



Summer 2024

TheViewBox

Bi-Annual Newsletter of the Texas Radiological Society

TRS Mission

To serve, promote, and advance the profession of radiology in Texas.

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Volunteer Highlight

Volunteers are the heart of our nonprofit organization, bringing dedication, passion, and selflessness. Their unwavering commitment and generous contributions of time and energy make an immeasurable impact for our profession. We are profoundly grateful for their support and inspired by their relentless pursuit on our behalf. This year, we will highlight some of these amazing folks in the newsletter, with the hope that it may spark more of us. First, meet **Tilden (Ty) Childs, MD, FACR**. Dr. Childs is a past President and Gold Medalist of TRS and has led the advocacy efforts of TRS since 2016. During the 88th Texas Legislative Session in 2023 he had the unique opportunity to serve as both the Chair of the TRS Legislative Committee as well as the Chair of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) Council on Legislation.

We asked Dr. Childs about his work in these roles.

What did a typical week look like during the 2023 legislative session while serving as Chair of TMA Council on Legislation and Chair of TRS Legislative Committee?

I took time off to be in Austin several days each week during most of the session. I worked closely with the TMA lobbyists and TRS lobbyists on many issues, including those both specific and insular to radiology. Most weeks I attended committee hearings and testified on several issues of importance to medicine, including many scope of practice bills. In addition

to hearings, we listened to hours and hours of testimony. The legislative session was a whirlwind of activity!

What accomplishment are you most proud of in your tenure as Chair of TRS Legislative Committee?



I am most proud that we were able to facilitate the process of getting Medicare coverage of low dose CT screening for lung cancer. After a study in 2014 showed favorable outcomes for low dose CT screening for lung cancer, I attended the ACR

meeting where I participated in lobbying for Medicare coverage. A few days later I participated with the Tarrant County Medical Society at the annual TMA meeting and was able to encourage delegates to vote in favor of a TMA resolution to support Medicare coverage, despite opposition from some specialties. The resolution passed. A few weeks later I attended the AMA meeting and worked with the ACR to get a similar resolution passed. As this was during the federal CMS comment period, the AMA could

continued on page 11

TRS 2025

Austin Marriott Downtown | Austin, TX | February 13 - 16
Radiology Day at TX Capitol | February 12

Meeting Happenings



TRS Leaders hard at work.



Dr. Scott Reeder lecturing on the Evolution of MRI.



Program Director Panel for medical students.



Attendees networking at the TRS Awards Dinner.



111TH ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

February 23-25, 2024 | Arlington, Texas

Texas Radiological Society was excited to be in Arlington for our 111th Annual Meeting. Over sixty-five speakers dedicated their time and expertise to provide attendees with quality educational lectures. Four concurrent educational sessions were offered throughout the weekend: Diagnostic Radiology, Radiation Oncology, Resident and Fellow Case Review Course and the Medical Student Symposium.

Attendees had access to obtain CME, RLI, Ethics, MPCEC and Modality Credits. Networking opportunities were abundant between the Exhibit Hall, Welcome Reception, Awards Dinner and Resident Fellow Section and Young Professional Section Career Fair.



Networking




Quality Educational Sessions



Exhibitors



Valuable CME



The evolving landscape of Cancer Imaging, Digital Medicine and Radiology's Role, Abdominal Pelvic Imaging, Advancements in Breast Cancer Screening support, Reuter Interventional Radiology, The Ethics of Incidental Findings Management, Theranostics, cutting edge development in Neuroradiology, Chest, Musculoskeletal & More!

Thank You Featured Speakers



Thank you to our Featured Speakers for taking the time to share your knowledge!

Thank You
Dr. Weatherall

TRS thanks Dr. Weatherall for his leadership during his term as President in 2023-2024. Dr. Weatherall was a thoughtful, dedicated and involved President during his term. We thank Dr. Weatherall for his service!



