



Fall 2003

SOCIETY OF THORACIC RADIOLOGY

# 2003 Newsletter

## 2004 Thoracic Imaging Course

March 28—April 1, 2004  
Westin Mission Hills Resort—Rancho Mirage, CA

Please join us for the 2004 Annual Meeting and Post-graduate Course of the Society of Thoracic Radiology. The meeting will be held at the Westin Mission Hills Resort in Rancho Mirage, California. Many timely topics regarding cardiac and thoracic imaging will be discussed in a location that is unique to the Palm Springs

area. Golf, waterways, and mountain views combine to enhance the spectacular desert setting. The low-rise Classic-Moroccan architecture complements the desert environment. Guest pavilions are surrounded by lush gardens, meandering lagoons, spectacular pools, and waterfalls. Oversized guest rooms feature private patios,

refreshment centers and a host of thoughtful amenities.



### 2003 Annual Meeting Summary

The Society of Thoracic Radiology held one of its most successful meetings in recent years at the Loews Miami Beach Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida on March 2-6, 2003. Over 340

attendees from 44 states and 12 countries came to hear innovative talks that covered a wide range of subjects such as cardiac imaging, lung cancer screening, new imaging technologies, infiltrative lung disease, small airway disease, cen-



Unknown Film Panel: Drs. Pugatch, Kazerooni, Munden, Steiner, Stern, Tarver, Gamsu, Erasmus, Boiselle, Klein, McLoud *Photo courtesy of Eric Stern, MD*

tral airway, the pleura, clinical workflow, thoracic infection, and electronic presentation and web-based education resources. Nearly 100 faculty from the society participated in this outstanding event.

Special award certificates were given to Dr. Robert Tarver for his service as the society president for the previous year and to the Benjamin Felson lecturer, Dr. Thomas Brady.

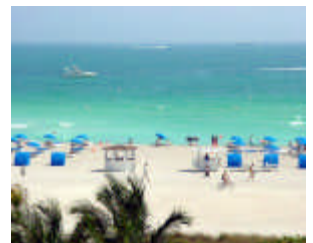
Awards were also given for Case of the Day winners as well as for the best scientific presentations, in both oral and poster format.

The Sunday night film panel, orchestrated by Dr. Philip Boiselle, was a great

success as two talented teams vied for dominance: “Ella and her Posse” versus the past STR Presidents. The session was both informative and entertaining.

Special thanks go to Dr. Ella Kazerooni, the program chair, and to the following companies for their generous support: General Electric Medical Systems, Fuji-Films, Delft Imaging, and Philips Medical Systems.

We look forward to an equally successful and innovative program in 2004.



Miami Beach

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## In Memoriam—Jack Westcott, M.D.

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Dr. Jack Lawrence Westcott, a Past President and Founding Member of the Society of Thoracic Radiology, died suddenly of a cerebro-vascular accident at the Hospital of Saint Raphael in New Haven on January 31, 2003. He was born on January 15, 1932. Jack Westcott attended Syracuse University, matriculating Magna Cum Laude in 1954. Jack undertook his medical training at the Medical College at Syracuse, N.Y. where he was a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. Between 1959 and 1962 he was a resident in Radiology at the New York Hospital - Cornell Medical Center and was chief resident in his last year of training. He remained at the New York Hospital - Cornell Medical Center as a U.S. Public Health Service - NIH Fellow in Cardiovascular Radiology. He became a diplomat of the American Board of Radiology in 1963.

Jack Westcott served as a staff radiologist at Hartford Hospital for nine years. After a nine-month stay at the University of Utah Medical Center, he returned to Hartford Hospital Medical Center as a Senior Attending Radiologist for 10 years. In 1982 he became Professor of Radiology and Vice Chairman at Cornell University Medical Center. He was appointed to the Chairmanship of the Department of Radiology at the Hospital of Saint Raphael in New Haven in 1985. He also served as clinical Professor of Radiology at Yale University and an adjunct Professor of Clinical Ra-



Dr. Jack Westcott

diology at Cornell University Medical College and held these positions until his death.

Jack Westcott was a dedicated and accomplished academic radiologist and a role model for innumerable students and colleagues.

He was best known nationally for his articles on thoracic biopsy procedures and also wrote and lectured widely on thoracic imaging in general. He authored or co-authored almost 70 peer review articles and chapters. His biopsy needle (the Westcott needle) is still routinely employed. He was best known in his own institution as a great teacher and an outstanding clinical radiologist. The thoracic surgeon with whom he worked at Saint Raphael said at Jack's Memorial Service, that he would never operate on a difficult patient without first discussing the images with Jack.

