

Bulletin
Fall 2025
The Pennsylvania Radiological
Society



**This edition and past editions are available to all members at*
<http://www.paradsoc.org/>

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Editor's note Dr. Wei Shaw

The leaves are just beginning to turn. The cool breeze in the mornings and evenings brings a refreshing ease from the hot summer. Milkweed flowers have morphed into seed pods. Monarch caterpillars that recently stripped clean many milkweed stems are almost gone. On our dining room table, hanging off a stick wedged diagonally in a dry fish tank, is a jewel-like light green chrysalis, with a thin gold and black band. It is hard to imagine that one day ago, this was still a wiggly plump caterpillar.

The chrysalis shows no visible changes for the next nine days, hanging quietly, motionless. On the morning of the tenth day, the green opaque shell gradually turns transparent, showing something dark inside. Then quite suddenly, a thin small opening appears at the lower end and quickly widens. A black dot emerges from the opening. With a smooth swift motion, in less than a minute, a large bumble bee-like figure is out of the shell, hanging onto the shell with its legs. For the next four hours, the round belly becomes slender, the crumbled little wings stretch out and become smooth, lighter and brighter, the curled antennae unfurl, and the beautiful monarch butterfly is in full form. It first hangs upside down from the chrysalis shell, then moves to the stick where the shell is attached, and eventually climbs on top of the stick. It flaps the wings intermittently, and very slowly at first, with gradually increased frequency, speed, and duration.

Finally, after almost two minutes of continued wing flapping, the monarch butterfly kicks off from the stick, up into the air and away.

It is a mesmerizing experience to witness this process in its short time frame. Quite similarly, but across a longer timeline, radiology science and practice have also undergone many drastic changes. From the first X-ray of Anna Ludwig's hand to the light box still occasionally decorating reading room walls to the emergence of ultrasound, CT, and MRI technologies, radiologists have experienced with each advancement the joy and pain of adaptation.

Still, more changes are coming and cannot be stopped, with AI being the elephant in the room. I cannot communicate with the butterfly to ask what it feels. I definitely feel the uncertainty of the unknown, the fluttering sensation of butterfly wings in my chest. I hope, and am sure, just like the butterfly, and just as we have done before, certainly not without growing pains, we will find our new wings.

And now...the news.



New President 2025-2026 **John Morgan, MD, FACR**

President's Message Fall 2025

First I would like to thank Dr. Kenneth Kurtz for his leadership this past year, guiding us through many important changes, including choosing a new Executive Director and lobbyist. Dr. Kurtz and his team reviewed a large number of CV's and chose Judy Eschberger, Esq. to fill both the Executive Director and Lobbyist positions. Ms. Eschberger comes to us with extensive experience in State Government as both a staff member and lobbyist. She has worked with other physician organizations in the past as well. Her background will serve us well as we navigate our way through the waves created by legislative efforts of the PA Legislature.

This year coincides with many changes to the leadership of many committees, as many long-time committee chairs are stepping aside to allow a new generation of leaders to fill these positions.

I want to thank Dr. Tom Chang for his years of efforts helming the By-Laws Committee. He will be succeeded by Dr. Josh Tice. By-laws is not what anyone would call "glamorous" work, but it's critical to our functioning

Thank you to Dr. Marcela Bohm-Velez for her many years of service as head of our Fellowship Committee. Thanks to her efforts, PA continues to have a perfect record –i.e. all candidates for ACR Fellowship recommended by the PA Rad Fellowship Committee have been approved at the national level! She will be succeeded by Dr. Eric Walker. Anyone who has an interest in applying for FACR will find wonderful guidance and support, including expert advice on when to apply.

Thank you to Dr. Todd Hertzberg for his many years of leadership of the Finance Committee. The efforts of Dr. Hertzberg and his team have resulted in our having a large amount of money both to run our year-to-year operations but now, with the addition of the Legacy Fund, to be able

to keep a sound volume of capital safe from liability. Succeeding Dr. Hertzberg is Dr. Ali Dhanaliwala who has shown his acumen at our recent Executive Board of Directors Meeting.

Thank you to Dr. Kelly Biggs for his many years of service to the PARAD and more recently, for editing the Bulletin for the past three years, a challenging job with which I am quite familiar. Under his guidance our Bulletin editions have been engaging, informative and fun to read. Dr. Wei Shaw has ably taken on the challenge of Editor for the three next years and I am sure will continue to provide us with engaging content we need to know and want to read.