2024 AWARD WINNERS



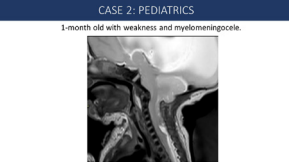
47th TRS Gold Medal Award
Richard Strax, MD, FACR



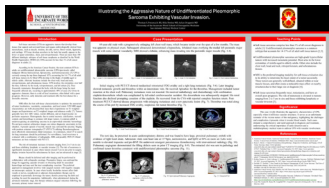
Guiberteau Award for Resident Excellence
Clayton Douglas, MD
Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas



Brown Award for Resident Excellence in Radiation Oncology
Gohar Manzar, MD, PhD
UT MD Anderson Cancer Center



Break the Case Winner
Michael Orsi, MD
Methodist Healthcare System



Audience Favorite Poster Award
Illustrating the Aggressive Nature of Undifferentiated Pleomorphic Sarcoma Exhibiting VI by Thomas S. Fonseca Jr.
University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine

Thank You Exhibitors & Sponsors

Your support allows TRS to offer quality meetings at low cost to attendees.

Platinum & Gold Exhibitors



Sponsors



ACR Gold Medal



The Gold Medal is awarded by the BOC to radiologists, radiation oncologists, medical physicists and other distinguished scientists for their extraordinary service to the ACR or to the discipline of radiology. Congratulations to Dr. Ellenbogen, 2024 medal recipient.

PAUL H. ELLENBOGEN, MD, FACR, FAIUM, FSRU

"I was not the fastest radiologist because I didn't just sit at my desk and read film after film after film. I always felt I wanted not only to see the patients, but to briefly scan them myself, and I wanted my report to tell a story."

— Paul H. Ellenbogen, MD, FACR, FAIUM, FSRU



ACR 2024 Meeting Highlights

CELEBRATING NEW ACR FELLOWS

Each year, the College recognizes individuals who stand above the rest – their work supports quality patient care and advances the specialty. Congratulations to the newest Texas Fellows.



2024 New Fellows: L to R: Travis Browning, Joe Chang, Tanya Moseley, Rajeev Shah, Alice Viroslav Donald Schomer (not pictured)



WILLIAM T. HERRINGTON, MD, FACR, CALLS ON RADIOLOGY LEADERS TO GUIDE THE NEXT GENERATION DURING THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

In his Presidential Address at ACR 2024, outgoing ACR President William T. Herrington, MD, FACR, discussed change management and called on leaders to enlist those who can identify disruptive change or technology. "We need many and varied brains to participate, anticipate, recognize and predict change," said Herrington, who cited numerous industry examples

of both missed opportunities for innovation and successful outcomes, including the development of radiology itself.

WOOJIN KIM, MD, SHOWS THE ACR 2024 CROWD HOW FAR GENERATIVE AI HAS COME AND HOW IT WILL IMPACT RADIOLOGY



As times change, so does technology. Humanity is continuing to find new and innovative ways to make their lives easier in new and creative ways. AI has been one of the more interesting fields to monitor as it evolves, with humans using it to both help them within the workforce and for fun. Both points were on full display when Woojin Kim, MD, chief medical information officer of Rad AI and a musculoskeletal radiologist, took the stage at ACR 2024 to give this year's Moreton Lecture to demonstrate the evolution of generative AI, and how radiologists could start to see it more involved in their practices.

The lecture covered potential uses of large language models (LLMs), like ChatGPT, in radiology, focusing on their applications across the radiology report lifecycle. LLMs can aid before, during, and after report generation by summarizing information, converting free text to structured reports, and automating the impression section. However, pitfalls such as hallucination were emphasized, urging critical evaluation of LLM literature. Issues like data contamination and the need for understanding LLM capabilities beyond test scores were also discussed. Kim cautioned against using public-facing chatbots for patient-related information and stressed the importance of integrating GenAI responsibly in healthcare. *This paragraph content was generated by artificial intelligence. It may contain errors or inaccuracies, or outdated information.*