Less well known than his medical accomplishments, was that Jack was a superb athlete. He was recruited to Syracuse on a football scholarship and was a first-rate runningback. He received the "orange key", as the "outstanding athlete in his senior year". He was an amazing skier and an accomplished tennis player. One of the sweetest forehand volleys I have ever seen. He loved to travel and did a bike trip with his wife Irena

Tocino MD, to India a few years ago.

Jack was also a Renaissance man with great curiosity and interest in theatre, dance, music, and even gardening. Jack was an easy going individual; always charming and always with a ready smile. Jack Westcott was a truly remarkable person. He will be profoundly missed by his many friends, colleagues, and former students. Our sadness and loss is tempered by the fact that so many lives were enriched by Jack's presence.

He is survived by his wife Irena Tocino, and his children Julie, Jason, Sally, Tyler, and Carrie and step daughter Andrea. The Society has set up a Memorial Fund in his honor to allow residents and fellows to attend the STR annual meeting.

By *Gordon Gamsu, MD, FACR*

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*In honor of Jack Westcott's distinguished career and service to Radiology in general and the field of Thoracic Imaging in particular, the Executive Committee of the Society of Thoracic Radiology has established the "STR Jack Westcott Memorial Fund". Proceeds will be used to fund research and educational activities in cariothoracic imaging.*

*Contributions to the STR Jack Westcott Memorial Fund can be sent to the STR office at P.O. Box 1026, Rochester, MN 55903-1026.*

# Intersociety Conference Summary

Dr. Reginald Munden, President-Elect of the STR, recently attended the 2003 Intersociety Conference on behalf of the Society and submitted the following report.

One of the major topics for discussion was the issue of Radiology Assistants (extenders). This is a term used to describe those people who assume some of the duties that are typically performed by radiologists, with the intent to relieve the radiologist's workload. The current severe shortage of radiologists and bleak outlook for resolution of the problem has led to increased interest in Assistants. The Assistant is usually a radiology technologist, physician assistant, or nurse who has been trained to perform duties that are outside of their usual training. The scope of practice that this Assistant would assume is not currently well defined and of much debate. Some areas of assumed duties are not controversial such as pre and post procedure evalua-

tions, scheduling procedures, non-interpretative imaging, and directly aiding the radiologists in daily functions. Areas of much debate include performing radiology procedures such as fluoroscopy for barium studies, venous access and venography, placing PIC lines, and preliminary review of films. Other issues, but certainly not the only issues, of Assistants working with Radiologists include billing issues (independent for their procedure - but this can affect physician billing), malpractice risks, and the effect of extenders on residency and fellowship training. There is also concern that we will train these people and other clinicians (specialists) will then employ them to take away radiology services.

Although some would prefer that Assistants not exist, there is already momentum in the United States for these programs, and in fact many radiologists are currently using people in an Assistant role. This is particularly gaining

acceptance in interventional practices. The intersociety meeting informed the members about the recently started Radiology Practitioner Assistant program at Weber State University. The scope of this program is more than many radiologists are comfortable with in that the program anticipates that graduates will perform radiology interpretations. For these reasons, it was agreed among the attendees that the radiology community, through the ACR and other organized groups, should be proactive in the issues of design and implementation of these programs.

Look for a position paper on the issue of Radiology Assistants from the Intersociety Meeting in the coming months.

## STR Committee Activities

Some of the activities and future plans of various STR committees are highlighted below.

### Awards Committee

This committee is chaired by Dr. Rosado de Christenson. Other members include Drs. Franquet, Moore, and Reddy. Committee responsibilities include: recognition of outstanding edu-

cational and scientific abstracts and exhibits at the annual meeting; recognition of members contributions to the educational program at the annual meeting; and recognition of participation in unknown Cases of the Day.

Awards are given to foster interest in the scientific endeavors of STR members and to stimulate interest in participation in the annual meeting. Congratulations to the following individuals for awards received at the 2003 meeting.

