked that the ISRRT to consider publishing a position statement for Radiation Therapy regarding best practice and radiation safety. Additionally, this was an opportunity to develop radiation safety and radiation protection education guidance for this modality. It was a common theme throughout the day that all radiographers/technologists want to provide best practice in their every day practice. Some common themes emerged on how to ensure that radiation safety is being adhered to as well as how to be an advocate and have a voice for the patient.

Also, discussed examples of Justification and Authorisation protocols and procedures from a UK hospital was the possibility of the ISRRT drawing up generic guidelines to include examples of a range of plain x-ray examinations and what pathologies and conditions to be listed to justify the examination and the projections required.

The Board finds such workshops as a great opportunity to share best practices, challenges facing our professional societies in different countries as well as opportunity to be a think tank for the ISRRT Board on important issues that need to be addressed in our strategic planning process.

We will bring all this outcome information back to the ISRRT Board for consideration in next steps in the ISRRT’s response to the Bonn Call-to-Action change to The outcomes and information from this workshop will be discussed at the ISRRT Board for consideration as regards the next steps in the ISRRT’s response to the Bonn Call-for-Action.
I’m sure glad the hole isn’t at my end of the boat!

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It was decided to reduce the load on Trustees, by setting up an Executive Group consisting of the Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary who meet bi-monthly to discuss finances, governance and any issues and take decisions based on these discussions. All Trustees are advised of the outcomes of these meetings and are not therefore bombarded with emails on fairly minor matters. All Trustees continue to play a full part in selecting Trustees, ambassadors and bursary recipients and to vote on important matters, as well as delivering on the Trust’s Strategic Plan.

At a recent meeting of the Trust’s Executive Group, the decision was taken to split the work that the Honorary Secretary has been doing. From December 1, 2016, the Honorary Secretary role will remain as a Trustee role, overseeing governance. The administration of the Trust will move to a newly created role of General Manager. Noreen Sinclair has agreed to move to the revised Honorary Secretary role and Sue Marchant has agreed to take on the General Manager role. It is hoped that by splitting the work, the Trust will more easily and smoothly achieve its strategic goals.

News

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Support

Applications for educational resources have improved with four applications for textbook support being received in October, two from Mongolia which is a first for the Trust.

Ambassadors

The Trust has recently appointed some more ambassadors – from Myanmar, Guam and Zambia and two of these attended the recent ISRRT Congress in Seoul, offering an opportunity to meet with Trustees who were also present.

Bursary Scheme

Two bursary recipients have now presented their papers at the conferences supported by funds to enable them to travel.

Social Media

There is a vibrant WRETF Facebook Group looked after by Trustee Chris Steelman. Currently there are over 500 contributors from all over the world. This forum offers opportunities for exchange of information relating to radiography.

ISRRT Congress

Trustees Chris Steelman and Michael Ong as well as our Chairman Cynthia Cowling attended the recent Congress in Seoul.
ASRT House of Delegates Addresses Motions at Annual Meeting in Las Vegas

ASRT delegates and other members were in Las Vegas in June at the 2016 ASRT Annual Governance and House of Delegates Meeting to manage the Society’s governance activities. The House of Delegates addressed more than 55 motions and took action on a number of significant issues:

- The House approved an ASRT Bylaws amendment splitting the Board position of secretary-treasurer into two separate positions. This change to the ASRT Articles of Incorporation is contingent on approval by the general membership during the 2017 ASRT election. If the change is approved, secretary and treasurer positions will be on the 2018 election ballot.
- House members ratified the decision to change the name of the Cardiovascular-Interventional Chapter to the Cardiac-Interventional and Vascular-Interventional Technology Chapter.
- The House approved revising the ASRT Practice Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy to specify that only medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals who have completed the appropriate education and obtained certification(s) outlined in specific modalities should perform procedures in the corresponding practice areas.
- The issue that spurred the most debate was a proposed language change to bylaws and position statements from “American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, or equivalent” to “certification agencies recognised by the ASRT.” The Committee on Bylaws submitted an amendment to its original amendment that specifically stated how certification agencies recognised by the ASRT would be defined and determined. The definition will be added to the ASRT House of Delegates Procedure Manual.
- The House also implemented a new process for electing the chapter steering committee chairman and vice chairman. The new process allows any chapter member who is in attendance at his or her chapter meeting to vote for the chairman and vice chairman.