2024 ECON FORUM DIVES INTO CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO FUND THE FUTURE DRIVE DISCUSSION



Gregory N. Nicola, MD, FACR, chair of the ACR Commission on Economics and part of the executive leadership team at Hackensack Radiology Group, served as the moderator of the ACR 2024 Economics Forum, which explored new payment models for radiation oncology, the challenges of duplicating such models in diagnostic radiology, updates on the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule and reimbursement issues around the current radiology workforce crisis. Speakers included **Dave Adler, MA**, American Society of Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) vice president of advocacy; **Lauren P. Nicola, MD, FACR**, chair of the ACR Reimbursement Committee and CEO of Triad Radiology Associates; **James M. Milburn, MD, MMM, FACR**, chair of the neuroradiology committee for the ACR Commission on Economics, vice chair of the department of radiology and director of neurointerventional services at Ochsner Health System and professor of radiology at the University of

Queensland; **David B. Larson, MD, MBA, FACR**, chair of the ACR Commission on Quality and Safety and professor and executive vice chair of the department of radiology at Stanford University School of Medicine; and **Ben Wandtke, MD, MS**, vice chair for quality and safety at the University of Rochester Medical Center.



Mr. Adler talked about a new program proposal ASTRO has put forward that he believes is progressive and innovative and will bear fruit (read more in this month's Economics Chair column). He said ASTRO is trying to address clinical and reimbursement trends in radiation therapy.

Dr. Lauren Nicola talked about alternative payment models (APMs) in diagnostic radiology. She noted the differences between diagnostic radiology and radiation oncology and how

those differences impact the opportunities for diagnostic radiologists to participate in APMs.

Dr. James Milburn spoke to attendees about current workforce challenges, mainly related to the aging population and residency slots. "Luckily, radiology is very popular among medical students, and it is also very competitive," he said. "We have more applicants than we have radiology positions, and there are a ton of great applicants who don't match into radiology who could become excellent radiologists."

Dr. David Larson opened his discussion with the ACR's Learning Network and his experience participating in the program. "The Learning Network is a team-based experiential program that does two things simultaneously. One is to train radiologists and staff teams in moderate improvement methods, and two is to facilitate successful improvement," Larson said. "We train people while at the same time they are making a difference in our organization. We help you at your local site, or local sites put together teams with physician and staff leads."

Dr. Ben Wandtke also spoke about how the Learning Network uses quality improvement methods to help participating sites improve their bottom line. He talked about his group's participation for the purpose of improving its lung cancer screening program.

Dr. Gregory Nicola also expressed his appreciation for the important work of the Learning Network. His practice participated in the lung cancer screening cohort and Nicola was the team sponsor. Nicola thanked the speakers and concluded the forum by opening a question-and-answer period for attendees and panelists.

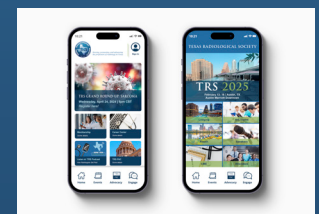
THE COLLEGE WELCOMES WAVE OF NEW LEADERSHIP

Last month, the ACR announced Alan H. Matsumoto, MD, FACR, as chair of the BOC, and Christoph Wald, MD, PhD, MBA, FACR, as BOC vice chair at ACR 2024, the College's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Pamela K. Woodard, MD, FACR, will serve as president and Catherine J. Everett, MD, MBA, FACR, as vice president. The College will welcome Dana H. Smetherman, MD, MPH, MBA, FACR, as its first female CEO effective July 1. Smetherman is chair of the department of radiology and associate medical director for medical specialties at the Ochsner Medical Center in New Orleans and a past member of the Ochsner Health System Board of Directors.



TRS wins the 2023 Meetings & Education (Div. E) ACR Chapter Recognition Award.

TRS Awarded ACR Chapter Grant



TRS was awarded funding from the ACR Chapter Grant Program for a year-round association mobile app. The goal for this app is to create a digital platform that meets member engagement needs and disseminates important information from TRS.

Thank You to
the Texas
Radiology
Group for their
TRS PAC
Contributions



\$16,500

Please contact Emily Gaylor at (512) 535-4920 or emily@txrad.org to make a PAC contribution in your organization's name.

