

# *isrrt*

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 45. No. 1 – 2009



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**PRESENTATION** Aqueous solution for injection containing iohexol, a non-ionic, monomeric, triiodinated X-ray contrast medium, and available in five strengths containing either 140 mg, 180 mg, 240 mg, 300 mg or 350 mg iodine per ml. **INDICATIONS** X-ray contrast medium for use in adults and children for urography, phlebography, iv. DSA, CT, arteriography, cardioangiography and I.a. DSA, Myelography. For use in body cavities: Arthrography, ERCP/ERC, hysteroscopy, hysterosalpingography, sialography and use in the G-I tract. **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** Adults & children: Dosage varies depending on the type of examination, age, weight, cardiac output and general condition of patient and the technique used (see SPC and package leaflet). **CONTRAINDICATIONS** Manifest thyrotoxicosis. History of serious reaction to OMNIPAQUE.

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS** Allergy, asthma, or previous reactions to contrast media are risk factors for developing hypersensitivity reactions/anaphylactic reactions. Necessary drugs and equipment must be available for immediate treatment, should a serious reaction occur. It is advisable always to use an indwelling cannula or catheter for quick intravenous access throughout the entire X-ray procedure. After contrast medium administration the patient should be observed closely for at least 15 minutes, since the majority of serious side effects occur within this time. However, delayed reactions may occur. To prevent acute renal failure, special care should be exercised in patients with preexisting renal impairment, diabetes mellitus, paraproteinemia, myelomatosis and Waldenström's macroglobulinemia, dehydrated patients, or patients who receive concurrent treatment with nephrotoxic drugs. To prevent lactic acidosis in diabetic patients treated with metformin, administration of metformin should be discontinued at the time of administration of contrast medium and withheld for 48 hours and reinitiated only after renal function has been re-evaluated and found to be normal. (Refer to SPC). Patients with acute cerebral pathology, tumours or a history of epilepsy, alcoholics and drug addicts are predisposed to seizures. Adequate hydration should be assured. Young infants (age < 1 year) and especially neonates are susceptible to electrolyte disturbance

and haemodynamic alterations. Patients with serious cardiac disease and pulmonary hypertension may develop haemodynamic changes or arrhythmias. Special care should be exercised in patients with hyperthyroidism. One should also be aware of the possibility of inducing transient hypothyroidism in premature infants receiving contrast media. Symptoms of myasthenia gravis may be aggravated. Extravasation of contrast media may on rare occasions give rise to local pain, and oedema, which usually recedes without sequelae. However, inflammation and even tissue necrosis have been seen. Elevating and cooling the affected site are recommended as routine measures. Surgical decompression may be necessary in cases of compartment syndrome. Following myelography the patient should rest with the head and thorax elevated by 20° for one hour. Thereafter he/she may ambulate carefully but bending down must be avoided. The head and thorax should be kept elevated for the first 6 hours if remaining in bed. Patients suspected of having a low seizure threshold should be observed during this period. Outpatients should not be completely alone for the first 24 hours. A few patients have experienced a temporary hearing loss or even deafness after myelography. **PREGNANCY AND LACTATION** The safety of OMNIPAQUE in human pregnancy has not been established (see SPC). Omnipaque should not be used in pregnancy unless considered essential. Breast feeding may continue normally. **UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS** All routes of administration: Hypersensitivity reactions with mild respiratory or cutaneous symptoms or anaphylactic reactions with more severe manifestations. Vagal reactions causing hypotension and bradycardia, headache, abdominal discomfort/pain, nausea, vomiting or diarrhoea, transient metallic taste, iodism or "iodide mumps" resulting in swelling and tenderness of the salivary glands. Feeling of warmth, fever, rigors, hypertension, intravascular use (intraarterial and intravenous use) Neurological reactions, including seizures or transient motor or sensory disturbances. Cortical blindness. Serious cardiac complications, including cardiac arrest, arrhythmia, depressed cardiac function or signs of ischaemia. A transient increase in 5-creatinine, followed by renal failure in rare occasions. Distal pain or heat sensation in peripheral angiography. Transient ischaemia after injection into coronary, cerebral or renal arteries. Post phlebographic thrombophlebitis or thrombosis. Arthralgia. Severe respiratory symptoms and signs (dyspnoea, bronchospasm,

laryngospasm, non-cardiogenic pulmonary oedema), cough. Thyrotoxicosis, flushing, injection site reaction. Intrathecal use: Meningism or chemical meningitis. Photophobia. Transient blindness, motor or sensory dysfunction. Confusion. Paraesthesia. Seizures. EEG changes. Local pain, cramping and pain in the lower limbs, neck pain. Headache, nausea, vomiting or dizziness. Injection site reaction. Use in Body Cavities Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP). Elevation of amylase levels, pancreatitis. Oral use: Gastrointestinal upset. Hysterosalpingography (HSG). Transient pain in the lower abdomen. Arthrography: Post procedural pain. Frank arthritis. Hysteroscopy: Mild postprocedural pain. **INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE AND HANDLING** Like all parenteral products, OMNIPAQUE should be inspected visually for particulate contamination, discoloration and the integrity of the container prior to use. The product should be drawn into the syringe immediately before use. Containers are intended for single use only, any unused portions must be discarded. OMNIPAQUE may be warmed to body temperature (37°C) before administration. **MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER** GE Healthcare AS, Nydalen 1-2, P.O. Box 4220 Nydalen, N-0401 Oslo, Norway. **CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY** Subject to medical prescription (POM). **MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER** PL 00637/003A-003B. **DATE OF REVISION OF TEXT** 15 February 2007. **UK PRICE** 10 x 50 ml 350 mg/ml £208.01.

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**ISRRT Website:** [www.isrrt.org](http://www.isrrt.org)





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# President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

I WRITE this message as South Eastern Australia is still to recover from the horrendous bushfires that have ravaged so much of Victoria with the loss of over 200 lives and nearly 2,000 houses.

I have received many expressions of concern from overseas and have passed these on to our Australian colleagues many of whom have relatives affected by the disaster. As always in such events, radiographers have played a significant role on the medical support of those injured. It never ceases to amaze me how close the links are between our ISRRT Societies. We thank you for your thoughts.

On a more positive note, I was honored recently to be invited to represent ISRRT and speak at the Inauguration Ceremony of the newly formed Hong Kong College of Radiographers. We congratulate our Asia / Australasia Regional Vice President Dr Maria Law on being elected as the Foundation President and all of those who have worked so hard and cooperatively to establish the College.

I have also just returned from attending the 42nd Annual Conference of our colleagues in the

Taiwanese Society in Taipei, where over 2,000 technologists from seven countries met. This was also the 11th East Asia Conference of Radiologic Technologist (EACRT) which includes the Societies from Japan, Korea and Taiwan. I thank them for their invitation and ongoing support of ISRRT.

These three Societies work closely together for the benefit of their members and even run a jointly recognised education program in PACS Management which is available to others outside of the Region via the web.

I was delighted to also meet with the President and Secretary of the Mongolian Society of Radiographers who are keen to join ISRRT as a Member Society. You will also find in this Newsletter, a Report from our Director of Education Cynthia Cowling on her recent visit to Fiji where she is helping coordinate an upcoming program in conjunction with WHO. We are in fact delighted to advise that WHO is continuing to focus efforts on Medical Imaging in its Health Programs and Dr Sandy Yule will be meeting later this year with the person responsible for these

activities to ensure our continued support and cooperation.

Other Board Members will also report on their activities on your behalf. I urge you to regularly consult our website – [www.isrrt.org](http://www.isrrt.org) to remain up to date on the work of ISRRT and our many Societies.

In having the opportunity to work closely with our Board, to meet with members of our Societies from all corners of the world and to also meet with the heads of the many Companies supporting our profession, I am constantly impressed by their

*Continued on the next page*



**ISRRT President Robert George with Maria Law at the Inauguration Ceremony at Hong Kong College.**

*Continued from the previous page*

commitment and dedication.

We are all facing difficult economic times in our countries, but we need to maintain our focus on the bigger picture. This was brought home to me in an interview I read recently with a very prominent and successful lawyer who heads a law firm of over 900 solicitors— when asked what his job meant to him, his response was:

“ If you focus on excellence, on integrity and on the opportunities you create for others, then you will have a good career and a good life.”

These are really the ideals by which the Board lives with respect to our work in ISRRT – excellence, integrity and creating opportunities for others – and if we all try to hold these as our individual tenets we will go a long way towards contributing to a better world for all.

**Rob George,  
President ISRRT**



**Presidents at the Taiwan Meeting 2009.**

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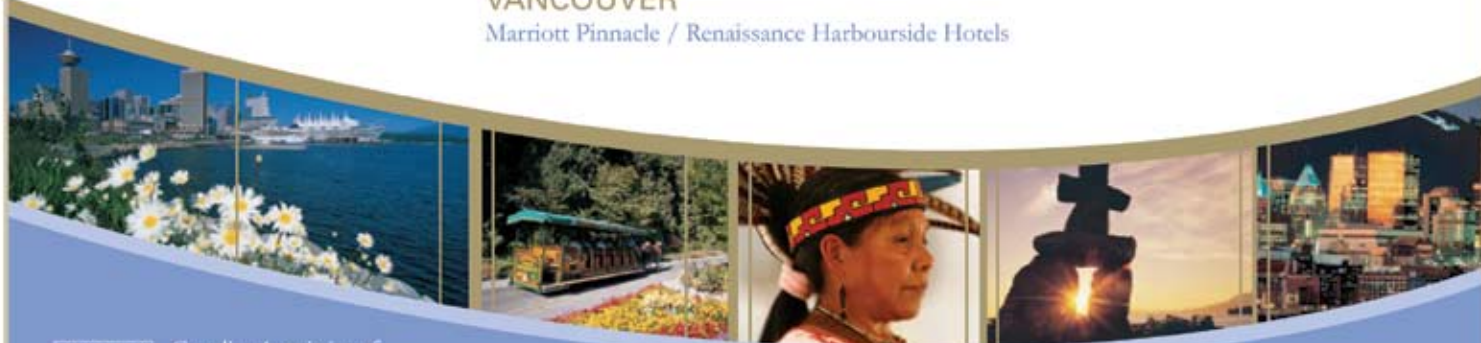
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## 16<sup>th</sup> ISRRT World Congress Gold Coast, Australia 9<sup>th</sup> – 12 September, 2010

*Mark the dates in your diary!!*

*Call for Abstracts opens July 09*

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# Secretary General

SINCE my last report I have attended several meetings along with the ISRRT President Mr Robert George. These meetings have been reported by Robert George but I would like to re-emphasise the importance of these meetings and the agreements reached. Robert and I have continually kept in touch throughout the months using SKYPE which has proved of great benefit and is cost free.

In late December 2008 I attended an important meeting in Geneva accompanied with Paivi Wood. This was a meeting with the World Health Organisation and many international organisations and was concerned with furthering diagnostic and therapy provisions and educational facilities globally. In May 2009 a further meeting will be held at the WHO headquarters where the role and work of the radiographer in all areas of the world will be discussed. The results of this meeting will be reported in the next issue of the newsletter.

