

Thank you. I am very honored and humbled to be receiving this award. Some of you may remember the first year I was on the Board, as the student director nine years ago. It was here in Cincinnati, and I sat right down there at the far end next to Francine Todd herself. Oh how I have grown. There is no way this would have happened without the influences many of you all have had on me.

There are probably not many people sitting in here that haven't influenced me. First, I would like to thank my Mom for introducing me to the profession. She was a Radiologic Technologist for over thirty years and, for the last few years, we worked side-by-side.

Next, I would like to thank Terri and Nina, my awesome educators from The Ohio State University that have always been there to encourage involvement and set high standards. As a matter of fact, Julie spoke of people taking a leap of faith in you this morning in the opening ceremony and these were the first two who did that for me. After they suggested the student leader program, I had no idea the number of people, and the amount of passion I would encounter. From Nikki and Leisa taking me to RT in DC, Trish continuing my involvement on CE committee after graduation, Tracy's lifelong learning speech, Angie making me laugh, being nominated for the ASRT OSRT Delegate, and the list goes on and on. What I am trying to say is it is because of people like you, that people like me have succeeded in this manner. Bob Proctor once said "A mentor is someone who sees more talent and ability within you, than you see in yourself, and helps bring it out of you."

Aside from the OSRT, Ohio Health has allowed me to be involved in so many growth opportunities and I thank them for that, in addition to the supportive co-workers I have. As you heard and probably realize, this past year has been very busy and time consuming with career related activities. I'm not real sure sometimes how I handle the work load, but do I thank God for the sanity to be able to keep moving forward successfully.

One important thing to remember is that I also had a full time job as a technologist taking care of patients and that has been the most professionally rewarding. Sister Mary Laretta once said "To be successful, the first thing to do is fall in love with your work." The passion is evident when you do this and beyond rewarding. There is nothing better than leaving work every day with at least one patient saying, "you can tell you love your job", or "you're really good at what you do." When speaking to students I usually say don't make it just a job, make it your career. Remember--Jobs are owned by the company, you own your career! – Earl Nightingale

On a final note, Linda and I sat on the panel for the student open forum on Thursday evening and the question arose of technologist membership yearly dues. I instantly looked it up on the website to be sure I was accurate since I pay for every three years. I announced the \$35 amount and we moved on. After thinking about it later that evening, I should have said the mentors of this society and professional growth that I have experienced is priceless.

Thank you all again, I am honored!

Presented by Emma Palmer, BS, RT(R)(CT)
Acceptance Speech for 2014 Technologist of the Year Award