

Hannah Cotton ASRT Summary

The ASRT Student Leadership Development program is a program students do not want to miss out on. This experience helped open my eyes to the radiology profession as a whole. Without being apart of my affiliate, the SDSRT, I would not have had the opportunity to be selected as the ASRT Intern through the Pilot Program. I have learned that being apart of the SDSRT is important because it helps to understand what is going on with our profession on a state level. I feel that being involved is a good way to make a difference in our everyday work environment. Attending the annual conference taught me how important it is to be involved on a national level as well.

The ASRT Annual meetings were held in Albuquerque, NM where the ASRT headquarters are located. There were about 12 members of the SDSRT that got to represent our state in Albuquerque this year. We left on a Wednesday afternoon and arrived in time to settle into the hotel before the other students and I attended the Student Leadership welcome ceremony. Being involved with the Student Leadership Development was a very rewarding experience.

There were students from all over the United States involved in various programs. Going into the program I thought all the students would be in radiography programs just like my own but I was wrong. The majority of the students were in radiography programs but they are very different than the program here at Sanford. It was interesting to hear all about their clinical and

didactic experiences. Meeting the other students and getting to know them throughout the conference helped me to grow as a student in the radiology profession.

Thursday morning started the conference off with a phenomenal speaker. Thursday's meetings were geared toward the Educational Symposium. The first speaker spoke about Ethics. Although I think everyone knows the basics about ethics, his speech brought back the daily reminders we have to think about when working with patients. The point that stuck out to me the most was that we really don't know what each patient, coworker, or other employees is going through and we have to treat them all with the same respect that we would want to receive. The following meetings that morning were very informative to us students. The ASRT gave us a presentation of how the organization is run and how to get involved with the organization.

The JRCERT gave us a presentation about the guidelines and steps to taking boards. It is amazing how much work goes in to each and every question on boards. It was a great to hear this presentation in person, rather than hearing it in a classroom, as we will be preparing to sign up for boards shortly. At the lunch break there was a big expo where we got to network with different companies, schools, and organizations. Again, it was an eye opening experience to realize all the networking possibilities that are out there in our profession.

The rest of Thursday afternoon was filled with specialty meetings, which we got to choose what presentations we wanted to attend. I went to CT Dose Reduction: Tying it all together, Working with obese patients in Radiography, and Imaging the human heart with cadaver heart comparison. It was fun to learn about the different specialty subject even though a couple of them did not pertain to what I am currently going to school for. Thursday evening

we had a pinning ceremony, which was a lot of fun. We brought pins from South Dakota and other students and delegates brought pins from their states so we exchanged pins and got to network for quite a while. It was a very cool experience.

Friday morning started the Annual Governance meeting. The first set of meetings in the morning was the ASRT, ARRT, and JRCERT reports and updates. Following those meetings was the community and affiliate open forum. I attended the affiliate open forum which very interesting because it was interesting to hear the discussion from different affiliates of how their state affiliate is run and what they would like to improve. The afternoon consisted of the first business meetings. It was good to be in on the meeting because it helped fill us in on what was going to be discussed the next couple days. Friday evening we went to the opening ceremony at the Headquarters office of the ASRT. It was an absolutely beautiful building and fun to see where all the national work is put in place.

Saturday was another day full of meetings. The morning consisted of the by--laws open forum and commission hearing. The morning meeting was exciting to be in on as there was much discussion and it was good to see people being assertive for how things are stated in each law so that it governs all purposes for each respective specialty. The afternoon meetings were chapter meetings. We got to select three chapter meetings to attend. I attended Radiography, Computed Tomography, and Mammography. Although I have not studied a specialty it was still interesting to here their reports, updates, and discussion on the by--law changes addressed in the morning open forum.

Saturday night was a very special evening. It was the Honor's Evening event where chosen people were inducted as fellows or life members of the ASRT. It was an extra special

event because we got to see Mitzi Drey, our own technologist, get inducted as a fellow. It takes a lot of work and dedication to even get nominated, let alone chosen to be inducted as a fellow/life member. It was nice to see that the hard work of these individuals is what makes this organization not only run but grow as well.