In other key business, the House re-elected Michael Odgren, B.S., RPA, RT(R)(CT), as its speaker and Beth Weber, MPH, RT(R), RDMS, CRA, FASRT, as its vice speaker. Next year’s annual governance meeting will take place June 23-25, 2017 in Orlando, Florida, preceded by the Educational Symposium on June 22.

ASRT Donates $5,000 for Hurricane Relief

The ASRT donated $5,000 to the American Red Cross to assist with disaster relief efforts in the Southeast U.S. and Haiti following the destruction caused by Hurricane Matthew. The donation was on behalf of the ASRT’s 153,000 members. “As health care professionals, our members are committed to serving others,” said ASRT President Michael Latimer, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R). “In addition, thousands of ASRT members live in the affected areas in the Southeast, so it’s essential that we contribute to rebuilding their communities.”

ASRT Survey Shows Vacancy Rates Rise Slightly for Radiation Therapists

After a period of decline since 2012, the vacancy rate for radiation therapists increased slightly to 2.9 percent in 2016, according to the latest ASRT Radiation Therapy Staffing and Workplace Survey. Vacancy rates represent the number of positions that are open and actively being recruited. The vacancy rate for radiation therapists increased marginally to 2.9 percent, up from 1.6 percent in 2014. Medical dosimetrist vacancy rates during the same period remained steady with a 3.5 percent rate in 2016 compared to 3.6 percent in 2014. “This slight increase in vacancy rates for radiation therapy is similar to the increase we saw last year when we surveyed medical imaging professionals. However, similar to the 2015 survey, people should be cautious when interpreting this data,” said ASRT Associate Executive Director of Learning and Membership Myke Kudlas, M.Ed., R.T.(R)(QM), CIIP. “The increase is just a single data point and doesn’t necessarily indicate a trend. ASRT will conduct the survey again in 2018 to determine if rates continue to rise.”

ASRT Foundation Awards Three Research Grants

Three medical imaging and radiation therapy research projects have been selected to receive funding from the ASRT Foundation this fall. These grant opportunities ensure that timely and cutting-edge research continues to be performed in the medical imaging and radiation therapy profession. The recipients of the 2016 fall research grants are:

- Melanie Dempsey, PhD, RT(R)(T), CMD, FAAMD, of Virginia Commonwealth University, along with co-investigator Timmerie Cohen, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(T), CMD. They received first-year grant funds totaling $9,983.40 to begin their research project, “Evaluating Secondary Thyroid Dose in Total Breast Irradiation.”
- Tracy Herrmann, M.Ed., R.T.(R), of the University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash College. She received grant funds totaling $856 to conduct her research project, “The Success of African-American Students in Medical Imaging: A Transformative Mixed Methods Study.”
- Roman Rodriguez, B.S., R.T.(T), of Baylor Scott & White Health-Waxahachie Medical Center, along with co-investigator Tomile Rostockyj, B.S., R.T.(T). They received grant funds totaling $10,000 for their research project, “Optimization of Workload Levels for High Risk Radiotherapy Procedures.”

ASRT Radcademy™ Offers Free Resources on X-ray Science to Teachers
The ASRT is encouraging teachers covering science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) to use Radcademy™ to explore the fascinating field of x-ray technology with their students. Radcademy™ is a free resource developed by the ASRT for kids and science teachers. The program includes:

- Website and videos.
- Mini curriculum and educational resources for middle and high school teachers, including:
  - Lesson plan, worksheet, discussion guide and quiz.
- Unique “RADfacts” that highlight medical imaging and radiation therapy statistics.

The ASRT is spreading the word about Radcademy and the cool world of medical imaging and radiation therapy. Teachers and kids can learn about the radiologic procedures used to see inside the human body, meet the personnel who perform the procedures and discover how x-ray technology can diagnose and treat injuries and diseases.

**ASRT Foundation and Toshiba Announce Safety FiRST Grant Recipients**

Hartford Hospital and Boca Raton Regional Hospital will both receive Safety FiRST™ grants to improve radiologic technologist safety in each facility’s radiology department. Launched in 2015 by the ASRT Foundation and Toshiba America Medical Systems Inc., Safety FiRST™ awards two ASRT members a grant of up to $7,000 each to implement a safety initiative that will elevate technologist safety in the workplace. This year’s recipients are:

- Christine Bak, who applied on behalf of Hartford Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut. The grant will be used to install an overhead lift in order to decrease the risk of neck and back injuries for radiologic technologists who are assisting patients during lift procedures. The facility’s goal is to eliminate back and neck injuries.
- Jennifer Maquez, who applied on behalf of Boca Raton Regional Hospital in Boca Raton, Florida. The grant will be used to purchase items such as metal detecting wands, pivot discs, magnetic resonance imaging walkers and magnetic resonance imaging safe wheelchair transfer boards to reduce the risk injuries, possible missile effect accidents and the chance of burns.

