

2014 ASRT House of Delegates Report
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The ASRT Annual Governance and House of Delegates meetings were held June 25th through the 29th in Orlando, FL. I had the honor of representing South Dakota and the SDSRT as the South Dakota Junior Delegate. The events were attended by 149 voting Delegates, attendees of the Education Symposium, graduates of the Leadership Academy, participants of the Student Leadership Development Program, and several others. Those present from South Dakota included Sharon Wartenbee, Beth Weber, Mitzi Drey, Megan Gilbertson, Andrea Kindvall, Benjamin Davis, Kayla Purrington, Whitney Bartels and Kevin Lawrence.

The event began with a pin exchange and Vendor Expo. This is always a great chance to catch up with others I've met at RT in DC, past ASRT Conferences or from the ASRT office before all of the meetings begin.

ASRT CEO Sal Martino gave an update on the ASRT. Membership growth rate is slow but continues to increase. The ASRT maintains CE records for nearly 150,000 technologists and is the largest organization for medical imaging professionals. Dr. Martino also said the ASRT was refocusing its legislative efforts to concentrate on state advocacy, and would be discontinuing RT in DC. One method of affiliate support is the Affiliate Advocacy Program. The SDSRT participates in this program to educate its members and address legislative concerns within the state of South Dakota.

Dr. Martino also announced the development of the Affiliate Financial Assistance Program. Beginning in October 2014, all eligible affiliates in good standing with the ASRT will either receive a \$2,000 payment per year or \$1 per member residing in that state, whichever is greater. The SDSRT Board of Directors plans to review the terms and criteria to participate in this program.

At the Affiliate Open Forum we discussed the Affiliate Development Program, which the SDSRT has participated in. One of the results of our involvement in this program is our newly renovated website, www.sdsrt.org. We also discussed the Student Leadership Development Program. This continues to be a very successful program which allows students from each participating affiliate to attend the meetings and see what the ASRT is all about. Kayla Purrington and Whitney Bartels were our participants from South Dakota, and they did a marvelous job representing us.

The House of Delegates reviewed four proposed bylaw amendments. The first amendment further defined eligibility for the Graduate Bridge membership, which is intended for those who have graduated from an accredited program in their initial medical imaging or radiation therapy discipline within the past 24 months. The other proposed amendments all sought to make the Military Chapter equal to the other chapters and further defined delegate requirements and qualifications.

The Commission Hearings included discussion on practice standards and position statements. Of particular interest was a late motion to remove recognition of registered cardiovascular invasive specialist (RCIS) certification as a post primary certification from the Cardiovascular Interventional Practice Standards. It was later decided to pass an amendment that would allow the Practice Standards subcommittee to review recognition of RCIS without the House directing that the recognition be removed.

Another hot topic was the issue of digital imaging and post processing. After much discussion the House adopted this position statement:

It is the position of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists that an image obtained for a prescribed projection in a digital imaging system or series be assigned only to that specific projection and not be altered by post processing in order to be represented as another projection.

In similar fashion, a position statement concerning digital image cropping or masking brought forth great concern. The House decided that digital cropping and masking is not acceptable and that images should be submitted for interpretation with all exposed anatomy on an image present. The position statement adopted reads:

It is the position of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists that a digital image should not be cropped or masked such that it eliminates areas of exposure from the image that is presented for interpretation. Pre-exposure collimation of the x-ray beam is necessary to comply with the principle of ALARA. To determine that exposed anatomy on an image is not significant or of diagnostic value is a medical decision and is therefore outside of the scope of practice for a radiologic technologist.

The second seating of the House of Delegates began early on Sunday morning. Thanks to all of the discussions held by voting members of the House throughout the event, little debate was left by Sunday and we were able to finish all business in good time. The House also voted Amanda Garlock Corbin from Washington as the Speaker of the House, and Mike Odgren from Colorado as the Vice Speaker.

We attended the Honors Evening and watched as two people were awarded with Life Membership and three people were elevated to Fellow. This is always an inspiring event to attend, and it's wonderful to recognize these people for their professional achievements. We also attended the ASRT Installation of Officers and President's Reception to meet the new officers and visit with our colleagues and friends before heading home.