

From the President

Hope all of you had a good summer I want to briefly report on the MRS activities for the past few months. In summer, we had very successful annual event at Oriole Park. The educational event was well attended and later the attendees had the opportunity to attend the Orioles ball game too (see photos on page 2). Earlier, MRS was active on the legislative front (more can be read in Dr Ma's column) in addressing issues related to our members interests. One of the proposed bills was about allowing the cardiovascular specialists to perform fluoroscopy in cardiac catheterization laboratories. I had the opportunity to testify against the bill due to radiation safety concerns and also for allowed non-RTs to perform fluoroscopy. The bill was pulled from the floor and was forwarded to the Maryland Board of Physicians to evaluate. Board of Physicians upon forming a workgroup invited me to be part of the working group. The working group have met a number of times over summer and is currently finalizing its recommendations on how to address this issue. I will share more on this in the next issue of the newsletter.

Our residents and fellows' section have been very active, they had organized a reception for the new residents earlier (for more information please read RFS column). Currently, the fall educational meeting is scheduled for October 30th, 2018 evening at the Johns Hopkins Hospital (details are shown elsewhere in this newsletter) and I welcome all of you to attend. Over summer, councilors of MRS attended and actively participated in the ACR annual meeting and group of MRS members along with DC chapter met with our senators and congressmen (see photos on page 5).



**Mahadevappa Mahesh, MS,
PhD, FAAPM, FACR.**

On the membership side, we were informed from ACR that 31 new members were added to the MRS list, but in the same report we were also told that nearly 30 members had not renewed their annual membership. In this regard, I urge all of you to renew your memberships on a timely basis and encourage your fellow colleagues to become ACR and MRS members. Overall, MRS board has been quite active over the past few months and has met a number of times to plan and organize events, address future legislative topics and look forward to hearing from all of you. I am happy to inform you that we have an active board who are constantly on the watch for any legislative bills that can impact our practice.

Sincerely,

Mahadevappa Mahesh, MS, PhD, FAAPM, FACR; MRS President. Twitter @mmahesh1 and/or @MarylandRads

Fall Educational Event

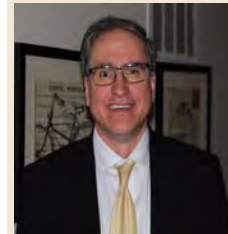
MRS annual fall educational event will be held in the Stoll Conference Room at Johns Hopkins Hospital on **October 30, 2018 from 6-8 pm**. Resident jeopardy will be followed by a lecture from **Dr. Elliot Fishman** on **"New Look at CT Interpretation through the lens of AI"**.

Please contact Gina Sirolli at Regina.Sirolli@RADNET.COM with any questions regarding the event.

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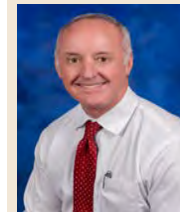
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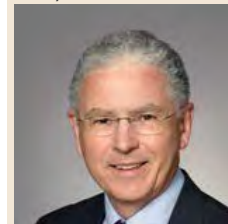
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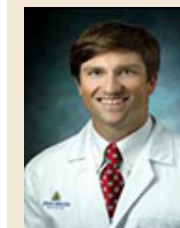
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RFS President Hunter Dunlap, MD



MRS Spring 2018 Educational Meeting

Parvinder Sujlana, MD
Secretary, MRS

The MRS spring meeting was held April 21 at Camden Yards with over 40 attendees. Following registration and lunch, there was an educational program with 3 outstanding lectures.

Erin Gillard, LCSW-C, who works at the Johns Hopkins University and Health system as an employee assistance clinician, gave an excellent talk on "Physician Burnout: Strategies for Coping."

This was followed by two very informative talks on prostate imaging.

Steven Rowe, MD, PhD, who is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiology and Urology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, spoke about "Applications of PSMA-Targeted Radiotracers in Prostate Cancer and Non-Prostate Malignancies."