Following our very successful first time presence at the RSNA as part of the Associated Sciences group we are now fully participating in the educational programme at this event. In January this year Professor Michael Ward represented the ISRRT at the programme planning session for 2009.

Our attendance at the European Congress of Radiology in Vienna in March 2009 gave us the opportunity to meet with officers from the International Atomic Energy Agency. These contacts are extremely important related to the participation of the ISRRT in medical radiation protection issues and also results in continuing co-operation and support for workshops. While in Vienna we met with the newly formed European Federation of Radiography Societies and with several companies related to future sponsorship.

During April I participated in a site visit to the venue for the ISRRT World Congress in 2010. This Congress will be held on the Gold Coast in Australia which is a great location. There is good access from all areas of the world and those attending will be rewarded by excellent facilities, lectures programme and social activities. In addition there will be ISRRT Board and Council meetings during which several important issues will be debated including the future structure and organisation on the ISRRT. The Congress is being held in conjunction with the Australian and New Zealand Societies of Radiography and is sure to be a great success. Please visit the website [www.isrrt.org](http://www.isrrt.org) for full details of the Congress.

The ISRRT website keeps me busy but I would encourage everyone, particularly ISRRT Council members, to provide me with news and stories which I can include on the website. The website can only be kept up-to-date by your co-operation, and information is welcome. The website has been supported by ELEKTA Company for the past three years and I am very pleased to report that this company have agreed to continue this support.

The online continuing education programme which is supported by Philips is proving to be a great success and it is hoped to extend this in the future. Thanks are due to the ISRRT volunteers who give of their time for this venture and to Philips for providing the facility.

I have good news and bad news regarding the newsletter. First of all I must apologise to many of our subscribers and Associate Members who have either received the last edition of the newsletter late or not received it at all. This was due to a change in the management of the publisher resulting in the newsletter not being supported. All newsletters should now have been posted and I would appreciate it if you would contact me and let me know if you have received the second edition of 2008 or not. The publishers, as compensation, did not charge for the printing of that edition.

The good news is that the first edition of the newsletter will be published in French and Spanish. This is a trial project and will be initially available on the ISRRT website late May. Translation of such journals is expensive and this has been made possible by the generous support of GE Healthcare who has provided the necessary funding.

Finally I would like to thank all our supporters, sponsors, Societies, Board and Council Members who contribute to the ongoing success of the ISRRT. Without this support the ISRRT would be unable to continue with its great work in providing conferences, workshops and education throughout the world. Every contribution no matter how small is valuable. I would encourage those Associate Members who may have forgotten to renew their annual subscriptions to contact me at [isrrt.yule@btinternet.com](mailto:isrrt.yule@btinternet.com) and let me know if they wish to continue to receive the newsletter.

**Sandy Yule**  
**CEO, ISRRT**

## ➤ **Editorial Submissions & Deadlines**

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Remember to e-mail your news before the deadline to:

Mrs Rachel Bullard

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Email: [deepbluedesign1@mac.com](mailto:deepbluedesign1@mac.com)

**Deadline for the twice yearly issues are:**

**April 1 and September 1 each year**

All material sent electronically that includes complex tables, charts & graphs please send also as hard copy by fax.

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**

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

For further details or to advertise your program or new publications please contact the ISRRT Secretary General:

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## ➤ **ISRRT World Radiography Educational Trust Fund (WRETF)**

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Secretary:

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## 2008 a successful year educationally

Report by **Cynthia Cowling**, ISRRT Director of Education

2008 was an active and successful year educationally. The highlight of the year must be the Durban Congress where a varied and professional program allowed all participants to enjoy a high standard of radiography education. A full program included everything from Role extension; Clinical audits; Advanced Practice in all modalities, to simple teaching tools in Cote D'Ivoire and becoming an article reviewer. The organizing committees all did a terrific job and produced the best quality congress yet. An electronic system to acknowledge attendance for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) was also in place. This will definitely be a requirement for all future world congresses. During the Congress, teaching CDs on Radiation Safety, developed by IAEA were distributed. Copies of these excellent teaching tools are freely available via the ISRRT website.

One result from the meetings held at Durban was the widening of the region Europe/Africa to include representatives from each area. I am happy to report that we have Jenny Motto from South Africa representing Africa and Ian Henderson from the UK representing Europe. Both bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise and have been active already. I welcome them to our group.

There were other activities during 2008. There were two Workshops, one on Maintenance in Trinidad and Tobago for the East Caribbean region and a Digital workshop in Tanzania. Both were partially funded by WHO or PAHO and this partnering relationship appears to be growing and cementing. This is terrific because it becomes impossible for ISRRT to fund these types of workshops with the right instructors and the relevant people (radiographers) attending. It is too expensive for them to fund themselves and in some instances large distances have to be traversed. A big thank you must go to all the people involved who gave so willingly of their time. Full reports on these workshops are or will be published.

We did also help fund a third workshop in Francophone Africa with the able help of Philippe Gerson and French Association. This was also on the subject of Digital Imaging and was held in Burkino Faso.

I want to emphasize one very important point about all of these workshops. They all had truly international / global input. In the case of Tanzania, The workshop was developed by a Canadian and taught by an Australian and South African and coordinated by Jenny Motto our Ed.

Rep for Africa. The Trinidad workshop was headed by Ian McClelland from Australia and coordinated by Anushka Kattick, Trinidad and Tobago Council Member, Justin Mahabirsingh and Cynthia Cowling. Participants included the PAHO representative in Trinidad and Tobago, and the regional PAHO Officer from Cuba.

Philippe Gerson was also instrumental in a successful educational session at the International Congress of Radiology in Morocco. Without his commitment (and knowledge of French!) this would have been impossible to launch. It was extremely successful with standing room only for all the sessions.

An important part of the mandate of the ISRRT is to be the voice of our profession globally. The Director of Education gave a short presentation to the Western Pacific Region in Manila in September. It was later discovered that this had been video conferenced to all WHO offices in the Pacific region. This helped in later discussions with WHO in Fiji this February, where a joint Workshop has been agreed to in QA and Ultrasound with ISRRT, WHO and Fiji School of Medicine as joint sponsors.

PAHO has indicated they have funding for more QA workshops in South America in 2009 and we will be working with them to facilitate this activity.

Materials for a CT workshop are being developed with a draft ready for approval with the assistance of Pam Rowntree the Asia/Australasia educational representative.

Following Tanzania, we now have some excellent material to run more digital workshops. Good feedback from instructors and participants will be able to make this more relevant for the "on the ground" delivery. We are in discussions with WHO and hope that, should they proceed with installation of any more digital equipment, we will be there to provide the appropriate training for radiographers and other operators.

An agreement was signed with Philips to allow access to their online learning centre for our members and we are running a pilot in Estonia, India and Fiji. We have had a mixed response to this and will be publishing a report. We have learnt much about challenges many of our members experience when using the internet. Thanks to Lori Boyd of Canada for being the project officer for this venture.

A databank of all education programs for our website is also pending. This is an activity that must be completed this year.

*Continued on page 30*

## Professional Practice Report

Report by **Päivi Wood**, Director of Professional Practice

### BSS activities ongoing

Renewal of the BSS (Basic Safety Standard by IAEA) started nearly two years ago in July 2007; ISRRT participated in the technical meeting and the process is still ongoing. The latest activities have been conducted by e-mail. ISRRT, Professional Practice has been working on the terminology, mainly in the parts of the BSS that directly involve radiographers. The updated BSS is awaiting release.

### Code of Ethics

In Durban, the frame work for the ISRRT Code of Ethics was presented by Dr Peter White. The ISRRT board decided to carry on developing the code and it was given to Professional Practice to finalise it. Currently the code has been reviewed by the board and corrective actions have been made. Presently the code is being circulated amongst the Regional Coordinators for further comments. Some further work will be carried out and the first draft will be given to the ISRRT Board at its meeting in July. The aim is to present the international code at the ISRRT World Congress in Australia 2010.

### European Guidelines for Clinical Audit for Departments using Ionizing Radiation in Medical Settings

In Europe new European Guidelines for Clinical Audit is due to be released. As the ISRRT Professional Practice Director I had the honour to be part of the Panel of Experts, representing radiographers, amongst other professional groups, using ionizing radiation in medical applications. The Panel of Experts had a vital role in developing the Guidelines. The Guidelines will give recommendations to European Union countries as to how to carry out the clinical audit in radiological/nuclear medicine/radiation therapy departments as a whole audit process, taking into account all the factors that affect the safe use of radiation, from referral of the patient to the final report.

### WHO: Technical Meeting GLOBAL INITIATIVE (GI) RADIATION SAFETY HEALTH CARE SETTINGS

In December 2008 the WHO, Radiation and Environmental

Health Department, arranged a meeting in Geneva and ISRRT was invited to attend the meeting along with other Professional Societies with international NGO status. This meeting was to discuss, amongst other things, the global initiative: a strategic approach leading to a work plan with a set time line. It was agreed unanimously that efforts, already undertaken by various professional and scientific organizations and societies needed to be coordinated to avoid duplication and to concentrate efforts to achieve the set targets. Identifying overlaps, gaps and requirements was vital with cooperation and interaction being the way to achieve the desired results.

Our organization was represented by CEO Sandy Yule, who gave a presentation on ISRRT activities past and present and highlighted future targets. I attended the meeting in Geneva as an invited speaker to speak on "The view of radiographers and radiation technologists" in a session called Scaling-up the role of radiographers. This session also included talks from medical physicists.

The first phase of the plan is to create an Outline of the Strategy for GI. The aim is to identify, by consulting the various stakeholders, including ISRRT, on how to build partnerships between all the partners and to put "know how" and existing information together.

The second phase will take place in June 2009. The decision was to further develop the work plan so that within six months from the first meeting it should be possible to have a general platform with terms of references, working groups and also have task coordinators for each set team – not forgetting budgetary considerations and ideas for fundraising.

Actual Implementation of GI will then include piloting with the experience gathered being used. After the first tasks have been completed the working groups will begin operating. The timeline for this is June 2011 which includes monitoring by the working groups and evaluating the feedback.

Three years from the start of the GI program, in December 2011 there should be concrete results.

At this stage ISRRT will be participating in the work of three working groups:

- Prevention of unintended exposures (priority given to children)
- Human resources (education, training & staffing)
- Reducing unnecessary medical exposures

## Quality Assurance of X-ray Equipment: Maintenance and Repairs

Workshop: Eric Williams Medical Centre  
Mount Hope, Trinidad & Tobago

June 27-30, 2008

Report by **Cynthia Cowling**

A WORKSHOP administered and funded jointly by ISRRT and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) was successfully run at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Centre in the last week of June. Attendees came from a total of ten Caribbean countries and participants included radiographers(11), bio medical engineers(5) and graduating radiography students(2).