I want to thank Dr. Tessa Cook for her fantastic efforts this past year on the Education Committee, handling the bulk of the planning for our excellent Fall Meeting. As Dr. Cook has vast responsibilities and serving as Vice-Chair of Informatics for the ACR, she will be doing less active work on the Education Committee. Dr. Katie Traylor will be joining the Committee, along with Drs. Wei Shaw and Angela Choe.

For the coming year, I plan to work with Judy Eschberger to set up a series of meetings (Zoom or, if possible, in person) with a number of Radiology Practices across the State. The goal is twofold, one to let them see who we are and let them know, on a personal level, what it is we do, especially as regards advocacy at the State and National Level. And, secondly to find out what specific challenges they face locally in order to see what we might be able to do to help.

I also will be working with Dr. Harry Jha on a project to help educate our members on aspects of Law and medicine we all should know.

Dr. Jonathan Morgan's bio

Dr. Morgan was born in North Carolina and grew up in Long Island, New York. He earned a B.A. in English Literature from Haverford College. He attended medical school at the State University of New York School of Biomedical Sciences in Buffalo, NY. He did a one-year internship in internal medicine, followed by a diagnostic radiology residency at Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia. He subsequently did a two-year Neuroradiology Fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Dr. Morgan spent his first 20 years in practice at Southeast Radiology, a private practice serving the Crozer Health System in Delaware County, PA. He eventually became chair of the MRI division and chief of the Neuroradiology Section. After the dissolution of Southeast Radiology, he briefly worked for US Radiology before joining University Radiology Group, a large private practice covering the Robert Wood Johnson Barnabas Hospital System in New Jersey in February, 2024. He now works as a full time Neuroradiologist doing teleradiology for the University Radiology Group.

Before joining the Pennsylvania Radiological Society in 2017, Dr. Morgan was highly involved with the Philadelphia Roentgen Ray Society, serving on the Education Committee and later at the executive board level, eventually serving at President from 2016-2017.

Dr. Morgan joined the Pennsylvania Radiological Society as an Alternate Councilor in 2017. He was appointed Co-Chair of the Membership Engagement Committee with Dr. Josh Tice the following year. He served as Bulletin Editor from 2019-2022. Subsequently, he was appointed to remain on the Executive Board as 2nd Vice President, following the yearly progression to assuming the Presidency this year.

He joined the Education Committee as Co-Chair with Dr. Tessa Cook beginning in the 2023-2024 year and continues as Co-Chair currently.

He served as an Alternate Councilor for PA from 2018 to 2021 and then as Councilor from 2021 through 2025.

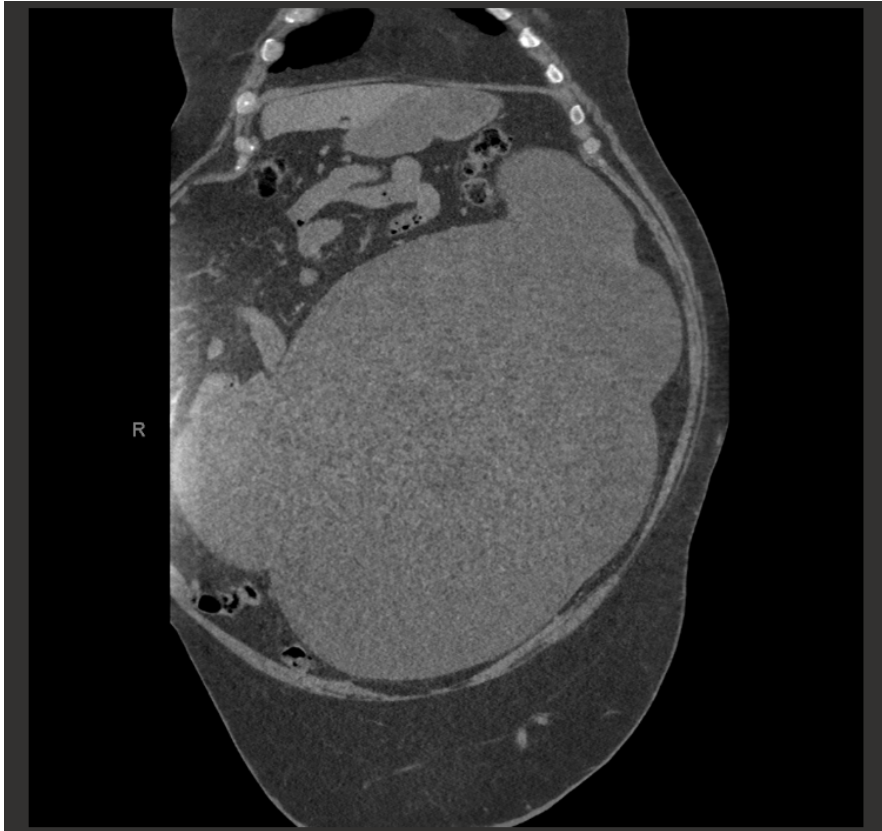
He has been the unofficial website manager from 2020 to the current date, assisting in migrating data from an older platform to our current platform and helping to create a more engaging website with information geared toward attracting new members.