**2017 ASRT events**

**June 22-25, 2017**
Orlando, Florida
ASRT Educational Symposium and Annual Governance and House of Delegates Meeting

**Sept. 24-26, 2017**
San Diego, California
ASRT Radiation Therapy Conference

Donna Long
Council Member

**75th Anniversary of the CAMRT**

CAMRT will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2017. Plans are underway to mark the very special occasion. One important focal point for the year will be the CAMRT-OAMRS Annual General Conference.

**2017 CAMRT-OAMRS Conference**

In 2017, the CAMRT is working together with the Ontario Association of Medical Radiation Sciences to host an Annual General Conference (AGC). The event will take place from April 27-30, 2017 in Ottawa, Ontario.

We are anticipating another very successful event, with high quality education and workshops and plenty of opportunities to network and socialise with fellow MRTs. This special event is also taking place in Ottawa during the celebrations for Canada’s 150th year.

As the capital of Canada, Ottawa will be at the heart of the celebrations, with special events happening throughout the year.

**CPD from CAMRT**

The popular CAMRT repository of continuing professional development (CPD) (www.camrt.ca/repository) continues to receive positive reviews as a site for those seeking CPD in the practice of medical radiation technology (radiography). This user-friendly website allows users to search through dozens of courses, webinars and events from CAMRT and its partners to identify opportunity for professional development and personal growth.

All CAMRT CPD courses are available
Eight people from Trinidad and Tobago attended the ISRRT World Congress that was held in Seoul, Korea in October, 2016. We are grateful to the Korean Association for the support given, and the Korea Tourism Association for the free tour. As the host country for the 2018 World Congress, we thank the ISRRT for the booth at the Congress. A strong sense of togetherness was felt as old friends met from all over the world, we all felt like one big family even though we may not understand the various languages. Thank you Sandy Yule, and may God richly bless you on your retirement.

We are thankful for the fruitful discussions with all countries especially, Canada, UK and the USA.

Radiographers’ week was completed with our Annual Conference which was held on November 13, 2016. The Theme was “Technology and Professionalism: Pride of practice.” A large contingent of students from the University of Guyana and the College of Science Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago attended. Mr Ian Withers, President of the Barbados Association of Radiographers presented two papers. St Vincent and the Grenadines also participated.

We look forward to participate in conferences in Guyana and Barbados in 2017.

A warm Caribbean welcome to the ISRRT 20th World Congress in Trinidad and Tobago, April 12-15, 2018.

Aleth Bruce
ISRRT Council member

Support for those interested in working in Canada
The CAMRT has produced two learning modules for Internationally Educated Medical Radiation Technologists (IEMRTs) interested in working in Canada. The first module on describes practice/employment in Canada. The second is a module providing education on “How to Write a Competency Based Exam”. Both are available in the certification section of the CAMRT website.

Marcia Smoke
smokem@hhsc.ca
Four French presentations were made at the ISRRT Congress in Seoul in 2016:  
- Philippe Gerson, ISRRT Vice President Europe/Africa presented the complex and highly emotional management of the terrorist attacks in his hospital in Paris  
- Benoit Billebaut with a MRI presentation (k Space explained without mathematics)  
- Fabien Salesses, a published work about the effect of dosimeter for nuclear medicine workers  
- Sarah Id Bairouk and Sonia Alimi, “breast pathologies, one day one diagnosis”

France was not the only French speaking country presenting. A lot of colleagues from Africa attended, although the visas are often quite difficult to obtain.

Before that, more than 1,200 radiographers participated in the Journées Françaises Radiologie (JFR) in Paris, a joint congress with radiologists. Again, a lot of radiographers presented at a very high standard.

2017 will be a busy one. In January 28-29, you can visit Paris to update your knowledge in CT scans, from radioprotection to image quality optimisation.

In March, in Bordeaux, on the Atlantic coast, we will welcome the French speaking radiographers for our National Congress, where all specialties of our profession will be represented through oral presentations and posters.