ACR Capitol Hill Days



TRS Leaders advocate at the US Capitol.



**TEXAS RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

TRS PAC Update

Rajeev Suri, MD, MBA, FACR, FSIR, Chair, TRS PAC

Michael Grimes, Imperium Public Affairs



TRS PAC is pleased to provide you with this legislative update regarding the recent 2023 Texas legislative session and the upcoming 2024 legislative session. A big thank you to those who contributed to the Texas Radiological Society Political Action Committee (PAC) in 2023 and so far this year. With your help, the TRS PAC successfully pursued several important objectives on your behalf during the 2023 legislative session.

2023 TRS BILLS OF INTEREST & SUCCESSES

WIN:

HB 3359 – Network Adequacy

Codifies time and distance requirements for in-network care, strengthens the waiver process, and requires TDI certifications before these plans are marketed in Texas.

FAILED TO PASS:

SB 1534 – Non-Compete Agreements

Addressed physician non-compete clauses in healthcare provider contracts to specify reasonable time, distance, and buy-out parameters for physicians seeking to change employment.

HB 1073 – Value Based Care

The Texas Department of Insurance interpreted current law as prohibiting certain risk-based payment arrangements. HB 1073 sought to resolve this issue by establishing that certain value-based and capitated payment arrangements with primary care physicians/groups are not prohibited.

STOPPED:

HB 4404 – Scope of Practice

Attempted to supplant existing Texas law and expand APRN Scope of Practice. TRS worked to ensure the bill did not receive a vote.

2024 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senate Health and Human Services Hearing Recap

The Senate Committee on Health and Human Services held their first interim hearing on Tuesday, May 14th. The hearing covered various health policy issues and heard from various field experts. Proposals discussed included creating a Texas FDA, combining public outreach efforts, and consolidating health plan comparison sites. Other issues discussed included price transparency, mandate reviews, and addressing fraud, waste, and abuse. The Cancer Prevention Panel highlighted the need to monitor COVID-19/vaccine impacts on cancer, food additive links, and the effectiveness of biomarker testing. The Health Insurance Panels discussed the Texas Department

of Insurance's overview, Medicaid expansion impacts, cost drivers, and regulatory challenges, emphasizing the importance of price transparency and reducing administrative burdens. Concerns about insurance premiums, prior authorizations, and Medicaid pricing were also addressed. The committee will meet again this fall to discuss children's mental health and access to healthcare.

House Interim Charges

Texas House Speaker Dade Phelan has outlined a set of legislative priorities for the next session, focusing on school voucher programs, property tax relief, housing affordability, and border security. Phelan's directives include studying voucher systems in other states, revisiting property tax caps, examining housing restrictions, and assessing the impact of institutional homebuyers. His priorities align with Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick's, highlighting common concerns over border resources and foreign ownership of Texas land.

House Select Committees

Within the last quarter, Speaker Phelan has created three select committees in the Texas House to study Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Technologies, Protecting Texas LNG Exports, and Securing Texas from Hostile Foreign Organizations.

The House Select Committee on Artificial Intelligence had their first hearing last month to receive a broad overview of AI and its implications. Witnesses discussed AI's effects on the military, challenges in prosecuting child pornography laws, impacts on elections, cybersecurity enhancements and risks, and differing industry and advocacy perspectives. The interim report summarizes the testimony and policy recommendations, aiming to highlight AI's potential and risks. The committee plans further exploration in future hearings. The report emphasizes the need for a knowledgeable legislative approach to create a fair and ethical framework for AI regulation.

Keep the Momentum Going! Contribute Today!

The TRS and TRS PAC are the primary voices for radiology at the state level, therefore it is imperative that we remain engaged and maintain a presence in the Capitol in Austin and with the legislators.

We hope we can count on you to be a part of the successful legislative work that the TRS is doing on your behalf. Consider your contribution an important investment in protecting your future as a radiologist.