Dr. Morgan was conferred Fellowship from the ACR in the Spring of 2022.

He has been happily married to his wife Jennifer for 19 years and has two daughters, Alix, who just started college at the University of Florida at Gainesville, and Juliet, who just started high school at the Center for Performing Arts. He has two fantastic dogs and, in his spare time, enjoys playing pit master, smoking ribs and brisket, preparing for his future career as a barbecue chef.

CRACK THIS CASE!

61 year old man. History of abdominal pain. Examination limited due to morbid obesity. See end of bulletin for discussion.



FALL CHAPTER MEETING

The board of the Pennsylvania Radiological Society met on Friday, September 12th, in Philadelphia, PA. A broad range of subjects were addressed, with special attention to budget and meeting planning. PARAD is not immune to the post-pandemic challenges of inflation and engagement. The Society conducted one board meeting in hybrid format in spring 2025 for cost control, with a good outcome and will continue to implement ways of budget improvement. Still, finances remain strong particularly considering the current climate. In 2021, the PARAD Legacy Fund was established to promote the education of its' members and other radiology interests. It continues to thrive and we encourage your continued support of the Fund.



PARAD Board in Philadelphia , PA

Medical students, residents, fellows' section

Contributed by **Katelyn Rudisill, MPH**

MD Candidate, Class of 2026 | Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

Chair, Pennsylvania Radiology Society – Medical Student Section

The Pennsylvania Radiological Society held its annual meeting on September 12th-13th, 2025, bringing together medical students, residents, and fellows from across the state. The first day centered on career development with sessions on contract negotiations and the landscape of private equity versus academic practice. The second day featured a wide range of presentations, including the role of artificial intelligence in radiology, lessons from radiologists practicing in Cuba, leadership and work-life balance, a resident-fellow panel, and strategies for policy engagement. In addition, 35 research projects were accepted for presentation, with awards distributed during the dinner reception.



MSS and RFS leadership



Medical students at the meeting

Dr. Frank Lexa, discussed the psychological challenges faced by medical leadership and strategies to overcome those challenges in order to help us to be the better leaders in radiology.

Dr Elaine Lewis, and **Dr. Ryan Lee** shared what they learned about the Cuban medical system, especially radiology training and practice. There is universal healthcare system in Cuba, free for all, with tiered levels of care. There are community clinics as bases, with primary care physicians living onsite, maintaining very close ties to the communities. Yet there is evidence of the lack of adequate equipment and supplies and therefore there are limitations on medical practice, such as breast cancer screening in the form of manual exams.

Dr. Tessa S. Cook spoke about educating the next generation of radiologists with AI. There are challenges and rewards in incorporating AI in resident and fellow trainings, also in daily practices.

Dr. Timothy A. Crummy, Speaker, ACR Council, provided the ACR update with current issues, what the ACR has fought and achieved, what lies ahead, including reimbursement, practice encroachment issues and he also highlighted the contributions to ACR leadership positions from Pennsylvania's chapter.

Dr. Kenneth Kurtz moderated a panel discussion, including **Dr. Eric Rubin**, **Dr. Saurabh (Harry) Jha**, and **Dr. Pamela Spicer**, with topics on workload and workforce issues in academic and private practices, from the perspectives of attendings and residents, including topics of recruitment, remote work, and utilization of AI.

Ted Burnes, Senior Director, Political Affairs & RADPAC, American College of Radiology, provided updates of ACR Federal Government Relations. RADPAC has worked on and achieved and what RADPAC is currently working on achieving.



Dr. Mary H. Scanlon introduced the fellow and resident panel, with **Dr. Nathan Davis** presenting “Is the AI boom sustainable? The toll of AI on the environment”, **Dr. Peter Qiao** presenting “Theranostics: Hot Topics and a Bright Future”, **Dr. Gabriel Virador** presenting “A GPT approach to Lung-RADS: Analyzing the impact of prompting strategies”.