The organizing of this workshop proved formidable since 10 separate countries were involved, each of which had Health Ministries that had to be properly notified. Added to this were the complexities of PAHO administration with country, regional and central centres all needing to be involved. The ISRRT and the workshop were very fortunate to have an excellent Trinidad and Tobago Council member Anushka Kattick- Mahabirsingh. With her husband, Justin Mahabirsingh, Anoushka organized much of the facility and teaching requirements. She had the solid support of the Society of Radiographers of Trinidad and Tobago and their President Mr. Aleth Bruce. ISRRT was fortunate also to have the active support of Vice President of The Americas, Mrs. Patricia Johnson in the region to ensure the workshop did take place. Ms Marilyn Entwistle from the Trinidad and Tobago PAHO office was also instrumental in having the Workshop successfully run and she attended all four days of the workshop. Ileana Fleitas, PAHO regional officer from Cuba, also attended the workshop as a participant to gain better knowledge of QA in x ray equipment.

*"I really enjoyed attending the workshop and learned a lot and have a greater appreciation and respect for the work of radiographers."*  
Marilyn Entwistle PAHO

The workshop was led by Mr Ian McClelland, author of the second Workbook developed collaboratively between ISRRT and WHO, X-RAY EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR. The Director of Education, Cynthia Cowling coordinated the workshop

and assisted in some of the teaching. Anoushka and Justin Mahabirsingh assisted with the teaching as well as making sure all the facilities were available. They also completed a full CD for each participant at the end of the workshop. This gave the attendees access to all the PPP and teaching materials so that they could run another such workshop in their own region or country.

*"Ian's method of simplifying things and most of the workbook is quite impressive"*  
Evaluation respondent

This was the second such workshop, first being held in India in 2007. The workshop was slightly streamlined from the first but contained all the essential elements of pre and post tests, instructional lectures, demonstrations, practicals and group discussions. This combination proved extremely popular with all participants who appreciated the opportunity to perform hands on tests as well as interacting with fellow radiographers and engineers and discussing similar issues in the field.

The mix of participants was a very positive part of the workshop, although initially not planned for. In this region, some bio medical technicians and engineers are given responsibility for X ray equipment without fully understanding it. The workshop was a good exercise to demonstrate that learning can take place in both directions for radiographers and engineers/technicians.

The main thrust of the workshop was to show how radiographers could maintain equipment in simple ways, use their powers of observation to notice deterioration in equipment, and how to communicate effectively with service engineers and managers if repair was required. Discussions and role playing emphasized the need for accuracy of reporting and how some simple tests and repairs can in fact be secured without the need for a service individual (who may be far away or too busy to attend). One incident was recalled during a discussion period of a mammography unit failing to work (for a very simple and



fixable defect) precisely at the time a local bank was offering free mammograms for a month. It remained unfixed until after the offer was withdrawn. In another role playing example, radiographers were very eager to dump chemicals from their processors without getting to the bottom of the problem. An administrator in the group quickly red flagged the increase in chemical costs.

Pre and post tests were given. The pretest result average was 69% which is quite high and indicative of the senior level of most of the participants. The post test result, which had an increased emphasis in the application of knowledge, was 89%. There was therefore a clear indication that learning did take place!

An evaluation of the workshop by the participants was very positive with 75 percent or more agree very strongly that the workshop was well organized, taught by knowledgeable professionals and had excellent catering!

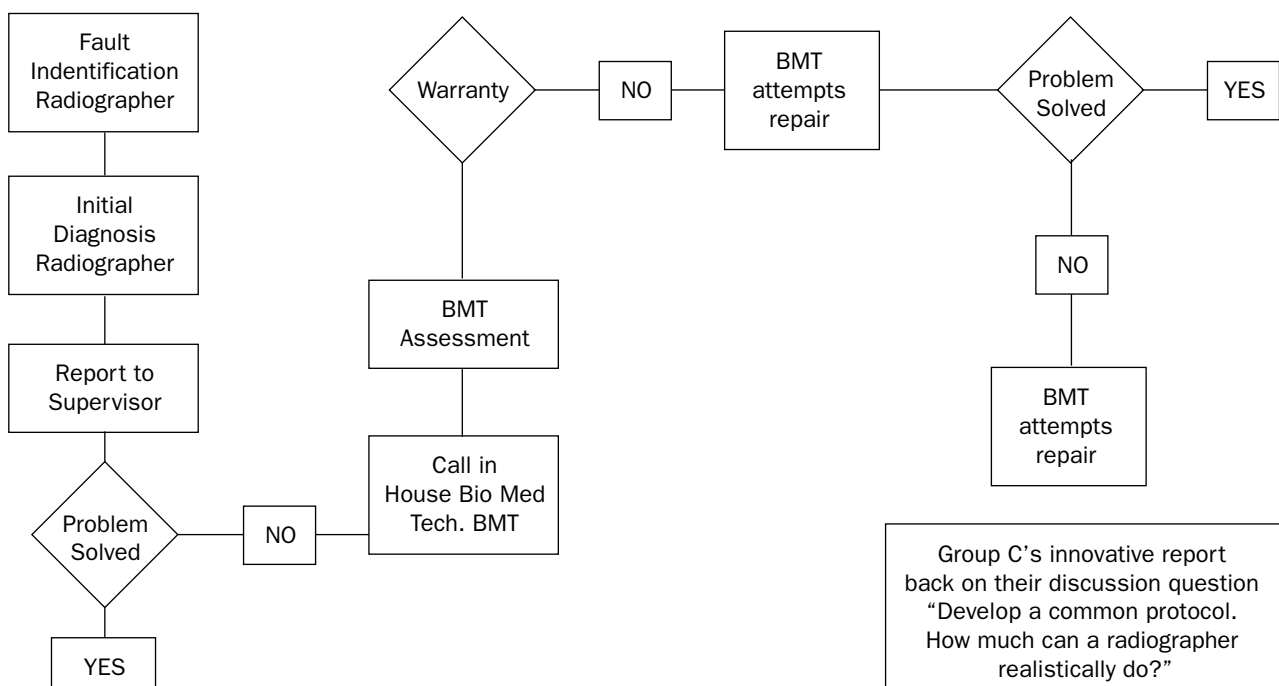
*"Thank you for bringing this workshop to this region. It is very much needed"*  
Evaluation respondent

Over 75% felt that information could and would be used in their own workplace. All were extremely pleased to have a copy of the Workbook, which they felt was well written, clear and practically based. Most wanted further



workshops with QA, Digital, CT and Mammography the most highly rated.

A final thank you for all who participated, attended and helped make this happen. A thank you must be extended to the supervisors and staff of Eric Williams Medical Sciences Centre who provided all the facilities for the workshop including several x ray rooms, free of charge. Also a special thanks to CASi Health Care Technologies who hosted delightful dinner at the Millenium Golf Club for all participants and volunteer helpers. It is the intention of ISRRT to carry out follow up studies to determine the downstream, long term affects of this workshop and to offer it in other locations where there is a need. ✦



## 5th Baltic Congress of Radiographers

Latvia, Jurmala

September 12-13, 2008

Report by **Elita Rutka**, LRAA President

THE Radiographer Association of Latvia had the honour to organise the 5th Baltic Congress of Radiographers. It is now several months since the 5th Baltic Congress was held and since then there has been a long cold winter with much snow and now spring has come. The Radiographers Association of Latvia remember the warm feelings, sincerity, joy and satisfaction shown during the congress from both the guests and participants of the congress. The congress had a friendly and creative atmosphere. It was a great event for the radiographers of Estonia,

Lithuania and Latvia only a few years ago, in February 15, 2003, in Parnu, the Radiographers Association of Estonia organised the first international conference of the Baltics in honour of its 10th year anniversary. Radiographers from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania participated in this first congress. Our Estonian colleagues were the first of our organisations to host the congress and gave over 200 radiographers the opportunity to come together and share

their professional experience and discuss future plans and opportunities. The first Baltic Conference was the first one held by the radiographers in this regions since the regaining of the Baltic States independence.

Up to now four congresses have taken place organised in turn by the Radiographers Associations of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia.

The 5th Baltic Congress of Radiographers took place in Jurmala, a charming seaside resort of Latvia. Jurmala is the largest resort city in the Baltic States and is well known for its natural treasures – the mild climate, sea, healthy air, curative mud and mineral water. The main attractions of Jurmala are in its almost 33km long white sandy beach, the large pine forest and the natural border of the city – the River Lielupe.

497 delegates from 12 different European cities participated at the congress under the main theme “Quality Assurance in Radiography: Education for Practice.”



The large group photograph is of the European Federation of Radiographic Societies.



In her address at the opening ceremony of the congress Mrs Katrin Sigurdardottir (pictured above), Vice president Europe/Africa, emphasised the importance of a radiographer's professional development not only by collaboration within Europe but also as part of the whole world.

23 interesting presentations were presented, including:

- Developments of the Radiographer Education in Europe and Latvia
- Code of conduct and ethics: its role in an educational context
- Quality assurance in radiography, in computed tomography (CT),
- Artefacts in clinical MRI
- Musculo-skeletal imaging
- Breast cancer screening – importance of quality assurance and audit
- Nuclear medicine technologist – theoretical and practical competencies.

During the discussions many participants and guests of the congress expressed their opinions.

There were also representatives from Latvia's government attending the congress and this presented an opportunity to improve the education in the Baltic States and educational standards throughout Europe were widely discussed. This subject was very well explained by Mrs Dorien Pronk – Larive.

As the President of the congress I expressed my deepest gratitude to everybody for cooperation, support and sincerity in participating at the congress in Jurmala which was organised by my Society in Latvia. I expressed special thanks to the Scientific Committees for their work which was undertaken at the highest level:

Now the Radiographers Association of Lithuania will begin to the organisation of the 6th Baltic Congress which will take place in two years time in Vilnius, Lithuania. ★

**Below: Mrs Dorien Pronk – Larive.**

**Below left: Mrs Dorien Pronk – Larive, Piret Vahtramäe, the President of the Estonian Radiographers, Zivile Andrukoniene, the President of the Lithuanian Radiographers, Elita Rutka, the President of the Latvian Radiographers, and Mrs Sija Geers van Gemenen during the congress's sessions break.**





## 12th International Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association

Buenos Aires, Argentina

October 20-24, 2008

**B. Patricia Johnson**, Vice President for the Americas, ISRRT

**Dr. Michael D. Ward**, Regional Director for the Americas, ISRRT

THE overall objective for the attendance of the VP and Regional Director for the Americas of the ISRRT to attend this conference was to develop and expand contacts within the South American portion of the America's Region. IRPA 12 provided an outstanding forum for making contacts in the region. Mrs. Johnson was also invited to participate in a scientific roundtable during the international congress.

