

Interlink

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ACRF Global Humanitarian Awards

The American College of Radiology Foundation (ACRF) presented its individual Global Humanitarian Awards to Kristen DeStigter, MD, FACR, of Burlington, VT and Peter Dross, MD, of Wilmington, DE. The World Federation of Pediatric Imaging and Rotary Club of Park Ridge, Ill., earned the group awards. The awards, honoring the individuals' and groups' positive global impact on radiology services, were announced at ACR 2016—The Crossroads of Radiology®, which was held May 15–19 in Washington, DC.

"These individuals and organizations are dedicated to helping those in underserved and developing areas of the world gain improved access to quality radiological services," said Howard B. Fleishon, MD, MMM, FACR, chair of the ACR Foundation Executive Committee who announced the presentations.

Kristen DeStigter, MD, FACR, is co-founder and president of [Imaging the World](#), which created a new sustainable model for ultrasound imaging, making basic life-saving diagnosis accessible in the poorest regions of Africa. Since its founding, the program has successfully incorporated obstetric ultrasound examination into routine care at lower level health clinics in rural Uganda by training health workers to perform high-quality point-of-care ultrasound. Dr. DeStigter is the John P. and Kathryn H. Tampas Professor and interim chair of radiology at the University of Vermont/University of Vermont Medical Center, in Burlington, where she is an attending radiologist in the University of Vermont Medical Group.



Peter Dross, MD, FACR is a radiologist and member of the Board of Directors for [Serving at the Crossroads](#), which built, equipped and supports a medical clinic with diagnostic imaging services in La Entrada, Honduras. An attending physician in the radiology department at Christiana Care Hospital in Wilmington, DE, Dr. Dross also is a clinical assistant professor of radiology at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. He has assisted in acquiring radiological equipment for the group and continues to provide on-site education and training to hospital staff.

ACRF Global Humanitarian Awards, cont'd

The [World Federation of Pediatric Imaging](#) advances pediatric imaging education, provides training tools and impacts direct patient care by strengthening imaging initiatives. The federation was founded by the Society for Pediatric Radiology, Asian Oceanic Society of Pediatric Radiology, European Society of Pediatric Radiology, Latin American Society of Pediatric Radiology and African Society of Pediatric Imaging. The global advocate for pediatric imaging in low resource areas provides medical training and educational resources and has partnered with RAD-AID, Doctors Without Borders, the ACR Foundation and Imaging the World and is involved with projects all over the globe.



The [Rotary Club of Park Ridge](#), Ill., started supporting radiology in 1999 by exploring the possibility of using World Health Imaging System for Radiology (WHIS-RAD) as a club project. The club has developed a reference manual, "Diagnostic Imaging in the Community," and subsequently supported and raised funds for the installation of several WHIS-RAD systems in South America, Africa and Asia. Its members have engaged other Rotary International Clubs to support the need for diagnostic imaging systems in developing countries.

The 2017 Global Humanitarian Award nominations are due to the ACRF by no later than August 31, 2016. Categories for the award may be given to individual radiologists; organizations (including non-profit and industry groups); and non-radiologists (including medical physicists, radiologic technologists, ultrasonographers and other radiological personnel). An official application, two letters of support and all supplemental materials must be completed and submitted by the end of August for consideration at the ACR 2017 Annual Meeting to be held May 21-25, 2017 in Washington, DC. To apply or nominate someone for the award, please visit the [ACRF site](#).



First Ghesani-Kajani Grants Awarded

The ACRF, working in conjunction with Drs. Munir Ghesani and Mirza Kajani, have awarded the first two Ghesani-Kajani Grants for the fall of 2016. The grant recipients are Robert Love, M.D., a fourth year resident at the University of Vermont, and Sarah Abdulla, M.D., an interventional radiology fellow at Cornell/NY Presbyterian. The grant provides support for radiology residents to attend the Aga Khan Hospital in Dar-es-Salam, Tanzania.

The ACRF is currently [accepting applications](#) for the 2017 award which are due December 31, 2016.



ACRF Sends Team to Port-au-Prince, Haiti



From June 5-8, 2016 the ACR Foundation sent a team of four radiologists and a sonographer to Port-au-Prince, Haiti to continue its ongoing work to improve radiological care in the country. The faculty included Douglas "Rusty" Brown, M.D., Jennifer Nicholas, M.D., Ernst Garcon, M.D., Julie Franz, M.D. and Lacy Gandor, RDMS.

The 3-day program focused on breast imaging, abdominal ultrasound and cross-sectional imaging. Hands-on ultrasound and biopsy practice were provided to each resident.

The residents were provided with an opportunity to get some lectures in breast imaging and have hands-on training using ultrasound as guidance for use in simulating breast biopsies. The residents proved quite adept at dissecting the embedded olives in the chicken breasts. In addition, didactic courses in neuro cross-sectional imaging, abdominal ultrasound and orthopedic ultrasound were given.



