



# Newsletter

Fall, 2021

## MRS Officers 2021-2022



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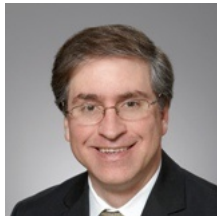
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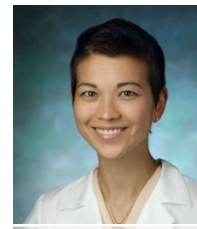
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## From the President

Welcome to our Fall newsletter and to the new leadership of the Maryland Radiological Society. The Covid19 pandemic has created shifting paradigms in medicine, including changes in access to care and healthcare delivery. It is in our DNA as radiologists to embrace and adopt new ideas and technology as they develop. With advances in vaccination and treatment of Covid19, we're proceeding with cautious optimism.

On the legislative front, we continue to remain vigilant to challenges to physicians' scope of practice and the Maryland Physician Self Referral law. The Residents and Fellows section has plans for community outreach and education. We welcome the reinvigoration of our Diversity and Inclusion committee, chaired by Dr. Lisa Mullen.

With the American College of Radiology nationally, we support radiologists and their practices, protect the quality of imaging and interpretation received by our patients, and are working to expand access to healthcare. This time of change is an opportunity to have a seat at the table and become involved with the changes and challenges occurring in medicine.

Wishing all of you & your families a safe, healthy & happy holiday season.

## **ACR2021**

The American College of Radiology annual meeting ACR2021 was again held virtually in May, 2021. In addition to governance work of the College, challenges and new initiatives in radiology were discussed and deliberated.

The Moreton Lecture was presented by Reshma Jagsi, MD, DPhil, Newman Family Professor and Deputy Chair of the department of Radiation Oncology and Director of the Center for Bioethics and Social Sciences in Medicine at the University of Michigan. Her talk, “Promoting Equity for Women in Radiology and Radiation Oncology: An Evidence-Based Approach,” was a timely analysis of the issues contributing to gender inequities in medicine, including unconscious biases, gendered expectations of society, and overt discrimination and harassment.

MRS members continue their valuable contributions to the College:

Mahadevappa Mahesh, MS, PhD, FACR, Professor of Radiology at Johns Hopkins Medicine currently serves on the ACR Board of Chancellors as Chair of the Commission on Medical Physics.

Congratulations to our new fellows from Maryland inducted at the ACR2021 Convocation:

Nafi Aygun, M.D.

Jay J. Pillai, M.D.

If you are Interested in becoming a Fellow of the American College of Radiology, the criteria can be found on the ACR website [www.acr.org](http://www.acr.org).

ACR2022 is scheduled in person, April 24 - 28, 2022 in Washington, D.C. Close enough for all of us to attend, it is a long-awaited opportunity to learn, network and reconnect.

## **Diversity and Inclusion Committee**



We welcome Dr. Lisa Mullen and Dr. Linda Chu as Co-Chairs of the recently reinvigorated MRS Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

What does diversity mean to you? What does it mean to include others or feel included? Discussion began at a meeting of the MRS Executive Committee, followed by emails to individual radiologists as well as a “call for volunteers” email to the entire MRS membership. About 20 radiologists have expressed interest in joining the committee. A “kick-off” meeting was held virtually in mid-October, during which we discussed many different types of diversity and why we are interested in this topic. Several projects are being considered, including understanding more about the current MRS membership and discovering how to increase diversity and inclusion within our own organization. We also discussed forming a Women in Radiology group for networking and mentorship, increasing diversity at all levels of radiology through outreach and education, and improving equity and access for patients through community outreach. We are currently in the planning phase for our first few projects.

Anyone interested in meeting a diverse group of radiologists and participating in interesting and rewarding projects please contact Dr. Lisa Mullen at [lmullen1@jhmi.edu](mailto:lmullen1@jhmi.edu).

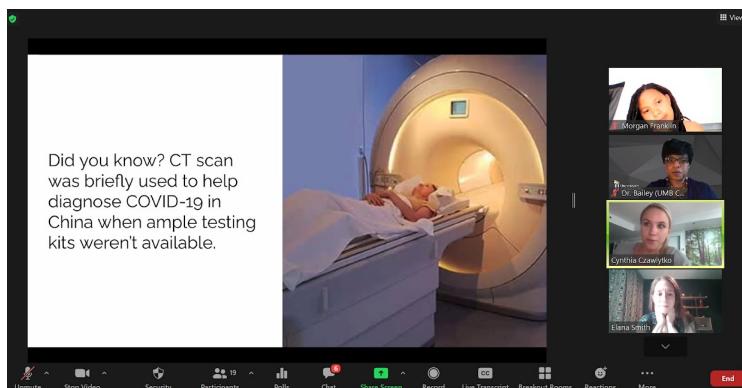
## **RFS Update**

The Resident and Fellow Section has been making strides with new community outreach initiatives. New positions within the MRS-RFS were created this year. As Co-Heads of Outreach, Residents Roy Ruttiman of Johns Hopkins and Luke Miller of University of Maryland, are organizing opportunities for members of the MRS-RFS to get involved with volunteer initiatives in the community. Carrying on from last year, Luke Miller and Cynthia Czawlytko (MRS-RFS President) volunteered to speak with local elementary and middle school students about the field of radiology and the imaging findings associated with COVID-19. The two have also teamed up with the UMB Cure Scholars Program, a groundbreaking

program that seeks to empower middle and high school students in West Baltimore for future careers within the STEM fields. Over the summer, Cynthia, Luke, and former MRS-RFS treasurer Ankur Pandey met with the scholars and gave them detailed lectures on the radiological findings of common preventable diseases, supplementing the student's health curriculum. Our RFS members were able to expose the students to the field of radiology while providing a source of mentorship for the students. We look forward to the expansion of our volunteer projects!



On December 16, 2021 RFS will be sponsoring the Fall educational virtual lecture. It will feature Dr. Suresh Mukherji discussing contract negotiations for one's first job and his experiences in academics and outside practice.



## **Legislative Update**

Last year things were relatively quiet legislatively for radiology due to Covid.

On a more general front, podiatrists attempted to change their name to podiatric physicians which we were able to defeat. However there is certain to be another challenge this year, in addition to other challenges to the scope of practice of physicians.

At this point registered cardiovascular invasive specialists are not able to perform fluoroscopy although they can assist the cardiologist in positioning the patient. The final draft regulation has just recently come out for comment at this time. It had been delayed due to Covid.

There will likely be challenges to the Maryland Self Referral Law this year, particularly with respect to radiation oncology although there is always the possibility that diagnostic imaging will be pulled in as well.

As always, our active participation in Annapolis continues to be important and hopefully we will be able to have an early Spring Radiology lobby day with the residents. Legislators really enjoy seeing young physicians and hearing their point of view.

Let's keep our fingers crossed that COVID subsides enough. Otherwise we will have to have a virtual lobby day again.

## **Save the Dates**

December 16, 2021 RFS Fall virtual lecture: Dr. Suresh Mukherji

April 24 - April 28, 2022: ACR mtg, Washington, D.C.