Always a great success, the French MRI congress for radiographers in April 2017 expects quite a lot of visitors, this time along the Rhine in Strasbourg, the European capital.

Last but not least for this first half of 2017, the Radiotherapy Congress in June.

So as you can see, French radiographers won’t be found sitting around in 2017.

Benoit Billebaut  
France Council Member

This year in 2016 the Irish Institute of Radiography and Radiation Therapy (IIRRT) celebrated its 20th anniversary.

Twenty years is a huge achievement for the institute, with immeasurable work done to-date in a bid to reach our stated goals of promoting the science and practice of radiography and radiation therapy. In this time, we have seen significant changes in the healthcare landscape and now is a perfect time to take stock and celebrate the achievements to date.

In 1996 radiographers in Ireland wanted the new Institute to address several points such as: good nationwide communication, education & continuing professional development, multicentre seminars, peer review journal, Annual Irish Conference, mailing list, Register of Qualified Radiographers, student membership, professional awards and Professional Indemnity Insurance. A national council was formed and the function of this council was to run the organisation and determine a long-term structure and strategy. A caretaker national council was elected to serve for one year and a new council was then elected in 1997 which remained for the following three years.

During the initial years of the institute a working group met with the Department of Health and established that the department fully recognised the IIR as the professional body representing Irish Radiographers. Thus, all non-national qualifications were forwarded to the IIR for comment on the equivalence of the education programme in the context of the degree programs offered in Ireland.

On July 27, 2007, the IIR became the IIRRT, to encompass radiation therapists (RTs) in addition to radiographers, a development which reflected the dynamism within the membership. The IIRRT is unique in representing the many common interests of the two professions such as the provision of a safe, quality patient centred service as well as promoting the unique agenda of each profession. The national council works tirelessly to promote the integrity and professionalism of radiographers and radiation therapists both nationally and internationally. These professionals fulfil their roles on a voluntary basis and generously give of their time to enhance the professions and this conscientiousness cannot be underestimated as they work on your behalf driving the profession forwards. IIRRT council members have assisted CORU the state regulator to get to the position it currently is – with regulation now compulsory for all Irish Radiographers and RTs, and all its associated duties and obligations to safeguard Irish public but also maintain standards in the profession. This has and will lead to an inevitable change to the operations of the IIRRT whose strategic outlook will now concentrate on CPD, advanced practice and national representation.

The institute has strong relationships with colleagues not just in Ireland but in Europe and beyond.

As an institute our activities continue to be directed at essentially improving patient care within healthcare settings by improving education, encouraging research and producing best practice guidelines. The IIRRT facilitate continuing professional development of its members and encourage role development to improve patient care and align with service need.

Today we continue to produce our quarterly journal “Radiography Ireland”, we promote research through the provision of research grants to both professionals and students. We have a dedicated CPD Officer. We provide an online CPD through our CPD HUB in addition to an electronic facility for professionals to record and reflect on their CPD. We continue to push the boundaries of the profession for the benefit of our members through addressing issues that affect Irish professionals such as advanced practice roles, diagnostic decision making and prescribing rights.

The IIRRT previously bid to hold the World Congress of the ISRRT in Dublin, at that time we were unsuccessful but the aspiration and goal to host and hold the World Congress in Dublin in 2020 remained.

In this our 20th year the IIRRT in conjunction with Advantage PCO put forward a bid to host the 21st World Congress in Dublin in 2020. The IIRRT are proud and privileged to have been chosen as the host society along with Advantage PCO and Dublin 2020.

We very much are looking forward to working with the Board and CEO of the ISRRT to host a very memorable event in Dublin.

What Dublin has to offer: Dublin is an exciting and inspirational city eager to extend a warm welcome to business tourists from across the globe. Scoring high on essential criteria such as suitability, accessibility, facilities and service, Dublin offers all the advantages of a big city with an intimate small town feel.

Captivating experience: Dublin is a breath of fresh air, a truly unique city founded by the Vikings and now embracing a global following, who now call it home. Dublin is steeped in tradition yet young at heart.
In the historic, compact city centre there is lots to do and see, and visitors will love the rich selection of galleries, museums, restaurants, pubs and shops, not to mention the traditionally warm welcome.

Traditionally high visitor turnout: World-renowned for our genuine sense of fun, the Irish people’s enviable passion for life promises to entice colleagues and peers from around the globe, guaranteeing high attendance at any international event.