1. During the congress, Mrs Johnson and Dr Ward met with Mr Edgar H. Nino who was an important contact for helping to establish contacts within the South American portion of the Americas. Mr Nino is a radiologic technologist who holds a bachelor's degree in bio-imaging production and a master's degree in bioethics. He is currently a professor in medical technology and is employed at the National University of Cordoba and National University of La Rioja in Cordoba, Argentina. He is very enthusiastic about the idea of establishing an official relationship with the ISRRT by assisting to organize workshops in Cordoba, Argentina. We discussed how, with is help, the ISRRT would like to sponsor educational workshops in South America as a means to introduce/reintroduce ISRRT to South America and to be a means to seek ISRRT membership of national societies and individual radiologic technologists and radiographers. Mr. Nino volunteered to draft some suggestions/ideas for topics for a 2-3 day workshop that would be held in Cordoba, Argentina. We emphasized that the Regional Officers of the Americas are interested in attracting as many radiographers and radiologic technologists from countries within South America. He stated that with proper communication and design of the program, we should be able to attract colleagues from Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, Peru, and Chile. It is the intention of the Regional Officers of the Americas to remain in close contact with Mr Nino.
2. Mrs Johnson and Dr Ward were taken on a tour of the Department of Radiology for the Hospital Aleman (a private German owned hospital) in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The tour was conducted by Ms. Silvina Fabiola Guaita who is a representative of AGFA Healthcare in Buenos Aires. She took us to the department for us to observe the operation of their Digital Radiology and computed radiology systems. The staff technologists in the department were very accommodating and helpful in demonstrating the equipment and seemed to welcome us in their department. Ms. Guaita was an excellent guide and provided much appreciated courtesies to us during her time with us.
3. Mrs Johnson and Dr Ward met up with the President of IRPA, Phillip Metcalf, who we had previously met at the 2008 Durban, South Africa meeting of the ISRRT. Dr Metcalf invited us to attend the IRPA General Assembly and to meet the incoming President of this organization, Mr Ken Case. Both Dr Metcalf and Mr Case expressed a strong desire for our two organizations to continue to work together and to collaborate on initiatives in the future.
4. Mrs Johnson participated in a roundtable presentation on "Networking in Radiation Protection in the Americas." She was one of seven speakers invited to participate in the general discussion "Networking in Radiation Protection." The presentation was well received and ISRRT was recognized as an International Association representing over 300,000 radiographers and radiologic technologists worldwide.
5. After the roundtable presentation, Mrs Johnson and Dr Ward were approached by Dr Maria del Rosario

*Continued on page 30*

## The Scope of Practice –

### The radiographic profession in 2008!

RADIOTHERAPY is very high on the health agenda in the UK. Radiotherapy radiographers and the SCoR in particular are working with government agencies to improve access for patients and to ensure that innovations in radiotherapy are promptly and robustly introduced. This is providing opportunities for radiographers to take on new roles in planning and dosimetry and for the four-tier career structure to become even more widely recognised as the basis of the very best services.

Consultant practice continues to develop across the profession. There are now over 40 consultant radiographers in the UK, providing leadership, excellent clinical services and research in all speciality areas of radiography. Advanced practice is also now very widespread with radiographers (for example) undertaking 20% of the plain x-ray reporting across the country.

The SCoR is pleased to see the establishment of the European Federation of Radiography Societies (EFRS). Sandie Mathers, our representative on ISRRRT Council has also been elected as a member of the inaugural Board of EFRS. The Federation is already influencing the European legislative process where this affects radiography. The SCoR looks forward to developing the European work alongside our commitment to the wider international agenda through ISRRRT. It is clear that the two organizations are complementary and mutually supportive of the profession and of excellence in patient care wherever radiography is carried out.

The SCoR Scope of Practice 2008 is a major piece of research about where the profession stands in the UK. There is a story at [www.sor.org/stories/radiographic-profession-2008](http://www.sor.org/stories/radiographic-profession-2008) which has been published below.

THE SCoR Scope of Practice 2008 – a significant piece of research commissioned by the Society and College of Radiographers – provides a benchmark in the development of the profession.

It is the clearest, most detailed picture of the radiography profession to date.

The research was led by Dr Richard Price, Head of School at the University of Hertfordshire, UK and the report was compiled in collaboration with the Institute for Employment Studies.

Commenting on the project, Richard Price said: “Scope of Practice provides an objective view of the role of radiographers nationally and their contribution to healthcare.”

The first Scope of Practice was published in 2003 and was based on literature reviews and a short qualitative survey. This new study used a range of research methodologies, including an online survey, to investigate the radiographic workforce in the primary and independent sectors, education as well secondary and tertiary provision.

“No other work has looked across the whole spectrum of the profession to the extent that this project has,” explained Richard Price.

“Since the first Scope of Practice document the profession has advanced significantly. The establishment of consultant and advanced practitioner posts, the extent of radiographer-led research in radiotherapy, and the quantity of research in HEIs are but three significant advances.”

The research revealed a number of important findings, including:

- The number of centres adopting new roles across the spectrum of radiographic practice has continued to grow;
- The number of extended roles withdrawn in the past five years is minimal;
- Radiographer-led focused abdominal sonography in trauma is being practiced at a number of centres;
- There many new practices for radiographers evolving within the field of gastrointestinal imaging with radiographers performing colonoscopies and sigmoidoscopies;
- Radiotherapy practitioners are using Grenz rays for superficial dermatological therapy and are providing a skin laser therapy service, for treatment of tattoos, haemangiomas, and pigmented skin lesions;
- Agenda for Change (AfC) was seen as both a barrier and a factor that encouraged role advancement. It is clear, however, that there is a lack of consistency in the application of AfC bandings across the career progression framework;
- Service need and supportive radiologists are key factors in supporting role extension. Barriers to role extension include lack of funding, dissatisfaction with AfC bandings and the attitude of some radiologists;
- In imaging, scope for future development may well lie in community-based centres and by forming alliances with clinicians outside the imaging department.

*Continued on page 30*

## Digital Radiology Workshop

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

October 30-31 – November 1, 2008

Report by **Philippe Gerson**, LRAA President

THANKS to the initiative of the ABPPER (Burkinabese radiographers association), a workshop was organised on October 30th -31st and November 1st for our burkinabese radiological technologists colleagues.

The theme of this three days training was “Digital Radiology”.

Sub-saharan Africa is mostly using silver imaging but public hospital and private sector begin to be equipped with many digital machines.

As the principal instructor, I tackled the following themes during the three days:

- The shift from silver to digital imaging
- The basic principles of digital x-ray in collaboration with M. Yao

- Remote-controlled table with digital fluoroscopy
- C.R. (computed radiology)
- D.R. direct radiology
- PACS and teleradiology

80 participants came from all the regions of Burkina Faso but also from Togo and Ivory Coast followed very attentively this privileged moment for them.

Indeed, we need to mention that the last workshop held in Burkina Faso was in 2003. Without the raising of funds from ISRRT (International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists) on a large part and the logistic help from AFPPE, this project could not have been completed successfully. Tackling of digitalization can seem inappropriate





in one of the poorest country of the world, but our colleagues are allowed to be informed and trained. A flat panel detector is installed in Ivory Coast, CR in Mali, Senegal, and projects exist in Burkina, Togo and Benin. Prospects in teleradiology exist with the fast development of the internet in Africa.

I have seen the difference since my first trip in Burkina Faso in 1999 where it was very difficult to call direct to France and in 2008 where the modest hotel I was living in had free Wifi available in any room.

Communication technology is growing very fast, imaging too, so we need to always be ready and available for workshops.

A new board of ABPPER was created in last August. The transition between the President M. Aoue G. Kora and his successor was made outstandingly. This new agency has a lot of projects for all of the Burkina Faso radiological technologists and AFPPE and ISRRT are there to support them.

I also want to thank Mrs Valérie Marcade from the company STEPHANIX and Mr Stéphane Chanois from the company CARESTREAM, who where in charge of all the coffee breaks during these three days of training. These two companies and their colleagues always stand beside the African radiological technologists and assist in every seminar or workshop that we have organised in Africa in the last decade.

I would like to thank once again the ISRRT board for its financial and moral support. I would like to remind you that this vocational training cost price was only 20 euros for three days!

ISRRT is a charitable organization. Its main goal is to help promote training all over the world but in particular for the poorest countries. It has totally respected these main goals.

All our african colleagues, always happy and cheerful, ended the training with a pleasant and simple party.

Mr Boniface YAO, president of ANTIMCI announced that the next national congress of Radiological technologists will be held in Abidjan in April 2009.

He also invited to this congress all the radiological technologists from French-speaking Africa because solid links now exist between all the radiological technologists associations of French-speaking Africa.

In October 2009, the Cameroonian association will organize in cooperation with AFPPE and ISRRT the fifth conference for French-speaking radiological technologists, which will probably take place in Douala. And then, it will be up to our malian colleagues to set up new training in Bamako in February 2010.

There are a lot of prospects of meeting for our african colleagues, always ready to inform themselves and to follow trainings in a nice and brotherly atmosphere. ✦



## Effecting quality care despite our differences

Port of Spain, Trinidad

November 1-2, 2008

Report by **Timothy Dean**

THE Society of Radiographers of Trinidad and Tobago hosted its 2008 Annual Conference on November 1-2 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Port of Spain, Trinidad. The theme of the conference was "Effecting quality care despite our differences" and it marked the start of the Radiographers' Week.

The Opening ceremony took place on the morning of Saturday 1st with the Honorable Minister of Health Jerry Narace in attendance along with Mrs Marilyn Entwistle, the Advisor in Health Services Administration of PAHO/WHO and Mrs Patricia Johnson (Barbados) Vice President of the Americas of the International Society of Radiographers and Radiologic Technologists (ISRRT).

The Society's president, Mr Aleth Bruce recognized the dignitaries present and the many local, regional and international radiographers who came from far and wide to this year's conference. The president launched the society's website ([www.soradtt.com](http://www.soradtt.com)) at the opening ceremony and it marked a significant milestone in the society's history.

Addresses by Mrs Johnson, Mrs Entwistle and the Honorable Minister followed. The Minister gave a very heartfelt delivery with respect to current issues in the country and encouraged radiographers in their development in continuing education, professionalism and patient care.

The Minister afterwards presented awards to a number of retired radiographers whom the society acknowledged for their dedication and commitment to the practice as radiographers in Trinidad and Tobago. Radiographers that awards were designated to included: Mrs Shirley St. Rose, Mrs Rajwatte Bhaggan Wegner, Mrs Lydia Baah, Mrs Gloria Ramdial, Dr Allan Regisford, Mr Alroy "Buddy" Nicholls, Mrs Marcelle Delpeche, Mrs Marjorie Yates, Mrs Angela Telesford, Mrs Lilla Huntley, Mrs Constance

Jodhan and Mrs Cynthia Montano.

Two specially invited guests from the USA gave their featured presentations on both the two days of the conference: Ms Paula Frank, Diagnostic Director of Radiology Department of the world acclaimed Johns Hopkins Hospital in the United States; and Mrs Victoria Holas, Program Director of the Radiologic Technology Program of the Arizona Western College also of the United States. Both of these guest presenters were sponsored by their respective institutions and the society commends them for their invaluable contribution.