Sunday morning we wrapped up the meetings with the second business meeting. That meeting was very interesting because we tied together all the information we had been discussing the past two days. It was good to see them implant different wording in a couple of the by--laws that had been discussed in the open forum or chapter meetings

and then the new wording was voted on by The House of Delegates. Some of the new by-laws were passed and some were not so that was also good to see. Sunday evening there was the installation of officers and the new president into the ASRT but I was not involved with that meeting.

Overall this was an amazing experience as both a student and as a person working in the Radiology profession. It was a great way to network with other students, technologists from other states and my own, educators, and those involved with the different national organizations. I feel this experience is going to help me grow as a future technologist and I am looking forward to growing more with these organizations in the future.

ASRT Summary 7/16/2013 Erin Ernst

First of all I would like to thank the SDSRT for choosing me to represent South Dakota during the ASRT National Conference. I truly appreciate every meeting and seminar I was able

to attend. I learned far more than I ever thought possible. It sparked great interest in me to continue being involved in the professional society after I graduate and get a job as a rad tech. I eventually hope to be involved in the ASRT after gaining experience by being active in our state society. I also hope to encourage the new freshman to apply for the Student Leadership Development Program and SDSRT Student Internship positions.

The Student Leadership Program started with a meet and greet the first night we arrived. We had a dinner and time to meet with other students and mentors. I sat with students from Oregon, Illinois, and Kentucky. It was very interesting to hear about their programs and compare them to my own. The next morning I attended the Education Symposium. The very first speaker was my favorite of the whole conference. He was a doctor from New York who spoke about ethics. Through the use of case studies and tough questions he made everyone think twice about what the term ethics really means. The next few seminars were specific to the students. For the first meeting a few people from the ASRT Board came to talk to us about the basics of the society and how the business meetings would be run. The next meeting a representative from the ARRT came to talk to us about the registry. He gave us the basics of the test, information regarding how to apply to take the test, and pointers on how to study. Both the meetings were very informative. The rest of the day we were given the chance to attend seminars pertaining to different modalities. That evening we had a meet and greet with the pin exchange. This was also one of my favorite things during the conference. It was awesome to collect pins and meet people from many different states who share the same passion for radiology as I do.

Friday morning everyone attended the updates from the ASRT, JCERT, and ARRT. I witnessed many discussions about different events that were taking place with these organizations. I was honored to be able to stand in front of the other members of the conference and voice my support for the state affiliation with the student pilot program. It was special to be from one of only six states to be a part of that program. That afternoon the flag ceremony and the House of Delegates first business meeting took place. Later that evening we took a trip to the new ASRT office for the ribbon cutting ceremony and tours of the new space. It was beautiful and it was very encouraging knowing that the ASRT was able to pay off the whole building and construction costs without taking out even a small loan.

Saturday was the Commission Hearing and Bylaws Open Forum in the morning with chapter meetings in the afternoon. I attended the radiography, CT, and cardiovascular interventional meetings. The topics discussed at the meetings were very interesting. Something of wide concern was shielding, when should you do it, when shouldn't you, etc. Many people had different opinions on the topic and even though no one opinion was considered "correct" it was very interesting to hear the many different points of view. Saturday night was the honor's evening. The ceremony was very nice and it was very exciting to see one of our own SDSRT members receive a Fellow Award through the ASRT.

Sunday morning included the House of Delegates Second Business Meeting. We then had a break down meeting for the Student Leadership Development participants where we discussed the pros and cons of the program. All of the participants then received a certificate of completion for the program. One of the things I really enjoyed about the trip was getting to spend so much time with everyone from South Dakota. A lot of the leadership program

participants had representatives from their state that did not even acknowledge they had students there or spend any time with them. I really appreciated that much of the down time we all had was spent together.

Once again I want to thank the SDSRT for choosing me to attend the ASRT Annual Conference. I had a great time learning and networking with many of the students from all around the country. Being a part of this program has opened my eyes to the efforts and great results that come from professional societies. I look forward to being a part of these societies for many years to come.