The ACRF has been working with Imaging4Change, RAD-AID International and a host of extremely committed radiologists to assist the University Hospital in supporting its training of radiology residents. When the ACRF first arrived in Haiti in 2011, a year after a devastating earthquake had killed over 200,000 and left significant infrastructure damage in its wake, there were a total of 19 radiologists. With a 3-year radiology residency program now secure at the General Hospital, the number of radiologists should double within a couple of years. In addition to onsite visits and ongoing observerships, support for cross-sectional imaging has been provided by Imaging4Change in cooperation with Hospital Bernard Mevs which owns one of the few CT scanners in the country.

Additional challenges identified in 2011 included:

1. The 19 radiologists identified were insufficient to meet the needs of a country with a population of 10.5 million;
2. With the discontinuation of the radiology residency program, there was no pipeline to expand the number of radiologists;
3. What radiology equipment survived the earthquake was in disrepair and there was little to no advanced imaging services being provided;
4. There was an influx of money and goodwill that the country believed would lead to the building of new hospitals with new imaging equipment in the Port-au-Prince area;
5. Educational resources to assist radiologists and non-radiologists providing radiology services were scant and inconsistent;
6. There was no radiology society and although there was a Haitian Medical Society, professional collaboration was minimal; and
7. There were no established radiologic technologist or equipment repair programs in place.

Between 2012 and 2014, the ACRF sent three faculty teams to Port-au-Prince to provide basic courses in pediatric, abdominal, neurological and orthopedic imaging using didactic lectures and clinical case review. Additionally, physicians were given an opportunity to use portable ultrasound via loaner machines generously provided by Sonosite and GE.

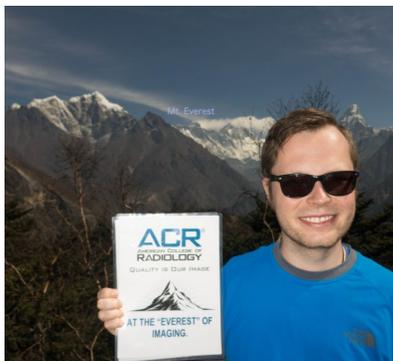
In addition to the development of the radiology residency program, on the radiographer front, money has been identified and discussions have begun to establish a radiologic technologist program for Haiti under the supervision of the medical school.

Follow [this link](#) to learn more about the ACR visit from a staff blog.



ACRF faculty and residents shared a productive 3 days working together to assist the future radiologists in Haiti.

News & Announcements



Goldberg-Reeder Travel Grant Update

The ACRF annually awards residents with a \$1,500 travel grant to spend at least one month in a low to middle income country directly assisting with a radiology project. Recipients may choose the place of their service. The deadline for travel during the 2016-2017 year has closed but will reopen this

fall for the 2017-2018 year.

Pictured above is Wojciech Kapalczynski, MD, in Nepal. He was awarded the Goldberg-Reeder Travel Grant in 2015. Dr. Kapalczynski traveled to the National Academy of Medical Science Bir Hospital to work with Dr. Swoyam Pandit, MD. He is a fourth year resident at the University of Texas. He is also currently the Vice Chair on the RFS International Outreach Subcommittee. Read about Dr. Kapalczynski's experience [here](#).

International Volunteers Raise Your Hands!

If you are volunteering in the developing world, we would like to hear from you. The ACR Foundation International Outreach Program seeks to find ways to facilitate volunteerism, donations and collaborative projects. In 2013, the ACR Foundation launched the [International Facility Profiles](#) to provide potential volunteers, donors and organizations with access to facilities in the developing world. If you have volunteered, we would like you to fill out a [Facility Needs Assessment Survey](#). The survey provides the basis for the information contained in the International Facility Profiles.

In addition, the ACR Foundation is interested in making sure volunteers are coordinating their efforts where possible. If you have been a long-term volunteer in a developing country, please contact Brad Short at bshort@acr.org or Lauren Alfero at lalfero@acr.org to ensure you are included in our network.

ServeHaiti

[ServeHaiti](#) is looking for a bioengineer to assist in replacing a CR x-ray reader. They plan to install a Fuji Smart VG-1 CR system. Anyone with knowledge of that system would be a tremendous help. For more information about the project, please contact Andrew Curtain, M.D., MBA at AJCurtin@gmail.com or 215.285.6136.

Have an announcement? Want to share your experience?

Let us know! Announcements are a great way to get the word out about your program or need for donations. We'd also love to hear about your experience volunteering and may share it in a future edition of *Interlink*. Contact Lauren at lalfero@acr.org or Karen at korozco@acr.org

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 Trevor Royce, M.D.
 Parthiv Mehta, MD



CONTACT US

American College of Radiology Foundation
 Attn: International Outreach
 1891 Preston White Drive
 Reston, VA 20191

(800) 227-5463