Your contribution will help guarantee that we will have the resources necessary to affect state legislation and regulations and will help TRS PAC keep working on your behalf. www.txrad.org/PAC

Resident and Fellow Section Update

Zahra Akhtar, MD, Secretary, TRS RFS



In February 2024, The Texas Radiological Society Resident and Fellow Section (TRS RFS) hosted the 7th annual RFS Case Review Course on Saturday February 24th followed by a Career Fair at the TRS 111th Annual Meeting held in Arlington, TX, by Loews.

The RFS Case Review Course was conducted over a full day and featured a comprehensive agenda of case discussions covering Neuroradiology, Interventional Radiology, Thoracic imaging, Nuclear Medicine, Cardiac imaging, GI & GU, Pediatrics, Mammography and MSK. The nine lecturers were nominated by residents who recognized them as exceptional educators, mentors, and radiologists. The lectures delivered by these experts were highly valued by the residents. We express sincere gratitude to the speakers for dedicating their time and efforts to creating these highly sought after lectures. We look forward to continuing this complimentary case-based review course next February in Austin, TX.

The RFS and YPS Career Fair provided a platform for radiology trainees and professionals to network and connect with representatives from radiology practices, helping them make informed career decisions. Mark your calendars for the TRS 112th Annual Meeting in Austin, TX, on February 13-16, 2025.

Furthermore, the Texas Radiological Society hosts a quarterly webinar series in RFS Leadership, with the next webinar on July 16th focusing on implementing informatics and AI solutions with guest speaker, Nicholas Galante, MD, from Radiology Associates of North Texas. Visit txrad.org/webinars for more information.

Thank You RFS Case Review Course Sponsor

Thank you to Texas Radiology Associates for sponsoring the Resident & Fellow Section Case Review Course during the TRS 111th Annual Meeting.



Thank You RFS and YPS Career Fair Radiology Groups

Thank you Texas Radiology Groups for participating in the RFS Career Fair.

- American Radiology Associates
- ARA Diagnostic Imaging
- Baylor Scott & White Health
- Houston Northwest Radiology Association
- Houston Radiology Associated
- M&S Radiology Associates
- Radiology Associates of North Texas
- Radiology Partners
- South Texas Radiology Group
- Texas Radiology Associates LLP
- UT Health SA Department of Radiology
- UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas

Medical Student Committee Update

Kent Rohweder, Chair, TRS Medical Student Committee



Thank you to our **2023-2024 Medical Student Committee** for all of your voluntary time and planning efforts for the successful 4th Annual Medical Student Symposium that took place on Saturday, February 24, 2024, in Arlington, TX. We hope this symposium furthered your education, answered your questions about residency opportunities and helped you make personal and academic connections between other medical students across our great state.

2023-2024 Medical Student Committee Members

Tyler Thornton, University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

Quinton Pham, Dell Medical School | UT Austin

Monica Vegiraju, Texas A&M College of Medicine - Dallas

We welcome our **2024-2025 Medical Student Committee** and look forward to working together in the fall and winter to plan the 5th Annual Medical Student Symposium taking place on Saturday, February 15, 2025 in Austin, TX.

2024-2025 Medical Student Committee Members

Quinton Pham, Dell Medical School | UT Austin

Joseph Sotelo, University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

Monica Vegiraju, Texas A&M College of Medicine - Dallas

3 Easy Ways to Donate



TRS Website



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TRS Foundation Update

I. Ray Kirk, MD, FACR, President, TRS Foundation



The TRS Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of a new, separate Texas Radiology Foundation to increase the number and types of charitable donations to support Texas Radiology. The current TRS

Foundation operates as a 509(c)(3) nonprofit supporting organization with a mission to support the educational and charitable interests of the Texas Radiological Society. The TRS Foundation, because of its supporting organization status, is not able to receive certain donations, such as those from donor advised funds and charitable distributions from IRAs. The Texas Radiology Foundation will be able to receive such donations.

The new Texas Radiology Foundation shall exist for the purpose of supporting and carrying out the educational and charitable interests of Texas radiologists. By design and IRS status, this foundation will be independent of the Texas Radiological Society.