Radiographers from public and private, local and regional institutions gave world-class presentations and set the tone for continued high standards of research and study for fellow colleagues. A wide variety of papers were presented in such areas as Professionalism, Computed Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Radiation Therapy, Ultrasound, Mammography, Stress Management, Organ Transplant, Picture Archival and Communication Systems (PACS), HIV/AIDS, Education and Research. ✦



**Retiree Award recipients.**

## Fiji quality assured

Report by **Cynthia Cowling**, ISRRT Director of Education

CYNTHIA Cowling, The Director of Education paid a “flying” visit to Fiji to meet with Ajibulu Olusegun, Head of the Radiography program at the Fiji School of Medicine. The main objective was to confirm and organize collaborative workshops between WHO, ISRRT and The Fiji School of Medicine. This was achieved and workshops in Quality Assurance and Ultrasound will be offered from June 15th-26th. Up to 12 regional Pacific countries will be able to participate thanks to a generous contribution from WHO. The school will host the activity in their excellent facilities, donated by the European Union. Mr. Olusegun runs a terrific baccalaureate program and the workshops will be of the highest quality.

Cynthia and her husband Peter Lloyd took advantage of this trip and met with radiographers on both sides of the main island of Viti Levu. A meeting was arranged with the Society of Radiographers at CWM Hospital in Suva and Cynthia and Peter were very kindly hosted to a dinner in the Suva hinterland. A special thanks goes to John Brown and Jone Salabucco for organizing



these functions. It provided an excellent opportunity for dialogue and gave the visitors a good sense of the real needs of the Fijian radiographers. There seemed to be considerable interest in the 2010 Gold Coast congress and several Fijian radiographers hope to attend. ✦



**Above:**  
**Soji Olusegun in School Lab.**

**Left:**  
**Fiji Members of the Society of Radiography and seated Peter Lloyd and Cynthia Cowling.**



## Tanzania workshop

Dar Es Salaam

November 6-8, 2008

Report by **Yvette Hechter**

### Background

FIRSTLY, I would like to thank everyone involved with this project and for allowing me the opportunity to play a part in it. Personally, I am enthusiastic about training anywhere where input and involvement is positive. It was a wonderful experience and an incredible learning curve for all.

I was encouraged by the enthusiasm and willingness of the participants to gain knowledge as well as the two doctors that attended the course. Equally impressive, was the fact that all delegates were present right up to the last moment on the Saturday – really a first for me!

The workshop was designed by Alex Gontar, lecturer at the Michener/University of Toronto radiological sciences program with input from Ben Keir, medical physicist from Queensland Health, Australia. Ben was lead instructor and was also mandated to provide a preliminary analysis of the equipment for WHO. Jenny Motto from the University of Johannesburg acted as coordinator, and Caesar Barare, Board member from Kenya, provided ISRRT input. Lectures were given by Ben and myself, adapting Alex's

material to the specific needs of the group. It was difficult to teach some of the digital information due to the lack of exposure to this technology by many of the participants. In future workshops, a reduction in physics principles and more hands on would be beneficial, although the lack of this very knowledge hampered the degree of success of the participants.

I feel very strongly that we will have to follow this course up with a intensive program in quality control (QC) and quality assurance (QA) in order to make the hands on for the CR (computed radiography) more logical.

At the culmination of day two we divided the participants into smaller groups of 5-6 people and gave them questions on all the lectures to answer and discuss amongst themselves. The feedback was amazing as well as encouraging and it was very apparent that the participants had learnt a substantial amount. I was concerned that their lack of knowledge of the radiographic techniques and principles such as the importance of kV and mAs impeded their ability to grasp all the factors.

Not all the practicals could not be performed and tested to the full potential primarily due to the lack of





decent installation and calibration of the equipment. The IT technician, William, was trained by the company (CR Tech from Israel) to do all of the previous mentioned but he does not have the expertise or knowledge on radiology to do this. Language is also a big problem.

I was a bit disturbed by the fact that the equipment was donated without substantial research regarding the capabilities of the equipment versus the needs of the hospitals in question. Ocean Road Cancer Institute needs high quality, high resolution, digital equipment to detect the smallest changes in cancer. Not one of the three venues where this equipment is installed is there any link to a workstation, printer (medical laser or ordinary desktop printer) or archive. Images acquired on these systems are thus futile as it remains on the hard drive of the computer attached to the digital equipment and the radiographer is unable to distribute the images. It would have been very beneficial to have an administrative level radiographer fully conversant with the product, who could have trained others.

I fully understand that Sub-Sahara Africa is an upcoming and growing continent lacking in technology due to costs and training, however so much more reason to provide equipment of high quality. This would be instrumental in broadening their horizons and build on improving radiology (and treatment of diseases) in these countries.

## Summary and Suggestions

In the final feedback session it was clear from all the participants that there was a need for follow up hands on training on their CR units as well as QA and QC on equipment and accessories. If the basics of analogue QA/QC can be mastered, the integration over to digital imaging (CR) will be so much easier.

My personal opinion is that careful study of the existing equipment in place or being installed should be carried out before the workshop of this nature is run, to ensure complete success of the workshop. It is also critical that the equipment meets the needs of the hospital and local community. No cost should be spared to ensure that only the best equipment is provided.

One important factor to be considered, when working in Africa, often so far from immediate technical

support, is that high spec, reliable and user friendly equipment should be the order of the day, especially in an oncology setup.

Despite all the obstacles we faced, the workshop was a success with the means available to us. I would like, in future, to play a part again in giving back some of my knowledge on digital imaging to Africa and see the profession grow. ✦

## Yvette Hechter

National Diploma in Radiography (Diagnostic), South Africa

B.Tech – Diagnostic Radiography (TUT)

Diploma in Vascular Ultrasound: Burwin Institute, Canada

Product and Application Specialist: Fujifilm and Canon Medical



## ISRRT Public Relations Report

March 2009

Director of Public Relations: Fozy Peer  
Regional PR Representatives: Tan Chek Wee  
(Asia-Australasia)  
Stefano Braico (Europe)  
Sumbo Oyedele (Africa)  
Sean Richardson  
(The Americas)

The Public Relations section of the ISRRT has been busy these past months with the compilation/review of various presentations and documents.

Reviewed:

- Criteria for corporate membership
- Congress Guidelines (work in progress)
- ISRRT an International Perspective (Power-point presentation)

Compiled:

- Criteria for Use of the ISRRT logo
- Why Radiography as a Career (Power-point presentation)
- Why Support the ISRRT (Flyer –Work in progress)

The website is constantly reviewed and updates are requested. E-copies of previous Newsletters are available on the website. The President and CEO are in consultation to acquire sponsorship for the translation of the Newsletter into French, Spanish and Japanese. Hardcopies of the Newsletter are published in May and November each year.

The revamped ISRRT logo, in keeping with the image of the ISRRT was launched at the Council Meeting in Durban in April 2008. Golf shirts bearing the ISRRT logo may be purchased from the CEO.

As requested at the previous Board meeting, quotations were obtained on printing folders for the ISRRT. The costs involved for the artwork and the logistics of sending the folders to the different countries requiring them, made them not such a feasible proposition.

The cost to have the ISRRT Newsletter printed in South Africa (SA) was cheaper than at the present supplier. However, the cost to then ship the Newsletters from SA to the members (mainly Australian) increased the cost dramatically and it was found not to be financially viable. Many public relations activities are undertaken by Robert George and Sandy Yule in their roles as President and CEO

respectively who promote the ISRRT extensively during their travels.

### News from the Regions

As per the Council resolution – Europe and Africa are to have separate regional representatives.

#### Europe

At the last Council meeting there were no nominations for a public relations representative for Europe. Council accepted the proposal by the European Federation of Radiographic Societies (EFRS) to submit a nomination for the regional PR representative for Europe. We welcomed Stefano Braico as the regional representative for Europe. Stefano is very familiar with this role as he has previously served as regional Public relations representative for Europe-Africa.

#### Africa

Sumbo Oyedele was elected as public relations representative for Africa. Sumbo is no stranger to the ISRRT - she has represented Nigeria as Council member for many years. We welcome Sumbo into this new portfolio and look forward to a long and fruitful relationship.

#### Asia and Australasia

Welcome back to Tan Chek Wee from maternity leave and congratulations on the birth of a beautiful baby boy. Tan Chek Wee reports that 2008 has been an active year for the A & A region:

#### Hong Kong Radiographers' Association (HKRA)

Inauguration Conference of the Hong Kong College of Radiographers and Radiation Technologists was held from 6th - 8 December 2008. Due to advancement in technology and increase in demand for quality services to meet the continuous professional development of radiographers and radiation therapists, the college was set-up to better fulfill these needs. Tan Chek Wee had the opportunity to attend the conference and was encouraged by the support and encouragement shown by radiologists and other professions on the formation of the college.

#### Japan

Election of directors and auditors of JART was held on 7th

June 2008 and a new board of directors and president was elected for JART. The A&A region will like to congratulate Mr. Kitamura for being elected as the new JART president and Mr. Abe and Mr. Harima as new vice-presidents respectively. Mr. Kumagai will now be the advisor of JART.

#### **Malaysia**

Congratulations to the Malaysia Society of Radiographers again for winning the bid to host the coming Asia and Australasia Conference of Radiological Technologists (AACRT) in August 2009. The AACRT will be held in conjunction with the annual Malaysia -Singapore Radiographers Conference and we are looking forward to a great conference in Kuala Lumpur.

#### **Singapore**

Singapore Society of Radiographers (SSR) celebrated its 50th Anniversary Celebration on 5-7th September 2008. It was a big event where we had the honour of the President of Singapore, Mr SR Nathan to grace the Golden Jubilee Gala Dinner. The 2 Day Event was a big success with a total of more than 300 participants from 6 different countries

joining us. Mr Robert George, the president of ISRRT was one of the invited speakers for this joyous occasion.

An international certifying examination for Image and Information Management Administrator (PACs) was initiated by Japan and Korea Society of Radiological Technologists. An International Accreditation board was also formed by both societies to administer the exam. The exam was held yearly in September. Last year, participants from 6 different countries in the region; Japan, Korea, R.O.C., Hong Kong, Macao, and Thailand participated in the exam.

#### **Americas**

Sean Richardson our usual busy bee for the Americas has had a somewhat quiet period – perhaps the effect of the current economic recession!

The contribution of the regional PR representatives is appreciated. My tasks are made easier by the support and prompt response for comments/input from the valued Board members and CEO.

## Good morning Vietnam

By **Philippe Gerson**, ISRRT Council Member, France

FOR about two years, a project to help train Vietnamese radiographers has been in preparation. Initiated by the Epicentre Network company, represented by Mr Nguyen, this project aims to put in relation French and Vietnamese training centres and in future, to develop a distance education structure.

Hai Duong University, located near Hanoi, started this project in collaboration with the radiographer school of Orleans, represented by director Mrs Le Goazigo.

In 2008, it welcomed a Hai Duong teachers delegation to do work shadowing. AFPPE was also contacted because of the relationship it has had with their Vietnamese colleagues in the Hanoi area for the past 10 years.

Mrs Zerroug, Director of Radiographer School in Paris, and myself joined this training project. Before beginning our work in Hai Duong we were welcomed by Dr Bernatas, Health Counsellor for the French Embassy in Hanoi, in

order to talk about the situation of radiology in Vietnam. Vietnam has some technical equipment including CT, MRI, and CR while Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine are less developed. PET Scan is also used in Hanoi.