Best Scientific Presentation:  
*Rolf A. Grage, MD* (Jr. Faculty)  
*Susan Copley, MD* (Trainee)

Best Scientific Poster (Cum Laude):  
*Santiago E. Rossi, MD*

Best Educational Posters (Certificate of Merit):

*Phuong-Anh T. Duong, MD*  
*Daniel C. Schiffner, MD*



2003 Annual Meeting Reception  
Drs. Tarver, Cascade, Kazerooni. Photo courtesy of Eric Stern, MD

*Robert E. Alvarez, MD*  
*Santiago Restrepo, MD* (2 posters)

Case-of-the-Day (member):  
*Marc Gosselin, MD*

Case-of-the-Day (resident):  
*Margo Flores, MD*

Case-of-the-Day (fellow):  
*Anuradhu Rao, MD*

Case-of-the-Day (course participant):  
*David Lee, MD*

### Electronic Media Committee

This committee is chaired by Dr. Gurney. Other members include Drs. Bankier, Canaday, Galvin, Holbert, Hunsaker, McAdams, Sneider, and Stern. The committee is responsible



International Members: Drs. Martinez (Columbia), Franquet (Spain), Bankier (Austria), Rossi (Argentina). Photo courtesy of Eric Stern, MD

## STR Committee Activities (continued)

for oversight of the STR website and is committed to online publishing of outstanding lectures given at the annual meeting. The goal is to publish at least 10 new lectures per year. Special kudos go to Dr. Gurney for his Herculean efforts in this project. The current online lectures have been a great success. They may be accessed through the STR website:

[www.thoracicrad.org](http://www.thoracicrad.org). A further goal of the committee this year is to create an on-line teaching file as a companion to the on-line curriculum. This project is being piloted by Drs. Hunsaker and Holbert.

### Membership Committee

This committee is chaired by Dr. Chiles. Other members include Drs. Broderick, Frazier, and Hartman.

This committee reviews and screens all individual applications for membership in accordance with the STR bylaws. They report 11 new members have joined the Society since the March 2003 meeting.

### Research Committee

This research committee is chaired by Dr. Lynch. Other members include Drs. Goldin, Gruden, Hatabu, Mayo, Quint, and Kazerooni. This committee reviews and awards seed-grant money from the STR Research and Education Fund. They report that over \$4,500 in individual contributions have been received since January of 2003 and that \$19,845 in grants was awarded to young investigators in September of 2002.

### Research and Education Fund Committee

This committee is chaired by Dr. Gilkeson. Other members include Drs. Levin, Munden, and Pugatch.

The purpose of this committee is to support the ongoing research and education efforts of our members, fellows, and trainees interested in a career in

thoracic radiology. It is our goal to obtain/solicit financial/consultative support from individuals and industry to support research and educational initiatives of the STR. We hope to broaden our potential scope of supporters/donors by establishing the importance of the STR as a crucial body of experts in the field of all aspects of cardiothoracic disease. This means that while we will continue to seek support from major equipment vendors, we need to stress our importance in the field of occupational disease, lung cancer, and cardiac imaging. This will open our funding opportunities to general industry, as well as organizations involved in cardiovascular health disease. We welcome any STR members' ideas about prospective funding sources to enhance our society's research and educational opportunities.

### Scientific Session Committee

This committee is chaired by Dr. Reddy. Other members include Drs. Fishman, Bhalla, Desai, Patel, and Erasmus. It oversees the scientific session(s) at the annual meeting and is charged with reviewing and selecting all abstracts and poster submissions for the meeting.

### Standards Committee

This committee is chaired by Dr. Boiselle. Other members include Drs. Hansell, Leung, Parker, Tocino, Washington, White, and Winer-Muram. This committee oversees the development for performance of diagnostic thoracic imaging studies and nonvascular thoracic interventional procedures.

### Training Committee

This committee is chaired by Dr. Collins. Other members include Drs. Abbott, Gotway, Ginsberg, Holbert, Lacomis, Mullan, and Primack. This committee is involved in evaluation of the annual meeting and its speakers, including providing feedback to individual speakers. Evaluations of the 2003 meeting in Miami are collated

and speakers have received individual feedback. The evaluation booklet that was used at the 2003 meeting included numerous demographic and survey questions. Members of the committee are currently looking at statistical correlations between this information and how participants evaluated the meeting. The results will be shared with the STR membership.

The committee is also involved in the STR application for accreditation from the ACCME (Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education) to provide continuing medical education for physicians at its annual meeting (beginning with the 2006 meeting). Other areas for consideration will be through any web-based programs that STR develops for CME credit.

## 2004 STR CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Call for Abstracts to present oral and poster presentations at the 2004 Thoracic Imaging Course is now available online at [www.thoracicrad.org](http://www.thoracicrad.org). Abstracts **must** be submitted online on or before November 1, 2003.

