

Inspiration

Winter | 2011

Editor: Melissa L. Rosado de Christenson

“Far and away the best prize that life has to offer
is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”

~ Theodore Roosevelt

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ▶ President's Address – David A. Lynch, MB

- ▶ STR Annual Meeting – Thoracic Imaging 2011

- ▶ Thoracic Imaging 2011 – Image Interpretation Session Panelists
– Melissa L. Rosado de Christenson, MD

- ▶ STR CME Subcommittee – Activities during Thoracic Imaging 2011
– Jannette Collins, MD, MEd

- ▶ STR Nominations Committee – Charles S. White, MD

- ▶ Nominee for 2011 STR Secretary – Jeremy J. Erasmus, MD

- ▶ Journal of Thoracic Imaging – Editor's Report – Phillip M. Boiselle, MD

- ▶ STR Leadership: Forging Global Relationships – Eric J. Stern, MD

- ▶ Update on the ACCME Self Study and Application for Recertification
– Barbara McLeod, CMP

- ▶ STR Committee Reports and Short Term Goals

- ▶ Update from the NLST – William C. Black, MD

- ▶ International Thymic Malignancy Group Update – Edith M. Marom, MD

- ▶ Letter from the Editor – Melissa L. Rosado de Christenson, MD



Society of
THORACIC
Radiology



David A. Lynch, MB
STR President

▶ FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues and Friends

YOUR SOCIETY REMAINS VERY ACTIVE ON MULTIPLE FRONTS. The planning for the STR Annual Meeting, Thoracic Imaging 2011, is almost complete, and we are now preparing for the strategic planning retreat, which will be held the day before the meeting. For the retreat, we have engaged an excellent facilitator, Ms. Kathy Henrichs, who has helped us devise the brief questionnaire that all of you should have received by now. We are very pleased with the high initial response rate to the questionnaire, which should help substantially as we develop our plans for the Society's future. If you have further input or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.



The early termination of the National Lung Screening Trial because of the 20% difference in lung cancer mortality between the CT and chest radiography arms was very exciting news for our specialty. STR members will clearly continue to provide important insights as the results are analyzed, published, and translated into clinical practice. The Annual Meeting will have a significant focus on lung cancer, with multiple lectures on this topic, and, in an important program change, Dr. Jeff Klein will present the currently available NLST results. In addition to the formal presentations, the meeting will provide a valuable forum for discussion of how the Society can continue to provide leadership in this area.

THE STR IS INCREASINGLY INTERNATIONALLY ENGAGED.

At RSNA we signed an affiliation agreement with the European Society of Thoracic Imaging, pioneered by Dr. Eric Stern, which promotes reciprocal participation of our members in STR and ESTI meetings. Also, plans are proceeding for the Third World Congress of Thoracic Imaging, which will be held June 8-11, 2013 in Seoul, South Korea, with Dr. Jung-Gi Im as President. Dr. Theresa McLeod, the successful program chair of the two previous World Congresses, has graciously agreed to act once again in this capacity. All of you should consider attending this meeting, which will provide an exciting and unique perspective on the global reach of our specialty across developing and developed nations.

BARBARA MCLEOD AND HER COLLEAGUES AT MATRIX, with the invaluable help of former president Dr. Jannette Collins, produced a mammoth self-study document to support the reaccreditation of the STR with the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education. The final document provides excellent documentation of the quality of the STR educational activities. Thanks, Barbara and Janni!

AS MY TERM AS PRESIDENT DRAWS TO A CLOSE, I would like to extend personal thanks to many individuals who have worked so hard on the Society's behalf, in particular the outstanding group of officers, the Committee chairs and members, and the Matrix support staff. The commitment, energy, and collegiality of our members will remain a major strength of the Society as we continue to grow and attract a new cadre of young interested individuals into our specialty.