Thanks to the work of the GREF (group of radiologists and teachers of French language) many Vietnamese radiologists have been trained in our territory. As for radiographers it is unrealistic to consider training them in France. It seems more useful and more productive to educate the trainers and to structure training.

To follow up that idea we met the X-ray technicians and the radiologists' teachers before leaving for Hai Duong.

Pr Vu Long and the manager of the X-ray Department of Bach Mai Hospital in Hanoi met us to put together a preliminary analysis of the training needs.

In Vietnam radiographers' training is managed by Hai Duong who is the director of a major asset — a



Above: Mrs Zerroug and Mrs Le Goazigo with radiographers and students





**Above: Mr Gerson with Director of Paramedical School of Hanoi and Pr Vu Long.**

radiological consultation clinic within the University. The principle of teaching is the following: at the end of their studies students are able to x-ray patients supervised by a radiologist teacher who check the films. Patients benefit from reduced fees.

The project to improve training has now begun so it should be continuous and lasting.

X-ray work is only open to men because of the perceived radiation hazard and the difficulty of the job. According to the country's laws women are not allowed to undertake work which involves radiation.

There is no national diploma and each university is free to put in place a two, three or four-year training program as required. Nowadays the two-year training program is mostly designed for radiographers doing "projection imaging" however this is being given up. Indeed with the

boom of imaging (Bach Mai hospital has seven scanners and three IRM) Vietnamese universities have turned to a four-year training. It is important to mention that the last year is mainly dedicated to work placements.

As AFPPE, we have decided to keep our relationship with our Hanoi collaborators in order to help them to update their training courses.

Our first mission was in Hai Duong, where we have continued our work in collaboration with the local training team which includes two radiologists.

Finally we would like to thank all those who helped the project in Hai Duong and Hanoi universities and for welcoming us and sharing with us their culture. This gave us the opportunity to discover a rich tradition in a forward thinking country. ✦

## Sumbo Oyedele

ISRRT Regional Coordinator for Public Relations, Africa

Sumbo was born April 15th, 1953 to loving parents and a close knit family.

She went from one of the best girls' schools, Queen's School Ede/Ibadan, to study Radiography in the Federal School of Radiography, Lagos, Nigeria where she qualified in October, 1975 with a Diploma of the College of Radiographers, London.

Sumbo then commenced her professional journey in December 1975 as a basic radiographer at the radiology department of the University College Hospital, Ibadan, Nigeria where she rose to become the Deputy Director of Radiography up till date.

In her over 30 years of practice in this premier hospital and the biggest hospital in West Africa, she took time out to attend courses in management, radiation protection and especially Computerized Tomography.

She trained for her Computerized Tomography course in the University of Wales, Cardiff under the tutelage of Dr Sandy Yule. She has thus used the training and experience to train over 300 radiographers in the CT Specialty.

She was vice president of her national body, the Association of Radiographers of Nigeria for six years and later became the President of the association for three years. She is now a fellow of the association.

Sumbo is a familiar face at most of the international conferences, the UKRC, the ISRRT congresses and the RSNA. These outings have helped her tremendously in practice. She has been the council member representing Nigeria in the ISRRT for over 10 years and she has been recently elected the Regional Coordinator on Public Relations for Africa in the ISRRT and also the Vice Secretary of the Pan African congress of Radiology and Imaging (PACORI).

Sumbo is a proud mother of a daughter, Adenike who is a banker and two sons. Ayodeji works with an IT company and the last son Olubunmi is currently undergoing the mandatory National Service.

Sumbo's hobbies include traveling and watching movies.

sumbooyedele@yahoo.com



### ISRRT WEBSITE

The ISRRT website carries up to date addresses of all member societies. Visit the ISRRT website at:

**[www.isrrt.org](http://www.isrrt.org)**

Here you can find information on the ISRRT and details of future meetings.

### Comments on the newsletter

You are invited to comment on the presentation and contents of the newsletter and make suggestions for future issues. Your comments will be considered by the Editor and her Committee.

email: [deepbluedesign1@mac.com](mailto:deepbluedesign1@mac.com)

## Robert Shen

ISRRT Regional Director, Asia and Australasia

Robert Shen was born in 1950 in Taiwan. Robert is married with two sons.

Graduated: Dept. of Radiological Technology, Yuan Pei University

Training Programs:

Language Training Centre

Taiwan Normal University (English Class)

Clinical Orientation at Affiliate University Hospital of Hiroshima, Japan



Served successively as:

- Medical Radiological Technologist, Department of Radiology, Taipei Veterans General Hospital Taipei, Taiwan
- Medical Radiological Technologist, New Jeddah Clinical Hospital, Saudi Arabia
- Clinical Instructor, Department of Radiology, Yuan Pei University Taiwan
- Clinical Instructor, School of Biomedicine and Engineering, National Yang Min University Taiwan
- Editor-in-chief, Journal of Taiwan Society of Radiological Technologists (TWSRT)
- Council Member/ Secretary General, TWSRT
- Representative of TWSRT, Council member of International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists, ISRRT

Appointed to:

(2002-present): Regional Director, Asia and Australasia, International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists, ISRRT

(2006-present): Board Member, Board of Management, ISRRT

(2006-present): Council member of Taipei City Association of Radiological Technologists, TPART

(2007-present): Secretary General of Chinese Association of Radiological Technologists, (Organization for professional Practicing Radiographers in Taiwan) CART

Membership of Professional Bodies:

- Associate Member of ISRRT
- Member of TWSRT
- Member of TPART

Languages:

Chinese (Mandarin), local dialects of Taiwan, English, some Cantonese, Japanese and Arabic

Hobbies:

Outdoor activities, mountain climbing, jogging and travelling.

## Michael D. Ward, Ph.D., RTR, FASRT

ISRRT Regional Director, America's



Dr Michael D. Ward is the Associate Dean for Student Programs and Professor for Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College in St. Louis, Missouri. He received his bachelor's degree in Radiologic Science from St. Louis University in 1981, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. He holds a Master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of Missouri – St. Louis and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Higher Education Administration from Saint Louis University.

Dr Ward has served on and chaired numerous committees and commission and has been very active in local, state, national and international radiologic science organizations. At the Missouri affiliate level, he has held the offices of Treasurer, Vice-President, and twice has served as President and Chairman of the Board. In October 1987, the Missouri Society presented Dr Ward with the first "Mallinckrodt Award of Excellence" and later honored him with "Life Membership" in 1995.

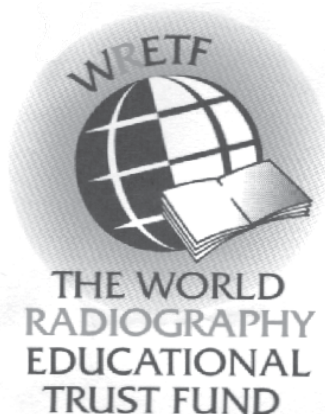
At the national level, Dr Ward has served as Vice-President, President-Elect, President, and Chairman of the Board of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. In June of 1988, he was elevated to Fellow of the ASRT and in 1996; ASRT honored him by selecting Dr Ward to be the Hartman Memorial Lecturer. This marked ASRT's 75th birthday and the 100th anniversary of the discovery of X-ray. He currently serves on the Board of Management for the International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists and has represented the United States Radiologic Science community as a member of the governing Council of this organization at meetings in Tokyo, Japan; Lisbon, Portugal; Sydney, Australia; Bridgetown, Barbados; Amsterdam in the Netherlands; Hong Kong, China; Singapore, and Durban, South Africa. Dr Ward was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the ASRT Education and Research Foundation (the philanthropic arm of the ASRT), and from 2000 to 2003 was elected Chairman of the Board of the Foundation. In April 2005, Dr Ward completed his second three year appointment on the Board of Directors of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. He continues to serve as a site visiting team chair for this accrediting organization.

His personal motto is to "Always Strive Toward Excellence."

### ➤ Deadlines

The deadlines for receiving material for publication in the two issues each year of the *ISRRT Newsletter* are April 1 and October 1.





# The World Radiography Educational Trust Fund

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Mr A. Budge

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and to apply/get  
involved with WRETF:

[www.wretf.com](http://www.wretf.com)

## **News**

Meet the WRETF ... this is us at our Nov 2008 meeting in London  
Standing Left to Right Dominique Zerroug, Alan Budge & Ann Paris  
Seated Wilma de Groot & Lizzie Zukiewicz  
(Stanley Eustace was absent from the meeting)

## **Trustees' news**

After many years of service sadly Niru Kolmannskog has decided to stand down as trustee due to ill health. We thank Niru for all her support over the years. This leaves us with 2 vacancies on the trustees' board and we are currently in the process of selecting 2 new trustees which will be put forward to the ISRRT board. We hope that these will be from Canada / North America and Australasia to make us more representative of a world wide charity.

## **Applications**

Since returning from Durban I have been busily trying to catch up with sending out parcels. I have sent books out to: UGANDA, MALAWI, INDONESIA, ZAMBIA, NEPAL, IVORY COAST, & BOTSWANA.

These have been very gratefully received as can be seen by the following quotes ...

"I got those books which you had sent. We are grateful to WRETF." (Nepal).

"Don't know how we have to express our sincere appreciation ... To day have received the second package of books. Thanks so much. May I take this opportunity to thank you for the positive mind you have shown to assist our patients through this way ... The books you send us are the source of information, that much we do appreciate." (BOTSWANA)

## **Donations**

I met a large number of people in Durban last summer and we have since received a few more offers of books and a bit more interest in our work but we desperately need your help financially to support our colleagues overseas in departments with few resources. It costs a MINIMUM of £10.30 to send a single Clarke Positioning book out at the cheapest surface rate. I want to send books to many more people but without funds this is not possible. To send a few essential titles to recipients costs a minimum of US\$45 per applicant so please when you get asked about donating to WRETF say YES donate and help us to continue the work.

Lizzie Zukiewicz  
Hon Secretary, WRETF

*Continued from page 10*

## **2008 a successful year educationally**

There are two other potentially exciting areas already under discussion.

### **International Accreditation**

From feedback received it seems that although many want this, to compete with existing well established, experienced and better funded EDUCATIONAL entities, is unrealistic. However there are several other options we might consider and I would like to suggest that as one step we establish a discussion forum on the web and encourage members through the newsletter and any other way to engage in a discussion on this issue.

### **The Future of Radiography Education**

This was brought up last year and it was thought ISRRT would be a good place to look at how our curricula can deal

with the rapidly changing technology and even professional roles. This may also be a subject for a web discussion.

Hopefully both will be part of the schedule in the ISRRT World Congress in the Gold Coast in September 2010.

Thank you again to the many people who helped make these activities possible. I am one of the few people privileged to see just how thankful our members are for these opportunities. Every instructor that has been involved with these workshops comments on the hard work and incredible commitment of the participants, often traveling long distances, forgoing national holidays, family etc. to attend. This is truly a two way opportunity with overseas instructors learning as much about our fellow radiographers as the participants do about improving their practice of radiography.