Easy access: Ireland, ideally located on the edge of Europe, is an hour from London, less than two hours from Paris or Brussels and just six hours from the east coast of the US by air. Dublin Airport s a 20 minute transfer from Convention Centre Dublin and is one of Europe’s busiest airports, handling over 20 million passengers and offering over 175 international routes.

Getting around dublin: Getting around Dublin is quick and easy and Dublin is served by an extensive public transport network including Intercity trains, The DART - a modern, efficient suburban railway system linking all points along the Dublin Bay coastline with the city centre, Dublin Bus Service and The LUAS-a light rail network. The city boasts a large fleet of over 10,000 taxis with drivers who are famed for their friendly chat! With the introduction of the fantastic ‘Dublin bikes’ scheme, your delegates will be spoilt for choice.

Superb conference facilities

The convention centre, Dublin: When entering The Convention Centre Dublin it is immediately clear that this is one of the finest and most flexible conference centres in the world. With a stunning tiered-seating auditorium for plenary sessions, six flat-floored halls for exhibitions, and a range of meeting rooms and boardrooms. The CCD’s world-class conference centre design lends itself perfectly to host both large and small conferences and congresses.

Accommodation: Dublin boasts a first class accommodation infrastructure. There are over 20,000 competitively priced bedrooms within a 10km radius of The CCD including 6,000 within walking distance, your delegates can choose from a range of accommodation options to suit all tastes and budgets. Accommodation has been recommended to reflect a variety of ratings and price points.

Entry (visa) requirements: All visa applications are now made on-line using the AVATS on-line facility on www.dfa. i.e. Citizens of certain countries require a visa to travel to Ireland. The appointed PCO, Advantage PCO, will provide assistance to delegates in the procurement of visas.

Safety: Dublin is a safe and welcoming city. As one of the friendliest in Europe, the city maintains a relaxed and convivial atmosphere.

Support: The full support and co-operation of the Convention Centre Dublin, Dublin Tourism and Fáilte Ireland has been pledged. Assistance with site inspections and marketing and promotion of the congress has been planned to include website, apps and print media commencing at the close of ISRRT 2020.

A local organising committee has been assembled to work exclusively and energetically on the organisation of ISRRT 2020.

The Professional Conference Organiser, “Advantage PCO” has the experience and expertise to manage major international congresses of this size and importance.

UNITED KINGDOM

2016 Radiographer, Team and Student of the Year celebrated at House of Commons

The UK Radiographer, Radiography Team and Students of the Year, along with the regional winners and their friends and family, were celebrated at a ceremony at the House of Commons on World Radiography Day, 8 November.

Assembled guests were welcomed by the Society of Radiographers President Steve Herring, who in his opening remarks recognised the crucial role of all radiographers and the special feeling of receiving the commendation of your colleagues.

“It is true that each member of the profession is special. Every day radiographers provide excellent patient care, every day radiology managers do more with less and encourage their team to excel and every day radiographer lecturers instill best practice and high standards in their students.

“So if each radiographer and team is so good, how do we choose who to honour at these awards?

“The key aspect is that the winners are chosen by their peers. Any radiographer who has won one of these awards will tell you that the greatest honour is being nominated by their colleagues, individuals who know that the winners are not just doing their job, but providing excellent standards of care.”

The awards were presented by the guest of honour, Linda Hindle, the Lead Allied Health Professional for Public Health England.

In her address Linda spoke about the invaluable contribution that radiographers make to public health and how important it is that all health professionals take the opportunity to educate and inform patients.

Jane Hall, a Macmillan Information and Support Radiographer at Lincoln County Hospital, picked up the prize of the UK and Yorkshire and North Trent Radiographer of the Year.

Members from the UK and North West Radiography Team of the Year, the Word of Mouth Mammogram e-Network (WoMMeN), were also in attendance to receive the acclaim of their peers.

Also present were the winners of the Diagnostic and Therapeutic Student of the Year winners. Sarah Smith, who graduated with a First Class Honours degree from Sheffield Hallam University in Radiotherapy and Oncology Leeds, picked up the therapeutic award and Marianne Kipling, a First Class graduate from Birmingham City University took the prize as best Diagnostic Radiography Student.

Prize winning World Radiography Day posters

Members of the Society and College of Radiographers were challenged to come up with designs for posters to be included in the 500 packs which are despatched to diagnostic and radiotherapy departments across the UK for World Radiography Day. Members were asked to come up with a...
“I am no one special and may be that is the point,” Steve said at his inauguration held in London. “I'm simply here to represent everyone else and it is a huge privilege.”