With best wishes for 2011. ■

Thoracic Imaging 2011
The Hyatt Regency Coconut Point
March 6-9, 2011

The 29th annual meeting and postgraduate course of the Society of Thoracic Radiology is fast approaching. The Program Committee under the leadership of Dr. Gerald F. Abbott organized an outstanding course curriculum. Updated information on the new classification of lung adenocarcinoma, management of subsolid pulmonary nodules and an update on the National Lung Screening Trial are but a few of the outstanding presentations included in the program.

Register today! The meeting and hotel registration deadline is **30 January, 2011**.

Join us in Bonita Springs, Florida for what promises to be a superb educational experience. ■



Thoracic Imaging 2011

Image Interpretation Session

DISTINGUISHED EXPERT PANEL:



*Melissa L. Rosado
de Christenson, MD
STR Secretary*

I am honored once again to moderate the Thoracic Imaging 2011 Image Interpretation Session and to present the distinguished international panel of experts that will participate this year. The cases to be presented were selected from a busy Midwestern private practice. The goal of the session is to highlight the panelist's approach to a difficult case and to allow the audience to participate in the case analysis.



Daria Manos, MD

PLACE OF BIRTH AND HOMETOWN | Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
MEDICAL SCHOOL AND RESIDENCY | Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
FELLOWSHIP | Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
CURRENT POSITION | Head of Thoracic Imaging and Director of Thoracic Fellowship program, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada
AREAS OF INTEREST | Medical education, Lung cancer screening and "a continuing love affair with the nuances of the chest radiograph".



Amita Sharma, MD

PLACE OF BIRTH | Jaipur, India
HOMETOWN | Dover, Massachusetts, USA
MEDICAL SCHOOL | Kings College School of Medicine, London, United Kingdom
RESIDENCY | Medicine: St. George's Hospital and affiliated specialist centers, London, United Kingdom; Radiology: Barts and the London NHS Trust, London, United Kingdom
FELLOWSHIP | Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
CURRENT POSITION | Instructor and staff radiologist, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
AREAS OF INTEREST | Lung cancer diagnosis and treatment, Interventional thoracic radiology (percutaneous biopsy, radiofrequency ablation), Interstitial lung disease, Lung transplantation, Acute care thoracic radiology.



Santiago Rossi, MD

PLACE OF BIRTH AND HOMETOWN | Buenos Aires, Argentina
MEDICAL SCHOOL | University of Salvador, Buenos Aires, Argentina
RESIDENCY | Hospital de Clínicas José de San Martín, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina
VISITING FELLOWSHIP | Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC
CURRENT POSITION | Chairman, Centro de Diagnóstico Dr. Enrique Rossi, BS, AS, and Associate Professor of Radiology, University of Favaloro, Buenos Aires, Argentina
AREAS OF INTEREST | Interstitial lung disease, Small airways disease, COPD and Asthma.

STR Continuing Medical Education Subcommittee: Activities during Thoracic Imaging 2011



*Jannette Collins, MD, MEd,
Chair, CME Subcommittee*

THE STR CME SUBCOMMITTEE of the Education Committee is charged with recommending steps the STR can take to measure and document improvements in physician practice and patient outcomes. It is also charged with recommending practices that will assure the STR is in compliance with ACCME Essentials and Standards. The subcommittee is chaired by Janni Collins, and its members include Drs. Gerry Abbot and Jeff Kanne. In addition, Barbara McLeod typically participates in all committee activities. The subcommittee has developed a form for meeting attendees to complete that asks the attendee to specify any change(s) in practice they intend to make as a result of attending certain sessions. The attendees will be able to provide their e-mail address to give permission for the STR to contact them regarding how the session influenced their practice. This form will be used during three sessions at the Thoracic Imaging 2011 meeting:

- ▶ 1. Reclassification of adenocarcinoma (attendees would be expected to change the terminology used in their radiologic reports)
- ▶ 2. Semi-solid nodule management (attendees would be expected to change their recommendations for management of such nodules)
- ▶ 3. Lung cancer screening (attendees may change their practice regarding offering CT lung cancer screening).