Our own Katarzyna Macura, MD, PhD, Professor in the Departments of Radiology, Urology and Oncology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, gave a talk on "Multiparametric MRI of the Prostate: Interpretation and Reporting using PI-RADS V2".

Members and guests then enjoyed the baseball game at Camden Yards between the Baltimore Orioles and Cleveland Indians.



Erin Gillard, LCSW-C



Steven Rowe, MD, PhD



Katarzyna Macura, MD, PhD

RFS Welcome Happy Hour

Hunter Dunlap, MD
President, RFS

Another successful kickoff happy hour for the RFS! This year we held our annual welcome happy hour at Lee's Pint and Shell in Canton on July 24. We hosted new radiology residents from Johns Hopkins and Maryland as well as some new Radiation Oncology residents. We look forward to another great year in the RFS with aims to have improved participation from our Radiation Oncology fellows as well as medical students, which have expressed interest in getting involved. At present, we are looking forward to the fall educational event which will be held at Johns Hopkins on October 30.

Maryland Lobby Day - Resident Perspective

Jessica Wen, MD
Past President, RFS

On Thursday February 22, 2019, a group of 10 Hopkins and University of Maryland radiology residents joined members of the Maryland Radiological Society to travel to Annapolis for their annual lobby day event. With the guidance of Dr. Loralie Ma and the MRS legal team, residents met with several state legislators to introduce them our profession and discuss our opposition to the HB1519/SB1024 bill.

The agenda for this year revolved around continued efforts by large oncologic practices in Maryland to obtain exemptions which would allow self referrals within their own group practice. During several meetings with state representatives, residents spoke on behalf of practicing radiologists in Maryland in opposition to this bill which would deter years of patient protection against excessive and

inappropriate use of imaging studies and radiation therapy.

Similar themes and issues were discussed last year on lobby day. Several returning senior residents who have attended prior lobby day events were able to build on their past experiences and share their knowledge of the self referral protections in the state of Maryland with their fellow co-residents.

One of the primary goals of the Resident and Fellow Section of MRS is to expose trainees to advocacy in our profession. Events like Lobby Day in Annapolis encourage young professionals in our field to be active in shaping the future of their practice, with the ultimate goal of providing the best clinical care for patients. We look forward to continued success during Lobby Day in 2019.



Residents from Johns Hopkins and University of Maryland at the Lobby Day in Annapolis on February 22, 2019. Back row (from left to right): Casey Mccroy, Mark Cleary, Atheeth Hiremath, Benny Sujlana, Huasong Tang. Front row (from left to right): Nevil Ghodasara, Jessica Wen, Paul Yi, Hunter Dunlap

ACR Annual Meeting - Resident Perspective

Atheeth Hiremath, MD and Mark Cleary, MD

As part of an annual tradition, the Maryland Radiological Society sponsors six first-year radiology residents, equally represented from University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins, to attend the ACR annual convention in Washington, DC.

This year, all the first-year residents were first-timers to the ACR conference. When we walked into the conference venue, it was an impressive sight to behold. The conference hall was packed to the brim, and there appeared to be activities occurring at every corner of the conference venue. Thankfully, the ACR provided a mobile app that included an auto-updating itinerary with specific directions to the location of the sessions.

For the residents and fellows, the first two days of the conference were organized by the ACR Resident and Fellow Section (RFS). Those two days contained programming that was specific and relevant to radiologists-in-training. We had the fortune of hearing from a wide-spectrum of academic and private practice radiology leaders who offered guidance on how to make most of the opportunities presented during residency and how to prepare ourselves for the next stage of our careers. While there were innumerable nuggets of wisdom, one consistent recommendation from many senior radiologists was to get involved with state radiological societies as early as possible during residency.

In addition to relevant resident-related programming, the ACR RFS organized elections that would determine the next iteration of the RFS committee. The RFS, roughly speaking, mirrors the organizational structure of the parent organization. This ensures that for

each ACR committee, there is a corresponding resident/fellow subcommittee that can provide input from the radiologist-in-training perspective. For many first-time attendees, it was inspirational and motivating to witness our talented peers take on the responsibility of representing our voices on a national stage.