A self-declared ‘late starter’ into the profession, Steve said he worked at many things before discovering radiography. He told the audience of assembled guests, including many past presidents of the organisation and the ‘great and good’ of the profession, “I've worked as buyer estimator for a large builder’s merchants. I put my hand down every toilet at the channel tunnel site on the day I helped to load them all on to a lorry.

“I've swept streets, weeded graveyards and unloaded new cars from ferries. I've even driven a tank in Her Majesty’s Armed Forces. It has given me life skills that I use every day as a radiographer.”

Turning to his own professional role, Steve said: “My key aim is to raise the profile of all areas of advanced and consultant practice. Advanced practice is so important in the patient pathway and outcomes, especially in the light of increased pressure on diagnostics and therapy.

“I've had the opportunity at the European Congress and at other conferences and study days to discuss the increasing relevance of advanced practice.”

Three designs were chosen as the outstanding entries, picking up the prize of the cash equivalent of a year’s full membership of the SCoR, a framed copy of their poster, and the honour of having their poster displayed in hundreds of departments around the UK during World Radiography Day.

The winning poster designs were by;
- Jo Ruberto, Senior Radiographer, Guy’s and St Thomas’s NHS Foundation Trust
- Jennifer Meakin, Senior Radiographer, Radiology Department, South Warwickshire Foundation Trust
- Sarah Chinn, Deputy Superintendent, CT/MRI Department, Royal Bournemouth Hospital

Left to right Frances, Freya and Jonathan with Richard outside Buckingham Palace.

“Radiotherapy, the cancer treatment of the past or the future?” Charlotte Beardmore, Director of Professional Policy at the SCoR, was part of a panel presenting “Radiotherapy, the cancer treatment of the past or future?” at the House of Commons recently.

The presentation was delivered to an audience of MPs, members of the House of Lords and the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee. Charlotte gave an overview of the challenges and opportunities in delivering a world class radiotherapy service, including patient access and journey times, the high cost of equipment and huge variations in workforce requirements. She added that there was more demand for radiotherapy staff, many vacancies and a greater need for specialist skills and training, at the same time as cuts to continuing professional development budgets.

The presentation, chaired by Stephen Metcalfe MP, also featured contributions
from Dr Alexandra Stewart, Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Royal Surrey Hospital, Mark Davies, a patient, and Professor Andy Beavis, Head of Radiation Physics, Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals.

Dr Stewart explained how radiotherapy is sometimes seen as ‘old fashioned’ because of its origins in the early history of x-ray and electrotherapy, but it now cures more people than chemotherapy.

Mark Davies, meanwhile, explained why radiotherapy was the best choice for him when he was diagnosed with colorectal cancer. He stressed that cancer must not just be about prevention of death but also about preparation for life. In Mark’s case, radiotherapy meant that he didn’t have to live with a stoma bag, one of the consequences of surgery.

Finally, Professor Andy Beavis talked about the future of radiotherapy and how advances in technology mean that radiotherapy can be targeted even more precisely using new equipment and techniques.

Jacqueline Fowler, Chief Executive of the British Institute of Radiology said, “This was a fantastic demonstration of how we can raise the profile of radiotherapy through collaboration across the disciplines. The speakers were excellent and got our message across loud and clear.”

Two education leaders attain principal fellowship status
Two radiographers from the University of the West of England (UWE), Bristol, were recently awarded the status of Principal Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (PFHEA).

This award is made to those demonstrating exceptional strategic educational leadership and impact in the higher education sector, as a key contribution to high-quality student learning. There are currently around 200 principal fellows in the UK. The HEA works with higher education providers and organisations to improve the professional experience of higher education teachers through fellowships, accreditation, awards and professional development provision.

Vivien said: “Marc and I were both delighted when we received the news that we had achieved this award.

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Rachel Harris appointed Chair of the CAHPR
Dr Rachel Harris, pictured left, professional and education manager for the Society and College, has been appointed chair of the Council for Allied Health Professional Research (CAHPR). Rachel is a well-known champion of research. She has worked for the SCoR as research lead since 2006 and is the driving force behind the organisation’s research strategy.

Rachel’s initial foray into research was in the early 1990s when she investigated the psycho-social implications of head and neck cancer. She explains: “That work accentuated both the importance of undertaking clinical research and its influence on multidisciplinary patient care. Thereafter, I was ‘sold’ on research!”