The subcommittee urges all STR members to participate in this exercise by completing the form and providing their e-mail address. Your participation will help the STR fulfill its ACCME requirements, and provide a mechanism for you to document your lifelong learning activities. ■

From the STR Nominations Committee



*Charles S. White, MD
Chair, Nominations Committee*

THE STR NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE is pleased to nominate Dr. Jeremy Erasmus as candidate for the position of STR Secretary to replace Dr. Rosado de Christenson, who will become President-Elect. Dr. Erasmus' candidacy will be presented to the STR members during the annual Member's Business Luncheon which will take place during Thoracic Imaging 2011. Dr. Erasmus was nominated on the basis of his immense service to the Society and the enthusiastic response of the STR members who voted for him during the nominating process. ■



Dr. Jeremy J. Erasmus

Nominee for 2011 STR Secretary

DR. ERASMUS HAS BEEN A MEMBER in good standing of the Society of Thoracic Radiology since 1996. He has an outstanding record of service to our Society in the following capacities:

- ▶ Member, Training Committee, 1998-2000
- ▶ Member, Scientific Sessions Committee, 2001-2004
- ▶ Chair, Scientific Session, Thoracic Imaging 2003
- ▶ Chair, Research Committee, 2006-present

JEREMY J. ERASMUS grew up in Zimbabwe, went to medical school in South Africa and after an internship at Baragwanath Hospital in Soweto, completed two years of military service as a medical officer. He immigrated to Canada in 1986 where he worked as a general practitioner for 3 years in an under-serviced rural community. He was accepted into the residency training program in Diagnostic Radiology at Queens University, Kingston, Ontario in 1989, became a diplomat of the American Board of Radiology in 1993 and completed a Thoracic Imaging fellowship at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina in 1995.

He subsequently accepted a faculty position in the Department of Radiology at Duke University. After serving as an Assistant

Professor of Radiology at Duke University for 5 years, he joined the Department of Radiology at the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston and is currently Chief of Thoracic Radiology and a tenured Professor of Radiology. He is married to Dr. Tam Huynh, a vascular surgeon, and has two children, Lauren and Matthew, 9 and 6 years old, respectively.

Dr. Erasmus has published extensively on oncologic imaging of thoracic diseases with an emphasis on the use of PET imaging in patients with lung cancer, esophageal cancer, and malignant pleural mesothelioma. He has been an invited speaker at numerous national and international medical meetings and a visiting professor at universities in the United States and Canada. Dr. Erasmus is an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Thoracic Oncology* and *RadioGraphics* and is an Editorial Board member for the *Journal of Thoracic Imaging* as well as *Molecular Imaging and Biology*. He is the panel chair for chest educational exhibits for *RadioGraphics* and the American Roentgen Ray Society Chest Radiology Instructional Course co-ordinator. He is a member of the Program Committee for the Radiological Society of North America and American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology and an American Board of Radiology Chest Oral Examiner.

Dr. Erasmus is actively involved in numerous academic societies. He serves as the chair of the Research Committee for the Society of Thoracic Radiology and is a Scientific Committee member for the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC). In addition, he is on the Advisory Board for the IASLC International Staging Project in Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma. He is also a Fellow of the Society of Computed Body Tomography and Magnetic Resonance. ■

JTI Editor's Report

Phillip M. Boiselle, MD



Phillip M. Boiselle, MD
JTI Editor

I WOULD LIKE TO BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION the upcoming February issue of the *Journal of Thoracic Imaging* (JTI), which features articles related to the timely topics of quality management and evidence-based medicine in cardiopulmonary imaging by Jeff Kanne and Janni Collins, respectively. This issue also includes an outstanding evidence-based review of radiofrequency ablation of lung neoplasms by Jonathan Dodd and colleagues.