Of course, you may - and should! - continue to contribute to the TRS Foundation! But if you have gifts of stock, annuities, real estate, donor advised funds, life insurance, property, or IRA distributions, talk with us! The Texas Radiology Foundation may be the perfect vehicle for your donation.

“The new Texas Radiology Foundation shall exist for the purpose of supporting and carrying out the educational and charitable interests of Texas radiologists.”

The Texas Radiology Foundation will operate with its own set of bylaws and will have its own Board of Directors. The directors will meet twice a year to manage any donations received.

We look forward to working with you and hope to be able to utilize this new non-profit to more fully support Texas Radiology in ways we have not been able to do so until now. Donations are essential to cover operating costs, administration and programs costs. We cannot operate without your support.

The TRS Foundation has many upcoming scholarship opportunities. Please be on the lookout for emails with information on applying.

2024 RLI Leadership Essentials:

Virtual; September – December

RLI Kickstart Your Career Workshop:

Virtual; Fall 2024

RLI Resident Milestones Program:

Virtual; September 2024 – March 2025

RLI Leadership Accelerator:

Virtual; January 2025 – April 2025

RLI Summit:

In-person; September 6 – 8, 2024

Rutherford-Lavanty Fellowship

RANT Moorefield Fellowship

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the 2025 J. Mitchell, George, and Stephen Brown Award for Resident Excellence in Radiation Oncology Finalists.



J. Mitchell, George & Stephen Brown

Award for Resident Excellence
IN RADIATION ONCOLOGY



Maureen Aliru, MD
UT Southwestern
Medical Center



Cheryl Claunch, MD, PhD
Baylor College of Medicine



Benjamin Schrank, MD, PhD
UT MD Anderson

TRS Welcomes Our Newest Staff Member



TRS welcomes our newest staff member, Emily Gaylor! Emily will serve as the Administrative Manager of TRS Foundation and Coordinator for TRS PAC. Emily, a native Oklahoman, relocated to Dallas in 2017. She holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma and undergraduate degrees from Oklahoma City University. Emily is a seasoned fundraiser with a career total of over \$350 million in philanthropy revenue raised. Her professional experience includes work with the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Metropolitan Community Churches, the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, and the University of Oklahoma. She resides in East Dallas with her son and three cats. In her spare time, Emily volunteers with the Junior League of Dallas and Highland Park Schools.

Breast Cancer Awareness Grassroot Efforts at High School and Senior Living in DFW Area

Aadit Mehta, The Oakridge School, Arlington, TX, Class of 2025



Breast cancer hits close to home. My maternal grandmother who I am really close to, was diagnosed with breast cancer a few years ago. I closely observed her undergo the treatment and its related effects and got really passionate to help raise awareness. When I found out that Dr. Nidhi Sharma, a national leader in the field of Breast Imaging was based locally in Dallas, I reached out to her to brainstorm ideas to raise awareness in our local community, especially in my high school community and senior living facilities. Under her guidance, I was able to execute initial successful campaigns and plan to continue these endeavors.



Breast cancer is the most prevalent malignancy in women with 1 in every 8 women inflicted, many of who will die prematurely because of it. Screening mammography is proven effective in reducing

breast cancer-related deaths in women aged 40 or older. Annual screening mammography from ages 40 to 79 averts 4.8 to 5.3 more breast cancer deaths per 1000 women screened than biennial screening from ages 50 to 74, which had previously been recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. More than 34% of women in the United States comprise this age group, many of whom are not aware of the lifesaving benefits of annual screening mammogram. Prior studies have shown as many as 87% of female high schoolers were unaware or had incorrect information regarding breast cancer screening. Most students were aware of the risk of breast cancer, but they were uninformed of its symptoms, risk factors, and prevention strategies.

We wanted to address this issue at the grassroots by improving awareness amongst high school students. We started an awareness campaign at The Oakridge School in Arlington, Texas, spreading information about breast cancer using multimedia

presentation, participatory group discussions, and other learning activities. The goal of the activity was for the students to understand health care disparities, access to testing, promote awareness among others in their families and community, engage students more fully, and foster leadership skills. We plan to follow up with this cohort of students to evaluate the effectiveness of early engagement.