Thank you too, to the Board members who have been so supportive of the activities in their regions. I look forward to serving our profession in the coming months and hopefully meeting many of you. ✦

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*Continued from page 16*

## **12th International Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association**

Perez who is a scientist with the Public Health and Environment section of the WHO. She was very excited to see us at the meeting and expressed a strong desire to continue to work closely with ISRRT and the Regional Officers of the Americas to partner with them and PAHO to work on much needed projects and initiatives in Latin America and the Caribbean.

6. Mrs Johnson and Dr Ward had an hour meeting with

the newly elected IRPA President, Ken Case and Vice President, Renate Czarwinski (from Vienna, Austria) to discuss how ISRRT and IRPA could liaise with one another in the future. President Case will be sending a request of possible contacts for Radiation Safety Officers in various countries where they currently have no representation. They are especially looking for assistance with strengthening relationships with RSO's in the Caribbean. We indicated that we would take his request to the entire ISRRT Board for assistance with the IRPA request. Representatives from both radiology associations look forward to working with each other in the future as both organizations are looking to protect the public and staff from unnecessary exposure to radiation. ✦

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*Continued from page 16*

## **The Scope of Practice**

Professor Audrey Paterson, director of professional policy at the Society, said: "The Scope of Practice 2008 is a significant piece of work for the profession. Not only does it inform the Society as to how the entire profession is developing and evolving, it is also useful information for those planning service innovations and developments.

"In addition, radiographers and the wider radiographic workforce will be able to discover what their peers

are doing and where they are in terms of their career progression framework; and HEIs will be able to use it as a strong, evidence-based tool to inform forthcoming course developments.

"We would encourage each and every member of the radiographic profession to read the report in order to gain an overall knowledge of the scope of their profession as it stands at present."

The Scope of Practice 2008 can be accessed via the Society's online document library. ✦

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## Planning continues ...

In April 2008, members of the convening committee and members of the AIR Board of Directors attended the 15<sup>th</sup> ISRRT World Congress held in Durban, South Africa. Many of the 1400 delegates attending the Durban World Congress who enquired at the booth were presented with Australian icons such as kangaroos and koala. At many times during the meeting, delegates keen to know more about the Australian venue, queued during tea breaks for promotional material. A website is currently under construction to provide and assist with information on this coming event.

Also announced at the 15<sup>th</sup> ISRRT World Congress was the retirement of Emile Badawy, the EO of the AIR, pictured below with Pam Rowntree, Rob George and Tyrone Goh.



Members of the convening committee have also taken the opportunity to promote this coming event at the NZIMRT Conference in

Queenstown New Zealand. As the AIR and NZIMRT host combined conferences every 5 years, we welcoming our New Zealand colleagues to the convening committee.



**As the countdown begins, the Gold Coast Australia awaits your attendance at this exciting world event in 2010!!**

[www.isrrt.org](http://www.isrrt.org)



## The Americas

### Canada



1. The 2009 CAMRT Executive are President, Fiona Mitchell, RTT, ACT, CMS, FCAMRT from the province of British Columbia; Vice President Michel Doucette, RTT from the province of New Brunswick; Treasurer Deborah Murley, RTR from the province of Prince Edward Island;

as well as President-Elect Shirley Bague, RTR, RTMR from the province of Alberta. She will serve as President-Elect from January 1 to December 31 2009, as president for two years from January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011. The CAMRT Board has also decided to use one of the two remaining at-large positions to bring a younger perspective onto the Board by appointing a member who has less than 10 years in the profession.

Key members of the CAMRT staff, the CEO is Mr Chuck Shields; Director of Education, Ms Elaine Dever; the newly hired CAMRT Director of Advocacy, Communications and Events is Leacy O'Callaghan-O'Brien and the new CAMRT Director of Professional Practices is Mark Given.

2. **The 67th CAMRT Annual General Conference will take place in Vancouver June 4-7, 2009.** Our Keynote Speaker will be Mr Robert George! This year there will also be satellite symposia as part of the Conference, which are industry-sponsored sessions held outside the official conference program. The educational program is now on the CAMRT website. It is looking to be a truly amazing conference so I do hope you have already sent in your registration! Planning has already begun for the 2010 Conference in Quebec City, in the province of Quebec; 2011 in Saskatoon in the province of Saskatchewan; and 2012 in Toronto in the province of Ontario. The 2012 Conference will be held in conjunction with the ISRRT World Congress- and we are so looking forward to this great event. The 2009 Annual General Conference preliminary program is available on the CAMRT website:

[www.camrt.ca/english/events/annual\\_genconf.asp](http://www.camrt.ca/english/events/annual_genconf.asp)

### 3. Update on the CAMRT Assessment of Internationally Educated Medical Radiation Technologists

In Canada Internationally Educated Medical Radiation Technologists (IEMRT's) must be registered with a provincial association/regulatory body of medical radiation technologists where such registration is a provincial requirement if they wish to work in that jurisdiction. For instance:

- 3.1 Candidates who wish to work in the province of Ontario must register with the provincial regulatory body, the College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario (CMRTO) before applying for national certification with the CAMRT.
- 3.2 Candidates who wish to work in the province of Alberta must register with the Alberta College of Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologies (ACMDTT) before applying for national certification with the CAMRT.
- 3.3 Candidates who wish to write the exam in the province of British Columbia must register as "non-Canadian trained student members" with the British Columbia Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (BCAMRT) prior to applying for national certification with the CAMRT. However, assessment is done by the CAMRT.
- 3.4 The province of Quebec has its own certification process. Candidates intending to reside and work in Quebec should contact the provincial regulatory body, L'Ordre des technologistes en radiologie du Quebec (OTRQ).
- 3.5 All other candidates must be registered through the CAMRT. CAMRT requirements are as follows:

1. Currently the Language proficiency requirements are
  - verification of language proficiency of either French or English, if not the first language
  - Internet (iBT) TOEFL with a total score of at least 45 in the Reading, Listening and Writing sessions and a score of at least 23 in the Speaking section.

CAMRT is currently involved with a project under Institutional Change Initiatives – Fair and Effective Processes that may result in changes to the above.

2. Assessment of IEMRT's education in medical radiation technology
 

Verification of successful completion of a medical radiation technology education program in Nuclear Medicine, Radiological Technology, Radiation Therapy or Magnetic Resonance Imaging is required. Candidates must submit notarized copies of:

  - degrees or diploma certificate. Faxes or un-notarized copies are not acceptable to be sent in for validation purposes.
  - transcript from educational facility. If the educational facility mails this directly to the CAMRT this is deemed acceptable.
  - syllabus from the completed university, college or hospital educational program. A photocopy or printout of the syllabus is acceptable.

The syllabus and transcript are reviewed by the Coordinator of Certification in collaboration with the CAMRT Director of Education to ensure there is substantial similarity to a Canadian accredited

program following the guidelines that have been developed based on the CAMRT Competency profiles and known curriculum in Canadian medical radiation technology education programs. The CAMRT Coordinator of Certification is provided education in the evaluation of international academic credentials through organizations such as the World Education Services (WES).

### 3. Work Experience

Although the following may change, currently the CAMRT expectations are that within the past five years, a minimum of 1950 hours of work hours is required of the candidate. This is approximately equivalent to one year full-time work, Canadian employment hours. A letter of reference from a previous employer(s) is acceptable but must be submitted on letterhead and indicate the position or title, job responsibilities, procedures performed and dates of employment. A possible proposed change, however, suggests a reduction in the number of hours required with a clinical competency assessment based on performance of specific imaging procedures.

**4. The CAMRT 2009 – 2011 Strategic Plan** now features four very important strategic directions that will ensure our national professional association better supports its members as professionals and effectively promotes the profession. A large number of stakeholders, including all the provincial associations, regulatory bodies, associated physician Associations, and CAMRT office staff, assisted the CAMRT Board of Directors in the process of reviewing, updating and focusing on the goals and objectives of our Association. Here are some initiatives as part of the strategic directions:

Strategic Direction #1 – CAMRT will ensure the highest possible standards in the national certification process and practice requirements for each discipline.

- The CAMRT Board has set the requirement for access to the CAMRT certification exam for graduates of Canadian MR Programs as successful completion of an educational program in MR that has been accredited by the CMA Conjoint Accreditation Services. The CAMRT will no longer require graduates from an accredited MR 2nd discipline program to have a previous CAMRT designation or an RDMS designation in order to access the CAMRT certification exam. Graduation from the MR 2nd discipline program will be sufficient.
- There is continued strong registration in CPD programs, with 569 registered to date for courses so far in 2009. Over 1,700 participated in CAMRT CPD programs in 2008.
- Work continues on the development of an Interventional Radiology Specialty Certificate

Program. It is hoped a portion of this program can be ready for release in 2010.

- CAMRT has conducted a survey of francophone technologists, including a mailing list from Quebec, to identify quick self-study courses that would be of most interest. These courses will be made available in French.
- The Dosimetry 3 course has been released for the winter 2009 term. This completes the series of didactic courses for the Dosimetry Specialty Certificate Program.
- The CT Operation Gap Analysis Task Group has recently completed the 2nd draft of a paper that defines the additional training that technologists need in order to conduct CT procedures typically performed by other disciplines. This draft is currently under review and will be revised based on reviewer feedback, for presentation to the CAMRT Board of Directors at its June 2009 meeting.

Strategic Direction #2 – CAMRT will provide the highest possible value and service to its members.

Strategic Direction #3 – CAMRT will promote the profession and encourage professionalism in the practice of medical radiation technology.

The CAMRT Board decided to endorse the 'Disclosure Guidelines' of the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI). These have been developed to address how health care professionals should handle talking with patients about adverse events.

Our CAMRT Professional Practice Advisory Council continues to work on

- addressing the continuum of practice from aide positions to advanced practice needs,
- identifying further directions to take regarding occupational health and safety issues
- volunteering needs within professional practice
- determining how technology can assist us as we move forward.

Strategic Direction #4-The CAMRT will advocate on behalf of the MRT profession to influence public policy and to address issues that impact the profession, the health care system and quality of patient services.

- The CAMRT has re-formed the joint committee with the Canadian Association of Radiologists to continue moving on the project to develop advanced practice roles for radiological technologists. It has also commissioned a paper that summarizes what has happened in Canada

and internationally regarding the development advanced practice for MRTs and lessons learned from those experiences. CAMRT participants on this working group will include Past- CAMRT President Melanie Hilkewich.

- The Board is considering the possibility of rebranding the medical radiation technology profession and the possibility of applying this concept to the work of both the CAMRT and the provinces.
- CAMRT has been monitoring developments regarding the availability of medical isotopes in Canada.

Any question you may have please email me at jreyer@shaw.ca

**Rita Eyer, R.T.R., A.C.R.**  
**Canadian Council Member**

## Asia/Australasia

### Australia



The Australian Institute of Radiography recently inducted Mr Timothy Way as its President at the Annual General Meeting held in Sydney in March 2009. Timothy is Assistant Director of Medical Imaging at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane and takes over this role from

the immediate past President Mr Chris Whennan.

The AIR is currently conducting a review of the Professional Development Year. This is a year of supervised postgraduate clinical experience required of all graduates of three year degree programs in order to achieve full professional accreditation. Sharon Brackenridge has recently been appointed to the position of National Professional Development Program Director with the AIR and a discussion paper on the review is available on the website.