The February issue also debuts a new editorial feature entitled “Expert Opinion.” The goal of this feature is to tap into the expertise of leaders in the field regarding “hot topic” issues of interest to our readers. In this first installment, four experts (Lynne Hurwitz, John Mayo, Joe Schoepf and Denis Tack) share their opinions regarding how to effectively manage radiation exposure related to cardiopulmonary imaging. I encourage you to read their insightful comments and practical recommendations about this timely topic.

In response to the recent early release of the preliminary results of the National Lung Screening Trial, this issue also features two late-breaking editorials by Claudia Henschke and Rob van Klaveren which address the question: “Is CT Screening for Lung Cancer Ready for Prime Time?”

Finally, as we leave behind the silver anniversary cover of the past year and return to our traditional red cover, we are also moving forward with an updated cover design. Beginning with this issue, the cover now features a unique image or series of images from a current Journal article and a streamlined cover design. In the February issue, the cover image is from an outstanding pictorial essay of MDCT of endovascular repair of the thoracic aorta by Myrna Godoy and colleagues.

Look to the February JTI issue for all of these features and more! ■

STR Leadership: Forging Global Relationships



Eric J. Stern, MD
STR Treasurer

AT THE RECENT RSNA 2010 ANNUAL MEETING, the leadership of the STR and the European Society of Thoracic Imaging (ESTI) signed an historic collaboration agreement. Building upon successes of past World Congress activities, the scientific and educational goals of this agreement are:

- ▶ To organize common sessions during our annual meetings
- ▶ To develop common activities, especially in the fields of education and global outreach
- ▶ To maintain an open dialog between representatives of the organizations each year to discuss ongoing cooperation and future plans

There are no financial agreements in place. Signatories to this agreement are Drs. Lynch, Rosado de Christenson and Stern for the STR, as President, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, and Dr. Kauczor, as President of ESTI. If you have ideas or suggestions for ways this new relationship can be leveraged, please send them to Eric Stern at estern@uw.edu.

Additional plans are being developed to form similar agreements with our sister societies in Japan and Korea.

This year, the ESTI annual meeting will take place **June 23-25, Heidelberg/Germany**. For more information, please visit their website at www.esti-society.org. ■



Drs. Lynch and Kauczor sign
STR-ESTI Collaboration Agreement.
November 29, 2010
Chicago, Illinois



Signed collaboration agreement

ACCME Reaccreditation Update:



*Barbara McLeod, CMP
Matrix Meetings, Inc.*

STR Self Study – Application for Reaccreditation by the ACCME

THE SOCIETY OF THORACIC RADIOLOGY has been accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians for the past ten years. Every four years, the STR is required to complete a Self Study document as part of the ACCME reaccreditation process.

The Self Study is a comprehensive narrative which describes the STR mission, vision, goals and overall education program. It includes complete supporting documentation to verify that the Society's activities and interactions with industry are in compliance with ACCME policies. The Self Study process provides the opportunity for the STR leadership to examine and review every aspect of its education program and make continuing improvements.

The Self Study-Application for Reaccreditation was submitted to the ACCME in early December 2010. On March 29, 2011, Dr. Gerald Abbott, Dr. Jannette Collins, and Barbara McLeod will represent the STR in a meeting with ACCME surveyors in Chicago to review the STR education program with them. The STR will receive notification in July 2011 regarding the ACCME reaccreditation decision. ■

▶ **Society of
Thoracic Radiology**
c/o Matrix Meetings, Inc.
1202 1/2 Seventh Street NW
Suite 209
Rochester, MN 55901
55903-7169

▶ **Tel**
507.288.5620
▶ **Fax**
507.288.0014

▶ **E-mail**
str@thoracicrad.org
▶ **Website**
www.thoracicrad.org

STR Committees at Work



Members of the STR Executive Council at the November 2010 meeting: Drs. Lynch, Erasmus, Rosado de Christenson, Abbott and Stern

Although the majority of the STR members only come together for the annual business meeting, a tremendous amount of activity takes place over the course of each year. During 2010, STR President David Lynch provided leadership and guidance to all committee chairs and charged them with formulating a list of short term goals for their 2011 activities. This is of particular importance as we prepare for the 2011 STR Strategic Planning Session. Here are some of the goals the committees will pursue over the coming year.