## 2004 Thoracic Radiology Fellowship Match

Janette Collins, MD, chair of the Training Committee, submitted the following report on the 2004 Thoracic Radiology Fellowship Match.

### *What is the Match?*

The National Residency Matching Program (NRMP) was established to provide a mechanism whereby program directors and applicants could consider all options before making final commitments, and to establish a uniform date and time for the announcement of residency position appointments.

### *Radiology Fellowship Match Results—Appointment Year 2004*

Four hundred radiology fellowship programs enrolled in the 2004 Match and 42 subsequently withdrew. Of 358 active programs, 140 (39%) filled their positions. 411 (53%) of 769 active positions were filled. Five hundred forty applicants enrolled, 38 subsequently withdrew, and 34 failed to return a Rank Order List. Four hundred eleven (88%) of 468 active applicants matched.

### *Thoracic Radiology Match Results—Appointment Year 2004*

Twenty Thoracic Radiology programs enrolled in the Match, and three subsequently withdrew. Four (24%) of 17 active programs filled their positions. Seven (29%) of 24 active positions were filled. Of 29 U.S. Thoracic Radiology programs listed on the STR Website (one added after the Match), 17 participated in the Match. An e-mail query was sent to all known U.S. programs that were not listed in the NRMP and seven responded. Two of these seven programs filled a total of two positions outside of the Match with internal candidates. Of the other five programs that did not participate in the Match, three did not because they received no applicants, one did not promote their fellowship because of staffing shortages, and one was given permission by the department chair to operate outside of the Match for that year only (that program did not fill its position). Of 23 programs for which information was available, eight filled one or more positions (19 total positions

filled). At least 19 positions were unfilled (the number of unfilled positions in some programs wasn't specified and counted as one position). The full Match results statistics for radiology fellowships can be viewed at [http://www.nrmp.org/fellow/match\\_name/radiology/stats.html](http://www.nrmp.org/fellow/match_name/radiology/stats.html) (accessed July 28, 2003).

### *Survey of 2004 Fellowship Match*

The Society of Chairmen in Academic Radiology Departments (SCARD) is conducting a survey of programs and applicants to attempt to measure the outcome and success of the Match. The surveys are available on the SCARD Website (<http://www.scardonline.org>). The results of the surveys will be shared with all respondents, presented at a SCARD meeting, and submitted for publication.

## New STR Members in Last Year

### *Associate Member*

William C. Feldmann, M.D.  
Victor M. Salcedo, Jr., M.D.

### *Senior Members:*

Elizabeth Angelkis, M.D.  
Robert B. Baker, M.D.  
Michael A. Brooks, M.D.  
Calvin Delaplain, M.D.  
Edwin Donnelly, M.D.  
Lynne Everett, M.D.  
Rolf A. Grage, M.D.  
Ichiro Hasagawa, M.D.  
Maria Joao S.N. Matos, M.D.

Norihisa Nitta, M.D.  
Ross O'Neil, M.D.  
Joon Beom Seo, M.D.  
Ryutaro Takazakura, M.D.  
Jack Twerksy, M.D.  
Conrad Wittram, M.D.

### *Members in Training:*

Gregory N. Brooks, M.D.  
Paul P. Cronin, MBCh  
Patricial M. Dunlop, M.D.  
Meltum Gulsen, M.D.  
Cecilia Jude, M.D.  
Rebecca Lindell, M.D.  
Gisela Mueller, M.D.

Mizuki Nishino, M.D.  
Nitra Piyavisetpat, M.D.  
Baskaran Sundaram, MBBS  
Nisa Thoongsuwan, M.D.  
Scott M. Vanderheiden, M.D.  
Thomas Warfel, M.D.  
Chin A. Yi, M.D.





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## **Membership Applications**

If you know of someone who is interested in joining the Society of Thoracic Radiology, have them complete an application online at [www.thoracicrad.org](http://www.thoracicrad.org) and send in with the first two pages of their curriculum vitae and membership payment to the Society office.



## *Plan to attend the 2004 Thoracic Imaging Course*

*March 28—April 1, 2004*

*Westin Mission Hills Resort  
Rancho Mirage, California*



The 2004 Course will include:

- Dedicated symposia
- Special presentations
- Scientific sessions and poster presentations
- An Expert Film Panel
- Small-group workshops