On the other end of the spectrum lies the second question, when is it ok to stop screening?

While 40 is a great age to start routine screenings, there is no age when screenings should stop. 10,000 women in the U.S. turn 65 years old every day, and about 8 of every 10 new breast cancer cases and 9 of every 10 deaths are in women 50 years old and older. Despite this, many women once they reach age 70 stop getting mammograms, even though they are otherwise in good health. In such cases encouragement to continue with routine screenings can be the driving force in decreasing mortality and increasing life expectancy.

For this reason, we decided it is equally important to spread awareness amongst elderly as it is in young high school students. We embarked on a similar awareness campaign at Allegiant Wellness and Rehab, a skilled nursing home in Fort Worth, Texas. We hope with focused advocacy we can encourage elderly women to continue breast cancer screening and increase their overall quality of life and life expectancy.

TRs Career Center

Take your career to the next level with the TRS Career Center!



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Access Career Resources

Explore the benefits of our new career center today at <https://jobs.txrad.org>

Standing on Shoulders: Looking Back at TRS History

Paul H. Ellenbogen, MD, FACR, TRS Historian



When the TRS was established in May of 1914, the first President to serve as head of the TRS was George D. Bond, MD, of Ft. Worth. You may recall that he and James Martin, MD, who became the second president, had a chance meeting in Hillsboro, TX, while at a watering hole with their horses. From that time when Dr. Bond was President, until now, there have been 111 Presidents elected. In the 1930's and early 1940's a few men served two consecutive terms. As a result, the total number of individuals chosen to serve as TRS Presidents to date is 107. All Presidents of the TRS were men until Helen C. Redman, MD, of Dallas was the first woman elected to the Presidency in 1996. The second woman to serve as President of the TRS was Cynthia S. Sherry, MD, who was elected 13 years later. But the times are changing for the better, and since the term of Dr. Sherry, five additional women have been chosen to lead the TRS. Furthermore, of the last five persons to serve as President, 3 out of 5 have been women.

The female Past Presidents of the TRS include Helen C. Redman, MD (Dallas) and Cynthia S. Sherry, MD (Dallas) as noted above, and also Susan D. John, MD (Houston), Darlene F.

Metter, MD (San Antonio), Karla Sepulveda, MD (Houston) and Sarah S. Avery, MD (Austin).

The social and political circumstances have evolved over time and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion have become catchwords on campuses, in companies, and within organizations like the TRS. The AAWR and ACR were early adopters of DEI with the creation of the ACR Commission for Women and Diversity in 2014.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion is a strategy that strives to ensure that all persons are treated fairly and promotes full participation of all people, especially those that have been historically underrepresented.

We can see progress at the level of the American College of Radiology as well. Beginning in 1923 only men were chosen to be President of the ACR. This changed when in 2001 Kay Vydareny, MD, was the first woman to be elected as ACR's President. Since then, 5 additional women have been elected. The other women Presidents of ACR include Valerie P. Jackson, MD, Carol M. Rumack, MD, Debra Monticciolo, MD (Temple), Geraldine B. McGinty, MD, and Beverly G. Coleman, MD. Pamela Woodard, MD, is the new and current ACR President.

In Memoriam: Peter B. Riesz, MD



Peter Benjamin Riesz, MD passed away on February 27, 2024, at the age of 90. He was born in New York City on March 30, 1933. He grew up and attended public schools in Chatham NJ graduating in 1951, then attended Drew University in Madison NJ graduating in 1955 with an AB degree. He studied at Hahnemann

Medical College in Philadelphia PA, obtaining an MD degree in 1959. After internship at Lower Bucks County Hospital in Bristol PA, he served in the US Army Medical Corps at the 34th General Hospital in Orleans, France from 1960-1962 as a general medical officer. He returned to the US for a Radiology residency in San Antonio TX at the US Army Brooke General Hospital from 1963-1966. He then served at the US Army 5th General Hospital in Stuttgart, West Germany from 1966-1969 as chief of x-ray. During this duty period, The American Board of Radiology certified him as a specialist in 1967. After completing eight years of active duty and attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel he resigned his commission to enter private practice, initially at Scott & White Hospital in Temple TX. In 1970 he was invited to join the staff at DeTar Hospital. In 1985 he designed and opened his pride and joy Riesz Referral Radiology, a private office for x-ray services and mammography, where he practiced along with his dedicated employees until retirement in 1997.