Completing her Doctorate in Clinical Research in 2013, Rachel confesses she “fervently believes in the future of allied health professionals (AHPs) and what our professions can achieve”. The CAHPR aims to develop AHP research and enables the professions to speak with one voice on research issues.

Charlotte Beardmore, the SCoR’s director of professional policy, comments: “The appointment of Rachel as chair demonstrates the high regard in which she is held by the professions and is wonderful news, not only for Rachel but the radiography profession as a whole.”

AFRICA

GAMBIA

First General Meeting of Gambia Radiography Association
The Gambia radiography meeting was held in order to revive the current leadership and financial structures of the association and plan the way forward in establishing a collaboration and cooperation with international organisations and societies.
for proper guidance. We want to establish a regulatory body that will look into all aspects of development and advancement of radiography in Gambia. All the departments are represented and the next meeting is scheduled in early 2017. We appreciate the ISRRT involvement in helping to move towards advancing the radiology services and professional development programs/ opportunities in Gambia.

**New SORSA President**
Heidi Richter is the new SORSA president. SORSA wishes her success with the activities in the president portfolio.

**Kwazulu-natal Branch CT Colonography Seminar**
Dr Joel Bortz presented three papers at a CT colonography (CTC) seminar in Durban in April 2016. He is a South African trained radiologist, and has been living in Los Angeles, California since the late 1990s. He is the main author of a book: CT colonography for radiographers: A guide to performance and image interpretation. His knowledge of the subject was very evident during his presentations, as was his care and concern for developing radiographers and extending their skills to include the performing of CTCs.

The presentations covered various aspects of CTC: preparation and technique, various pathologies, radiation dose, classification of extracolonic findings using the E-classifications system, evaluation and accurate measurements of polyps, to name a few. This was an interactive presentation with many visuals, where the audience was made to feel included and important. Dr Bortz has a wealth of CTC knowledge and experience that he shared humbly and in the interests of up-skilling radiographers in SA. The audience, which included a few radiologists, left the event having gained an enormous amount of information about CTC.

**Bloemfontein Branch**
The Bloemfontein Branch members treated the soon to graduate students, with an epaulette ceremony.

To celebrate World Radiography Day, the branch invited all the clinical practices to showcase their quality services during the week of 28 November 2016. The idea is for the practices to involve patients while celebrating World Radiography Day, and by doing so, make patients aware of their right to quality service delivery and radiographs. In addition, team work between radiographers, students and patients is encouraged. The branch shared the following ideas with the practices:

- A questionnaire to patients on effective patient care
- A brochure to inform patients about x-ray examinations
- Information to create awareness about infection control

In the next edition, the visuals of this event will be shared.

**Pretoria Branch**
To celebrate World Radiography Day the branch plans to have buttons and stickers made with the message ‘WRD 121 years of responsible exposure’. They will also distribute information pamphlets explaining what X-rays are and the importance of radiation protection. To educate the patients in the public and private radiology departments, radiographers will ask the patients preselected questions on which suitable answers will be available. These questions will also be issued to students and staff at the Tshwane University of Technology, University of Pretoria and the Sefako Makgatho University.

Hesta Friedrich-Nel
(with kind acknowledgement to Marcel Ramos-Swanepoel, Lynda Swindon and Bonita Johnson)
AUSTRALASIA

FIJI

Greetings from Fiji.

I am pleased to inform you that the Medical Imaging profession in Fiji is growing. A lot of changes have taken place over the past few years.

The Fiji Society of Radiographers no longer exists, it has been renamed the Fiji Society of Medical Imaging Technologists (FSMIT). There is also a Fiji Radiation Health Board. Both these organisations are governed by Radiation Health Decrees.

We look forward to greater collaboration and strengthening the relationship between FSMIT and ISRRT.

The new Office Bearers are as follows:

President
Mr Manik Chand
Vice President
Mr Eric Naicker
Secretary
Mr Edwin Singh

Edwin Singh
FSMIT Secretary

HONG KONG

Our association and members are very happy to be part of this worldwide professional community, ISRRT.

As our new generation of professionals are maturing via the various training methods for them, I would expect them to proceed with a smooth and democratic succession so that our Association will continue to play a significant role, both locally and internationally, for our profession in the future.

I personally appreciate the ISRRT help and support in all professional matters.

The HKRA sincerely wish Dr Alexander Yule all the best in your new chapter of life after retiring from the ISRRT CEO position and wish to see you somewhere in the world.