Development and Corporate Support Committee

Chair - Dr. Joseph Schoepf

Committee Goals:

- ▶ Increase annual funding levels from industry
- ▶ Keep up with vendor expectations
- ▶ Enrich the program

Electronic Media Committee

Chair - Dr. Eric Stern

Committee Goals:

- ▶ Minor facelift for the website (on-going)
- ▶ Audiovisual instructional guide for speakers to be available in the Speaker Ready Room
- ▶ Work in collaboration with the Education Committee to “sundown” older lectures on the website.
- ▶ Generate specific usage data for presenters, when requested

Education Committee

Chair - Dr. Laura Heyneman

Committee Goals:

- ▶ Developing a set of core training requirements for thoracic and cardiothoracic fellowships
- ▶ Maintaining the STR fellowship directory
- ▶ Developing tools to market cardiothoracic fellowships to residents
- ▶ Providing networking opportunities for cardiothoracic fellows

Fellowship Subcommittee

Chair - Dr. Matthew Gilman

Committee Goals:

- ▶ Developing a set of core training requirements for thoracic and cardiothoracic fellowships
- ▶ Maintaining the STR fellowship directory
- ▶ Developing tools to market cardiothoracic fellowships to residents
- ▶ Providing networking opportunities for cardiothoracic fellows

Intersocietal Relations Committee

Chair - Dr. Jeffrey Klein

Committee Goals:

- ▶ Support imaging course at the American Thoracic Society meeting
- ▶ Continue discussion regarding imaging course at American College of Chest Physicians meeting

Research Committee

Chair - Dr. Jeremy Erasmus

Committee Goals:

- ▶ Implement revised guidelines for seed grant funding
- ▶ Cross-link STR grant application with the Inter Organizational Research Council (IORC) in 2011

Standards Committee

Chair - Dr. Loren Ketai

Committee Goals:

- ▶ Review of awaited American College of Radiology and American College of Cardiology authored evidence based guidelines on the use of imaging for the evaluation of cardiac disease
- ▶ Partnering with International Thymic Malignancy Interest Group (ITMIG) to draft standards for the imaging and reporting of thymic tumors (*see related article in this issue of Inspiration*)
- ▶ Creation of focused reporting systems for other thoracic diseases

ACR Councilor

Dr. Paul Molina

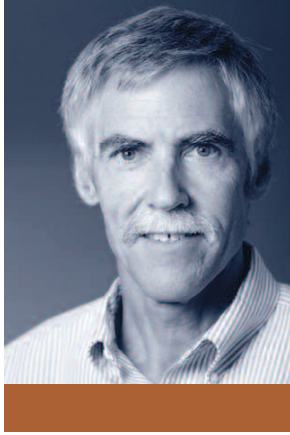
From the summary of the 2010 ACR Meeting:

- ▶ Focus on reducing radiation dose and patient safety
- ▶ Emphasis on how imaging impacts patient management and care



International panel meets during annual meeting of the RSNA to plan the Third World Congress of Thoracic Imaging which will take place in Seoul, South Korea in 2013.