Peter was a member of the American College of Radiology, Texas Radiological Society (TRS), Texas Medical Association, and Victoria County Medical Society. He was awarded a Fellow of the American College of Radiology in 1997. He was active in the affairs of the TRS where he served as Historian from 1997-2020. In that capacity, he wrote the book "History of the Texas Radiological Society" in 2002. He was given a Special Recognition Award from his peers in that society in 2005 and received the TRS Gold Medal in 2014.

In retirement, he was very active in local veterans affairs through the Crossroads Chapter of the MOWW, the American Legion, the Victoria County Veterans Council (VCVC), and the VCVC Honor Guard, where for many years he helped to fold and present hundreds of flags to families of deceased veterans. He personally interviewed many area veterans of World War II, tape-recorded and documented their stories in the book "Victoria Veterans Talk" published in 2004.

He is lovingly remembered by his family.

Volunteer Highlight (continued from front page)

then comment favorably on providing Medicare coverage for the screening exam. This is a good example of how much work and how difficult it can be to get evidence-based policy passed. But here we are 10 years later, and Medicare coverage for low dose CT screening for lung cancer is accepted and is widespread. And it is saving lives!

What do you wish TRS members knew about the TRS involvement in the legislative process?

“If you aren’t at the table, you are on the menu” and “If you aren’t there you can be assured your opponents will be” are cliches but true! It really means that you must be there to advocate for your patients and their health, as well as the practice of medicine, which is under attack. I want to stress the importance of advocacy and collaboration within the medical community, especially in dealing with challenges such as stagnant Medicare physician fee schedules and opposition from corporate entities. Building relationships with state representatives, attending fundraisers, and testifying at legislative sessions can make a significant impact.



Gov. Abbott June 16, 2023, at the signing of HB 12—the 12-month post-partum extension.

Why do you serve in this role?

I enjoy this work! Many years ago, TRS and TMA were at odds concerning legislative issues. I took it upon myself to help facilitate a shift in thinking and move the organizations towards working together again. I was already involved in TRS and the ACR. So, I started attending meetings and getting more involved, first with TEXPAC and the Tarrant County Medical Society, then the TMA and subsequently the AMA. These organizations feed into one another. I was able to share information amongst organizations and give a broad perspective on issues to facilitate change. Passing policies at medical organizations is a good start, but unless they are implemented into laws and good rules, we are not accomplishing as much as we should. Implementing good policies often requires overcoming politics to improve healthcare.

TRS expresses deep gratitude to Dr. Childs for his remarkable commitment and tireless advocacy in support of patients and the medical profession.



Dr. Childs attends the TMA First Tuesday Prep Session in February 2023.

“If you aren’t at the table, you are on the menu.”

TRS 2025 Legislative Session Priorities

- Implementation of statutory Network Adequacy rules at TDI
- Interim studies on issue including Scope Expansion, VBC value-based care delivery, AI Artificial Intelligence, Tort Reform, MRI Physician Licensure, etc.
- Educating newly elected and increasingly anti-physician lawmakers about the reality of healthcare delivery today
- Addressing the increase in attempts by opponents to implement payment rate caps or indexes as a means to put physicians at a disadvantage for contract negotiations or payments. e.g. proposed contact threshold in TDI-drafted network adequacy rules
- Protect existing tort reform law without allowing increase in caps
- Sponsor legislative change to the current regulation/legislation to add an additional category of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Physics (MRI Physics)

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