Apollo Wong
Chairman, HKRTA

TAIWAN

Taiwan Society of Radiological Technologists (TWSRT) at the 19th ISRRT World Congress

The TWSRT has made every effort to expand our knowledge on research work. More than 60 participants from Taiwan attended the 19th ISRRT World Congress in Seoul, South Korea. Pictured below. In total 45 papers (15 oral and 31 poster) were presented at the conference, together with one invited lecture on Asian Forum and one plenary speech.
Vietnamese students study in Taiwan
Vietnamese students got their Master Degree at Yuanpei University of Medical Technology and Central Taiwan University of Science And Technology. Many thanks to Prof. Chiung Wen Kuo from Yuanpei University of Medical Technology and Prof. Cheng-Hsun Lin from Central Taiwan University of Science And Technology, who supported scholarships for Vietnamese the students.

Vietnamese students had a presentation at the International Students Academic Conference, which was organised by Yuanpei University of Medical Technology in Taiwan.

The 4th Annual Conference of Vietnam Association of Radiological Technologists and Continuing Medical Educations (CME) August 19-20, 2016
This conference was organised by Yuanpei University of Medical Technology in Taiwan.

VART joined the 19th ISRRT World Congress
Ms Tran Thi Ngoc Loan from University of Medicine and Pharmacy Ho Chi Minh City received a Grant from ISRRT to participate at the ISRRT World Congress 2016 in Seoul, South Korea.

Thank you to the ISRRT and KART Board of Management who gave this opportunity to the Vietnamese RTs to join the Congress and mix with colleagues from around the world.

Throughout the Congress the Vietnam Association formed friendships with associations in the Asia region as well as association from other regions.

See photo above.

NEW ZEALAND

On behalf of Nic Ross, NZIMRT President, and myself I would like to thank the Korean Radiological Technologists Association (KRTA) for a wonderful World Congress. Their generous hospitality was appreciated and we enjoyed an interesting range of presentations and posters.
The NZIMRT enjoyed a great annual conference in Christchurch at the end of August with “Aspire – Reach for the Skies” being the theme. The previously scheduled conference in Christchurch was required to be moved due to the devastating earthquakes the same year. It was fantastic to witness the strength and fortitude of the people in the city and the radiographers as they continue to meet the health demands of their area. It serves as a timely reminder for preparedness in the time of disaster both in our work environments and personal lives as numerous earthquakes have hit both New Zealand and elsewhere in the world over the last couple of months.

World Radiography Day was celebrated in New Zealand with a variety of shared meals and some fundraising targeted to support sending clinical leaders to provide education within various workshops in Asia and the Pacific.

The NZIMRT continues to promote the work of ISRRT through both the NZIMRT newsletter “Attenuation” and on the website: www.nzimrt.co.nz

On behalf of the NZIMRT I wish all of our international colleagues a safe and happy Christmas and New Year season.

Kathy Colgan
NZIMRT ISRRT Director

The ISRRT World Congress was tinged with some sadness as we farewelled Sandy and Alison Yule. The commitment demonstrated by Sandy throughout his tenure as CEO of ISRRT has left a very strong legacy for us all to continue. The NZIMRT welcomes Dimitris Katsafarakis to the role and we look forward to working with him in the future. Congratulations to Dublin in securing the 2020 World Congress.

Diary Dates 2017

March 24-26
12th ASMMIRT
Perth, Western Australia

March 25-26
50th Annual Meeting of TWSRT and the International Joint Conference of Radiological Technologists
Hsinchu, Taiwan
To submit an abstract please email: service@twsrt.org.tw

March 2017
French National Congress
Bordeaux, France

April 27-30
Annual General Conference (AGC)
Hosted by CAMRT and the Ontario Association of Medical Radiation Sciences
Ottawa, Canada

April 2017
French MRI Congress for Radiographers
Strasbourg, France

June 2017
Radiotherapy Congress
France

June 22-25
ASRT Educational Symposium and Annual Governance and House of Delegates Meeting
Orlando, Florida

June 23-25
21st Asia-Australasia Conference of Radiological Technologists
Hong Kong Science Park, Sha Tin, Hong Kong

June 24-26
ASRT Radiation Therapy Conference
San Diego, California

2018
April 12-15
20th ISRRT World Congress
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
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<td>Kenya</td>
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### Names and addresses of member societies

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<td>Seychelles</td>
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