National Lung Screening Trial (NLST) News



William C. Black, MD

Dr. William Black is Senior member of the Society of Thoracic Radiology and a practicing radiologist with clinical expertise in chest radiology and research interest in screening and cost-effectiveness analysis. He has demonstrated how advances in diagnostic imaging distort the clinician's perception of the prevalence of disease, its natural history, and its response to medical intervention. He has also written extensively about the problem of overdiagnosis in cancer screening and the design of randomized control trials for cancer screening with imaging tests. Currently, Dr. Black is a co-investigator of the National Lung Screening Trial (NLST), an NCI funded multi-center randomized controlled trial of screening for lung cancer with chest CT versus chest radiography. Dr. Black has been particularly influential in the selection of study endpoints, development of the endpoint verification process, and planning for the cost-effectiveness analysis, which he is now actively leading. In addition to being the site PI at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center (the third of 33 sites to open), he continues to play a number of important leadership roles in NLST and is a designated spokesperson for media inquiries. Dr. Black is also the Chair of the Outcomes and Economics Committee of the American College of Radiology Imaging Network (ACRIN).

Dear Colleagues

ON NOVEMBER 4, 2010, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) released initial results of the NLST, a large-scale clinical trial comparing lung cancer screening with low-dose helical computed tomography (LDCT) versus standard chest radiography (CXR). The NLST demonstrated a 20.3% reduction in lung cancer mortality and 6.9% reduction in all cause mortality in the CT arm relative to the CXR arm (<http://www.cancer.gov/images/DSMB-NLST.pdf>). At the recommendation of the NLST Data and Safety Monitoring Board, the NCI stopped the trial so that the participants in the NLST could be notified of this significant result.

At the 2010 RSNA, the two Principal Investigators of the NLST, Drs. Denise Aberle MD, past STR president, and Christine Berg, MD, chaired a special session devoted to these initial results. The session included four presentations followed by a question and answer period: Initial Results and Trial Design, Imaging Technique and X-ray Dose Considerations,

The following physicians (among them many STR members) occupied leadership roles in NLST, either as lead radiologists or committee members. However, it should be noted that the NLST also benefited from the hard work and dedication of many other radiologists not listed here who contributed in other capacities.

Gerald Abbott, MD
Peter Balkin, MD
Denise R. Aberle, MD
Judith K. Amorosa, MD
Richard G. Barr, MD, PhD
William C. Black, MD
Phillip M. Boiselle, MD
Caroline Chiles, MD
Robert Clark, MD
Lynn Coppage, MD
Robert Falk, MD
Elliot K. Fishman, MD
Matthew T. Freedman, MD
Kavita Garg, MD
David S. Gierada, MD
Jonathan G. Goldin, MD
Eric Goodman, MD
Eric M. Hart, MD
Todd Hazelton, MD
Subbarao Inampudi, MD
Elizabeth Johnson, MD
Ella Kazerooni, MD
Jeffrey S. Klein, MD
David Lynch, MD
Barbara McComb, MD
Theresa C. McLoud, MD
Howard Mann, MB, BCh
William Manor, DO
Reginald F. Munden, MD
David P. Naidich, MD
Hrudaya Nath, MBBS
DMR, MD
Edward Patz, MD
James Ravenel, MD
David L. Spizarny, MD
Diane C. Stollo, MD
Michael Sullivan, MD
Stephen J. Swensen, MD
Drew A. Torigian, MD, MA
Kay H. Vydareny, MD
John Waltz, MD
John A. Worrell, MD
Carl J. Zylak, MD

False Positive Rate and the Evaluation of a Positive Scan, and Future Analyses (web link pending). Two manuscripts have recently been published, one describing the study design: <http://radiology.rsna.org/content/early/2010/10/28/radiol.10091808.full> and another the baseline characteristics of the NLST participants: <http://jnci.oxfordjournals.org/content/102/23/1771.abstract?keytype=ref&>

Manuscripts currently under development include those focused on the baseline screening results, the second and third round screening results, the final results (mortality reduction), quality of life, smoking cessation, and cost-effectiveness. Numerous other manuscripts are under consideration.

To date, no medical organization has issued guidelines for lung cancer screening with LDCT, however, the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) Lung Cancer Screening Task Force has recently been assembled with this goal in mind. In addition to performing its own cost-effectiveness analysis of what actually transpired in the NLST, several NLST investigators have begun to collaborate with the Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modeling Network (CISNET), a consortium of NCI-sponsored investigators that will use statistical modeling to assess the potential impact of lung cancer screening with LDCT on population health. The NLST results and collaborative analyses with CISNET will likely have a strong influence on the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) development of screening recommendations.