Dr. Matthew Hawkins drew an interesting analogy from his love and experience of basketball to strategies of developing effective and health teams in radiology.

Evening event on Saturday 9/13/2025 contributed by **Dr. Pamela Spicer**

The President’s Dinner was the conclusion of the PARAD 2025 Annual Meeting. It began with a tribute to the Gold Medallion awardee Dr. Julie Gubernick, by the honored lecturer and former executive director, John Kline. He gave a thoughtful discussion regarding the role everyone plays as an advocate in all aspects of life and the importance of getting involved with advocacy as a physician and radiologist. He also recognized the strong attendance and involvement of the residents and medical students at the meeting and dinner.

Dr. Julie Gubernick was honored with the PARAD Gold Medallion award to recognize her achievements in radiology leadership and patient care. She accepted the award with much of her family in attendance and gave a brief speech thanking her family and many friends who made it possible.

The scientific exhibit winners were presented with their cash prizes. Dr. Kwasi Armah highlighted the robust participation of the medical students in this year’s scientific exhibit submissions. We had 35 submissions competing for the three cash prizes which is more than in any previous year.

Dr. Kenneth Kurtz inducted the new president of PARAD, Dr. John Morgan, who gave a brief overview of his goals for the upcoming year, including his emphasis on communication with

plans for Town Hall events with practice leaders throughout the state as well as updating the PARAD website to be more accessible for all users.



Outgoing PARADSOC President Dr. Kenneth Kurtz (left), incoming President Dr. Jonathan Morgan (right)

Congratulations to this year's scientific exhibit winners!

FIRST PLACE:

Accuracy of Shoulder Ultrasound in Detecting Rotator Cuff and Biceps Tendon Tears at Academic and Community Hospitals

Author (s): Sisi Tang, BS¹, Kristen Shute, DO¹, Viet Le, BS¹, Alyssa Daniele, MPH¹, Matthew Kelly, MD², Christy French³

Institution: ¹ Penn State College of Medicine, ² Orthopedic Institute of Pennsylvania, ³ Penn State Hershey Medical Center

SECOND PLACE:

Low Incidence of Acute Actionable Imaging Findings in Emergency Department Patients with Provided Diagnosis of Vertigo: 14 -year Retrospective Analysis in a Large Health System

Authors: Warren Chang, MD MBA, Raven Spencer, MD, Jason Gandhi, MD, Charles Li, MD, Laura Eisenmenger, MD, Michael Goldberg, MD MPH

Institution: Allegheny Health Network

THIRD PLACE:

Lung Fissure Integrity and BLVR Outcomes: Assessment of Lung Fissure integrity and its predictive value for outcomes in Bronchoscopic lung volume reduction in emphysema patients

Authors: Laura Okechukwu BS¹, Kara Young MA¹, Katelyn Rudisill BS¹, Hillel Maresky MD², Gerard Criner MD²

Institution: Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University¹, Temple University Hospital²

LEGACY FUND

The PARAD Legacy Fund is going strong after its establishment in 2021. In 2025 the fund sponsored physicians in training for PRS meeting, ACR meeting, RLI Jumpstart Your Career scholarships, and Rutherford-Levanty Fellowships, and these programs will be supported again in 2026.

The Pennsylvania Medical Society continues to assist in fundraising efforts for the Legacy Fund.

Please donate to the fund at the link below and select from the fund drop down list: PA Radiological Society Legacy Fund.

<https://netforum.pamedsoc.org/eWeb/dynamicpage.aspx?webcode=onlinedonation&formcode=Foundation%20eWeb%20Donation%20Form>

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS UPDATE – FALL 2025, provided by Dr. Jeremy Sykes

Jeremy Sykes, MD – Chair, Legislative Affairs

Judy Eschberger, Esq. – Executive Director

Senate Bill 88 (SB 88): now Act 52 of 2025

SB 88 is a bipartisan bill sponsored by Senator Frank Farry (R-6 Bucks) and Senate President Pro Tempore Kim Ward (R-39 Westmoreland). The bill eliminates deductibles, co-insurance, co-payments, and other out-of-pocket expenses for patients undergoing diagnostic breast imaging.

The bill was introduced June 6, unanimously approved by the Senate Insurance Committee on June 10, and passed the full Senate on June 24 after review by the Appropriations Committee confirmed there would be no fiscal impact on the state.

SB 88 was unanimously approved by the House Insurance Committee on June 25 and now passed the House.

This bill was signed into law by the Governor on November 24, 2025 as Act 52 of 2025. The Act takes effect in 60 days and then the insurance plans have 180 days to implement it.