In 2009 a Combined Scientific Meeting which marks the joining of the The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR), (including the Faculty of Radiation Oncology (FRO)), The Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR) and the Australasian College of Physical Scientists & Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM) is to be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane Australia, 22-25 October 2009.

Planning is well underway for the 16th ISRRT World Congress being held in Australia in September 2010. The

ISRRT President, Rob George, and CEO, Sandy Yule made a site visit in late April to view the facilities and meet with the organising committee of which I am the chair. The Director of Education, Cynthia Cowling accompanied them. This will be a great opportunity to showcase what the Gold Coast which lies south of Brisbane can offer to registrants and their families. An exciting educational program and technical exhibition is being planned for 2010. More information can be found at the website. Go to [www.air.asn.au](http://www.air.asn.au) and follow the links to 16th ISRRT World Congress

On behalf of all AIR members I would like to send our best wishes to our colleagues around the world. To Council members from the Asia/Australasian region, please let me know if you have any suggestions for educational seminars within the region.

**Pam Rowntree**  
**Councillor for Australia**

### Taiwan



On February 22, 2009 the 42nd Annual Meeting of TWSRT and the 11th East Asia Conference of Radiological Technologists (EACRT) was hosted by the Taiwan Society of Radiological Technologists. This was a successful conference both in preparation and election. The new

president and board members of TWSRT were elected. The new president, Dr Lin Cheng-Hsun, also known as Stenver Lin is also a Professional Practice Committee member of Asia and Australasia region of ISRRT.

Taiwan, Japn and Korea hold EACRT meeting three times a year, in February, June and October respectively. The Conference has become well-known for its knowledge and feast of opportunities in Asia. It attracted over 3,000 members of TWSRT, 100 guests from Hong Kong, Thailand, Macau, Mongolia, Japan as well as Korea who were outstanding scholars and experts. Participants in all fields took part in this conference this year.







**New President of TWSRT (center)**

**More than 3,000 attendees collected at the 11th EACRT on February 22, 2009, Taipei.**

Three prominent scholars were invited for refresher courses. They were Mr Rob George from Australia, Dr Lee, Rouh-Tsann, Director of Automatic Energy Council (ACE), Taiwan, and Mr Kazuyuki Abe from Japan.

TWSRT is going to hold the 18th Asian/ Australasian Conference of Radiological Technologists Technologists (AACRT) in 2011. The conference venue is located in the southern part of Taiwan, Kaohsiung. The date and more detailed information will be placed on the website and newsletter very soon.

**Miss Lee  
Councillor, Taiwan**

## Lebanon



Early this year the General Committee of the Syndicate of Radiographers of Lebanon held a conference to elect eight members for an executive Board of Management to manage the Syndicate.

The new Board of Management prepares for several future projects such as:

- Make a project to organize the job of x-ray in Lebanon because there is no law for organize the work in this job.
- The Board of Management has begun to prepare several educational conferences to increase the work level of the employees in this profession.
- The Board of Management has begun preparing a work plan for four years, the time of the Board of Management.

- Create a website to contain all the information that is related to the subjects of the Syndicate for all members to know about it.
- Make a health assurance for all members that contains the law of retired persons providing.
- Working hard to improve the monthly salary to increase the level of the employees.

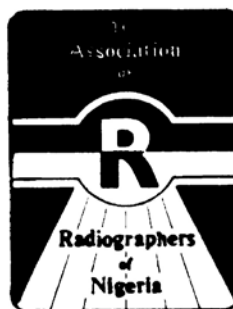
## The Activities for 4 years

- Education Congress yearly.
- Organisation of work in this profession in all hospital's in Lebanon.
- Create a health assurance for all members.
- Developing the situation of all persons working in profession.
- Create a box for the persons retired.
- Supposing a Law to the Government for organize the job in this profession.

**Moufid Abou Assi, General Secretary  
Beirut - Lebanon**

## Africa

### Nigeria



The year 2008 was a very successful year for the Association of Radiographers of Nigeria and the Radiographers Registration Board of Nigeria (RRBN). There were several CPD courses that took place. There was a two week intensive CT course at the University College Hospital, Ibadan, a two week MRI course at the Ahmadu Bello

University Zaria, also a management course for very senior radiographers and a mammography course at Lagos State Teaching Hospital, Lagos.

All these courses were fully attended and very successful and therefore the RRBN plans to repeat them in the year 2009 for other radiographers who were not able to attend.

The NNRA (Nigeria Nuclear Regulatory Authority) also had radiographers who are their department's RSO (Radiation Safety Officers) attend a two week educative course on monitoring and radiation protection.

The annual conference was held at the University College Hospital, Ibadan. It was in November 2008. The 50th anniversary of the association was also celebrated. The anniversary/conference was very exciting and educative. The proffered papers were intelligent and



the social aspect thrilling.

There is a vast shortage of radiographers in the country and both the association and board were working at ways to increase the number. The first set of radiographers graduated from the University of Maiduguri in December 2008 and the board has registered them to proceed on the one-year mandatory internship period.

The association of Radiographers in conjunction with the Association of Radiologist of West Africa (ARAWA) will host the 5th Biennial Scientific Conference of the PACORI (Pan African Congress of Imaging and Radiology), August 10-14, 2009 in Abuja, Nigeria. I am using this opportunity to invite all to our beautiful and warm climate in Nigeria.

Finally, I want to again congratulate Dr Fozy Peer for the wonderful reception and congress in Durban, South Africa where 15 Nigerian radiographers were present. We had a great time and we hope to see you at PACORI in Abuja.

**Sumbo Oyedele**  
**Council Member**

The symposium has two major objectives. First it aims to provide health imaging professionals with current know-how on breast imaging and breast cancer research. Succeeding it expects to elevate the alertness of female healthcare users by releasing recent information about understanding Breast Cancer Screening and Managing Diagnosis of Breast Cancer to the public.

**Dimitris Katsifarakis**  
**ISRRT Councillor**

## Europe

### Greece



Being consistent with the pragmatic needs of the female healthcare user and the rapid evolution of medical imaging technology we wish to inform you of the Joint Symposium of the Greek Scientific Society of Radiological Technologists and the Panhellenic Society of

Radiological Technologists with the theme: "Breast cancer: Imaging Technology and Prevention". The Symposium will be held in cooperation with the 1st Department of Surgery Propaedeutics University of Athens at Chalkida, Evia on 9th-10th of May 2009.

Our ongoing efforts as health professionals and the level of awareness among female healthcare users in Greece regarding breast cancer screening have somewhat demanded this symposium.

We hope this summit will provide attendees the opportunity to refresh and to gain up to date knowledge in breast imaging as there will be innovative topics covering MRI Mammography, Radiographer Communications Skills and Patient Psychology.

In terms of role expansion a lecture in Organizing a Breast Screening Unit will be included.

Furthermore the highlight of our symposium will be an open day to the public in order to answer frequent asked questions by experts.

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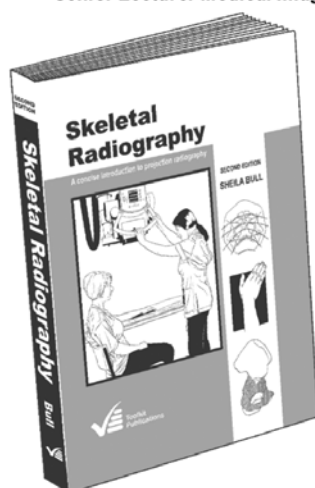
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## *ISRRT Newsletter* publication dates

The dates of publication for the  
*ISRRT Newsletter*.

From 2009 the newsletter will be published  
in May and November.

The deadlines will be April 1 (May issue) and  
October 1 (November issue).

Any queries please contact:

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Production Editor, Rachel Bullard:  
[deepbluedesign1@mac.com](mailto:deepbluedesign1@mac.com)

# coming events

**June 4-8,**

**CAMRT 67th Annual General Conference**

Vancouver, Canada

For further information [www.camrt.ca](http://www.camrt.ca)

**June 6-8**

**UKRC Annual Congress**

Manchester, UK

A three-day multidisciplinary scientific conference and technical exhibition. UKRC is aimed at all those involved in the field of radiological science.

For further information [www.ukrc.org.uk](http://www.ukrc.org.uk)

**June 10**

**58th Nordic Radiological Congress**

For more information [www.nordiccongress.dk/](http://www.nordiccongress.dk/)

**June 10-12**

**58th Nordic Radiological Congress &  
19th Nordic Congress of Radiography**

Copenhagen, Denmark

For further information [www.nordiccongress.dk](http://www.nordiccongress.dk)

**August 13-16, 2009**

**17th Asian Conference of Radiological  
Technologists (ACRT); and  
Malaysia Singapore Radiographers Conference**  
“Technology and Role Evolution”

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

For further information contact the society at:  
[ms\\_radiographer@yahoo.com](mailto:ms_radiographer@yahoo.com)

**August 10-14, 2009**

**5th Biennial Scientific Conference of PACORI**

Abuja, Nigeria

**August 27**

**New Zealand Institute of Medical Radiation  
Technology (NZIMRT) Conference**

Rotorua Convention Centre

[www.nzimrt.co.nz](http://www.nzimrt.co.nz)

**September 1**

**Röntgenveckan**

For further information [www.swedrad.se](http://www.swedrad.se)

**September 26-27**

**First National Conference of SORRT India**

Kanyakumar, India

**October**

**5th Conference for French-speaking  
Radiological Technologists**

Cameroonian Association in cooperation with AFPPE  
and ISRRT

**October 22-25**

**Combined Scientific Meeting**

Marks the joining of the The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Radiologists, (including the Faculty of Radiation Oncology), The Australian Institute of Radiography and the Australasian College of Physical Scientists & Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM)  
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre,  
Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

## 2010

**May 27-30,**

**CAMRT 68th Annual General Conference**

Quebec City, Canada

For further information [www.camrt.ca](http://www.camrt.ca)

**September 9-12,**

**16th ISRRT World Congress**

Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia

For further information [www.air.asn.au](http://www.air.asn.au)

## 2011

**“Imaging the Imagination”**

**18th Asian/Australasian Conference of  
Radiological Technologists (AACRT), and  
International Joint Conference of the  
Taiwan-Japan-Korea Radiological Technologists**

Taiwan, Taipei

Website: [www.twsrt.org.tw](http://www.twsrt.org.tw)

**CAMRT 69th Annual General Conference**

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

For further information [www.camrt.ca](http://www.camrt.ca)

**18th Asian/Australasian Conference of Radiological  
Technologists (AACRT)**

Kaohsiung, Taiwan

## 2012

**CAMRT Annual General Conference &  
ISRRT World Congress**

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For further information [www.camrt.ca](http://www.camrt.ca)

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**Burkina Faso** Association Burkinabe du Personnel  
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*Council Member:* Ms Charlotte Graungaard Bech,  
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**El Salvador** Asociación Salvadoreña de Técnicos en  
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**Guyana** Guyana Association of Medical Imaging  
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