The next two days of the ACR conference included the general meeting. The general meeting was a mixture of debating/passing resolutions and informational sessions on the regulatory changes that could affect both the short-term and long-term landscape of radiology practices. Maryland, like other state chapters, had their own table, which was filled with familiar faces that are routinely seen in our state chapter meetings. This included Dr. Ma and Dr. Blumberg, who were moderators of two expert panels during the legislative portion of the general meeting. As a first-time attendee, I came away with the impression that we are fortunate in Maryland to have a sophisticated approach to representing our interests in front of the state and national legislature. For many states with newer chapters, we were looked upon as a model to emulate.

The last day of the conference ended with meeting congressmen and senators at Capitol Hill. This day was spearheaded by Dr. Blumberg, whose intimate knowledge of the issues affecting our specialty and personal relationships with various members of congress ensured that we were welcomed with open arms. For many of us, this was the first time walking into the offices of people that we had only either read about in newspapers or seen on TV. It was an honor to be

able to represent our specialty, and express our gratitude to the members of congress who took the time to understand what we do and how better they can support our specialty.

It is always hard to summarize such a wonderful experience in a few words, however, we all left feeling fortunate to be part of a vibrant state chapter that provides us with such valuable exposure early in our training.



MRS team at Capitol Hill day during the ACR annual meeting



MRS team at Capitol Hill day during the ACR annual meeting

Legislative Update

Loralie D. Ma, MD, PhD, FACR.

Last year's legislative session was busy with multiple bills of interest to radiology.

House Bill 1519/Senate Bill 1024 Self-Referrals--Oncology Group practices-exemption: This bill would have allowed an Oncology group the ability to own and self refer Radiation Therapy under certain provisions, in contradiction to Maryland's anti self-referral law. This bill was withdrawn after extensive input and effort by our lobbying team.

House Bill 1008/Senate Bill 1087 - Invasive Cardiovascular Professions: This bill would have expanded the permitted functions for cardiovascular invasive specialists (working for Cardiologists), which included many functions which were felt to be of concern for patient safety, including operating fluoroscopy equipment. This received an unfavorable report and was withdrawn.

However, there is a summer workgroup regarding this group of Cardiology physician extenders and we will await the results of this workgroup.

House Bill 1197/Senate Bill 706 - Telehealth - Coverage for breast cancer services. This bill required that health care services delivered through telehealth include diagnostic and symptom management services for breast cancer delivered to a patient in a home setting. This bill received an unfavorable report and was withdrawn.

House Bill 282/Senate Bill 385 -- Coverage for Diagnostic examinations for breast cancer. This bill would have prohibited insurers, nonprofit health service plans and HMOs that provide coverage for diagnostic examinations from imposing certain cost-sharing requirements on coverage (e.g. co-pays) for diagnostic examinations for breast cancer that are less favorable to the insured or enrolee than those applying to breast cancer screenings.

These bills had hearings but moved no further.

House Bill 596/Senate Bill 234 -- Interstate Medical Licensure Compact -- This bill created the interstate medical licensure compact, designed to strengthen access to health care by developing a process to complement existing licensing authority and provide a streamlined method for physicians to be licensed in multiple states. This bill was passed and approved by the Governor.

On the regulatory front: The Board approved Telehealth (Telemedicine) Regulations as well, making certain requirements for physicians providing telemedicine (including teleradiology). These regulations took into account the widespread use of teleradiology in providing timely interpretations for Maryland residents.

We will likely see some of the above bills again this year and look forward to working on behalf of radiologists in Maryland and the patients they serve.

Other Updates

Dr. Mahesh (MRS President) has been elected to the ACR Board as Chair of Commission on Medical Physics at the ACR annual meeting. This is a 3 year term that started soon after ACR annual meeting in May 2018. As of now, we have two MRS members on the ACR Board (Katarzyna Macura, MD, PhD is the other member).

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FAAPM, FACR.

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