Other Legislative Activity on Our Radar

- **HB 409 – Patient Test Result Information Act**

Sponsored by Rep. Bridget Kosierowski (D-114), this bill would amend Act 112 and eliminate the requirement of patient notification letters to be sent for “significant abnormalities” and instead notify patients at the time of imaging that results will be made available to them once ready via electronic health record or mail (if necessary). It passed the House 202-1 on April 7 and is now in the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

- **HB 433 – Insurance Coverage for Breast Imaging**

Sponsored by Rep. Gina Curry (D-164), this bill mandates full coverage for mammographic exams and breast imaging without cost-sharing. It remains tabled in the House and will be removed from our tracking since it is substantially similar to SB 88 which was signed into law as Act 52 of 2025.

Residents' Day 2025 Recap

On June 25, our members visited Harrisburg, met with key Senate and House members and staff to confirm PARAD support for SB 88 and attended the House Insurance committee meeting where SB 88 passed unanimously. Later that day, the bill had its first reading on the House floor—an important milestone, even though budget negotiations stalled its' consideration until passage of the budget.



Gabriel Virador (Mercy Fitzgerald), Legislative Affairs chair Jeremy Sykes, Rep. Arvind Venkat, Pam Spicer-Moehring (Jefferson-Einstein), Peter Qiao (UPenn)

DONATE TO RADPAC to support Federal issue lobbying:

<https://www.radiologyadvocacy.org/SitePages/HomePage.aspx>

DONATE TO PA RADPAC to support State issue lobbying:

<https://paradsoc.org/donations/donate.asp?id=22046>

2025-2026 PARAD SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: **Dr. Jonathan Morgan**
President-Elect: **Dr. Kwasi Armah**
First Vice-President: **Dr. Ryan Lee**

Second Vice-President: **Dr. Angela Choe**

Secretary: **Dr. Matthew E. Brown**
Treasurer: **Dr. Matthew Wiggins**
Editor: **Dr. Wei Shaw**
Senior Councilor: **Dr. Jeremy Sykes**

Immediate Past President: **Dr. Kenneth Kurtz**

GOLD MEDALLION

Congratulations to the 2025 Gold Medallion recipient:

Julie Ann Gubernick, MD, FACR



Dr. Julie Gubernick is Chair of the Department of Radiology at Jefferson Abington and Jefferson Lansdale Hospitals and Clinical Associate Professor of Radiology at Sidney Kimmel College of Medicine, Jefferson University. She earned her undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Pennsylvania, completed her internship at Abington Memorial Hospital, and her residency in Diagnostic Radiology at Albert Einstein Medical Center, where she served as Chief Resident.

Throughout her career, Dr. Gubernick has combined clinical excellence with leadership. She previously served as Chief of Radiology at Jefferson Einstein Montgomery and Medical director of Lehigh Valley Diagnostic Imaging. In addition to her hospital leadership, she has been a dedicated advocate for organized radiology. She is a Past President of both the Pennsylvania Radiological Society and the Philadelphia Roentgen Ray Society and has represented Pennsylvania as a Councilor to the American College of Radiology since 2006.

Recognized for her contributions, Dr. Gubernick received the Honored Radiologist Award from the Philadelphia Roentgen Ray Society and has been elected a Fellow of the American College of Radiology. Her career has been marked by her commitment to advancing patient care, supporting her colleagues, and mentoring future radiologists.

Outside of medicine, she serves on the boards of several philanthropic organizations and enjoys traveling, skiing, boating, and spending time with family and friends, especially her husband, daughters, sons-in-law and grandson.

CRACK THIS CASE ANSWER:

Giant hydronephrosis, with chronic UPJ obstruction.

Sponsors

The Pennsylvania Radiological Society appreciates the attendance of those representatives of industries vital to the practice of radiology. Their corporate commitment to all of radiology and specifically, the radiologists in Pennsylvania, is appreciated. Support for the 110th Annual Meeting was provided by the following companies and is gratefully acknowledged.

- ◆ MBMS, LLC
- ◆ MSN Healthcare Solutions
- ◆ Zotec
- ◆ Healthcare Administrative Partners (HAP)
- ◆ Subtle Medical
- ◆ Double Black Imaging

IMPORTANT DATES

- PARAD Resident's Day on the hill, Harrisburg, May or June 2026. Date TBD.
- ACR 2026. May 4-7, 2026, Hilton Washington, D.C.
- PARAD Annual meeting October 2-3, 2026. Pittsburgh, PA.



H. ARMS