STR membership has played a major role in the design and execution of the NLST and will continue to play a major role in implementation of the NLST results in screening for lung cancer and in the closely related practice of managing small nodules incidentally detected on CT. ■

International Thymic Malignancy Interest Group: An Update



Edith M. Marom, MD

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE STR MEMBERS who have joined the International Malignancy Interest Group (ITMIG). As you may know, some STR members have been involved in imaging workgroups in this society. The Standard Reporting Workgroup has prepared for two thymic malignancy workshops that took place on November 15-16th in New Haven, CT. The STR members that form part of the Standard Reporting Workgroup are Melissa Rosado de Christenson, John Bruzzi, Loren Ketai, Masaki Hara and myself. During these workshops members from each continent and from each subspecialty presented their experience. The subspecialties present were: thoracic radiology, radiation oncology, medical oncology, pathology and thoracic radiology. Statisticians were also involved. There were discussions of prognostic factors in thymoma, refinement of the current staging system (Masaoka-Koga) and the establishment of a prospective ITMIG database. This was followed by discussions about defining standards and definitions to be used in ITMIG databases, studies and initiatives. A large portion of the prognostic factor discussions, staging, preoperative evaluation, follow-up and formation of the database were devoted to imaging. Having a strong radiology presence was crucial, and I would like to thank John Bruzzi, Loren Ketai and Yoshiyuki Ozawa for joining me there and for doing such a great job. The finalized products of this meeting will be published in a special edition of *Journal of Thoracic Oncology* in July 2011.



Figure legend:
Participants from the
November 2010 New Haven
thymic malignancy workshops.
Chest radiologists present were:
Loren Ketai, Yoshiyuki Ozawa,
John Bruzzi and Edith Marom.

Once the database is running, and patients are prospectively collected, it is my hope that more STR members will get involved. Current data on these malignancies stems primarily from single centers, with reports generally spanning many decades, with level one evidence lacking. There is little imaging data available as to the preoperative assessment of these patients. When this database is ready, we should contribute to it and improve our understanding of this disease.

Feel free to join ITMIG by signing up online (www.itmig.org). The website is in the process of being revised and updated but I will keep you all posted as to any news relevant to our field and about the upcoming annual ITMIG conference to take place in Amsterdam, July 7 and 8, 2011. ■

Letter from the Editor



Melissa L. Rosado
de Christenson, MD
STR Secretary

DEAR COLLEAGUES AND FELLOW STR MEMBERS:

This is the last issue of the STR Newsletter, *Inspiration*, I had the privilege of editing. I truly enjoyed my two-year term as Editor-in-Chief and thank the Publications Committee members who worked so hard to bring you news from your society.

They are:

Ralph Drosten

Jane Ko

Edith Marom

Patricia Mergo – Who finished her term in 2010
and

Phillip Boiselle – Ex officio member – JTI editor

I also want to thank Barbara McLeod and the Matrix Meetings staff, the STR officers and the members of the Executive Council who encouraged us and helped us to successfully meet our three main goals:

- ▶ publishing four annual issues of the newsletter
- ▶ updating the overall look and design of the newsletter
- ▶ engaging the membership in the “Name the Newsletter Contest” which resulted in the selection of *Inspiration* as our newsletter’s name.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the immense contribution of graphic designer Pamela Kuehl who was instrumental in designing *Inspiration*'s beautiful new format.

I hope to continue to contribute to the newsletter in the future and encourage all of you to submit articles of interest to our diverse membership.

Best wishes for a successful New Year for our Society and its Members! ■

Inspiration

STR Publications Committee

Phillip Boiselle

Ralph Drosten

Jane Ko

Edith Marom

Melissa Rosado de Christenson, Chair