



Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists

Bimonthly Newsletter of the OSRT

July/August 2016 • Volume 43 • Issue 2



Lauren's Letters

In this issue

Lauren's Letters P. 1

ASRT Annual Meeting P. 2

Legislative Corner P. 3

Student Cardinal Rays P. 4

This and That P. 5

"I'm sorry, but we have to let you go". Those are words that none of us want to hear related to our profession or job. However, if we don't advocate for ourselves and our profession this might happen to some technologists. In the past few years our profession and responsibilities have been challenged to the point that jobs have been in jeopardy. This compromises quality patient care. I want everyone to know that the Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists is watching the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) rules and legislation very closely. "The OSRT will advocate for medical imaging and radiologic science professionals by advancing professional practice to enhance the quality of patient care". That is our mission statement and we live it. The Health Policy committee and our legislative consultants have been working hard and represent Ohio medical imaging and therapy professionals at the Radiation Advisory Council (RAC) meetings. Ultimately we are only a representation of the profession and value your input from the frontline.

You might be asking, "What can I do to help protect my profession"? There are a number of ways that you can help, and they are easier than you might think.

Comment! You have probably noticed emails from the OSRT with Health Policy information and asking for you to submit a comment. It only takes a few minutes to review over ODH rules and other legislative issues and to submit a comment. The more comments received, the louder our voice.

Join the OSRT! If you are already a member – thank you! Tell your colleagues how the OSRT is the watchdog for our profession and ask them to join. If you are not a member, we would love to have you as one!

Renew your OSRT membership! When your membership expires, please renew.

Go to the OSRT website! The OSRT website has a wealth of information. Look under the Health Policy tab or Latest News for up to date communication. www.osrt.org

For our legislative consultants and Health Policy committee to monitor action at the statehouse and the ODH we have to have members. As much as I would like it to be otherwise, being a leading advocate does come at a cost and part of membership dues go toward legislative action. The OSRT is only as strong as our members!

-Lauren

OSRT Was Well Represented at the ASRT Annual Meeting

Viva Las Vegas! The 2016 ASRT Annual Governance and House of Delegates meeting was held June 23-26th in Las Vegas, Nevada. The OSRT was well represented by a number of individuals across multiple modalities.



Back Row: Angie Arnold, Nina Kowalczyk, Lucas Gross, Richard States, Ruth Hackworth, Tiffany Roman, Lizzy Hemme, Stephanie Bachman, Debra Myers, Emma Palmer

Front Row: Jennifer Paison, Jackie Turk, Michelle Retig, Lauren Huffman, Heather Moore

Not Pictured: Phil Ballinger, Julie Gill, and Lauren Mack

Thanks for representing Ohio so well!

Ohio Affiliate Delegates: Angie Arnold and Lauren Huffman

Thanks to the following Ohioans who represented their specialty for the nation!

Chapter Delegates:

Kevin Evans, Bone Densitometry
Emma Palmer, Computed Tomography (Chairperson)
Heather Moore, Education
Jackie Turk, Magnetic Resonance Imaging
Gary Greathouse, Management (Alternate)
Dr. Richard States, Nuclear Medicine (Alternate)
Ruth Hackworth, Radiation Therapy (Vice Chairperson)
Shellie Warino (Alternate)
Debra Myers, Sonography

Participants in the ASRT Leadership Academy: Lauren Huffman, Tiffany Roman, and Shellie Warino

Participants in the Student Leadership Development Program: Michelle Rettig (Cuyahoga Community College) and Jennifer Paison (Cleveland Clinic School of Diagnostic Imaging)

Please visit www.orst.org for a complete report.

OSRT Wins ASRT Foundation Contest!

The OSRT took 1st Place in the ASRT Foundation's donation raffle contest! We are excited that the OSRT sold the most tickets and received \$750.00! Thank you to those who donated and listed Ohio as your affiliate.



OSRT ADVOCACY IN THE LEGISLATIVE CORNER

-Proposed amendments to Radiologic Licensure Rule 3701-72-04 of the Ohio Administrative Code are posted for public comment. These proposed amendments were reviewed by the Radiation-Generating Equipment Committee (REC) and other members of the public attending the REC meetings. Please review the rules and provide any comments that you may have to the Ohio Department of Health at ODHrules@odh.ohio.gov by July 10, 2016. The draft proposed amendments to the rules can be found at <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/en/rules/drafts/3701-72.aspx>

-The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has introduced a proposal that would allow nurses to, "Order, perform, supervise, and interpret laboratory and imaging studies." The ASRT strongly opposes this measure as only registered radiologic technologists should perform procedures that use ionizing radiation. Certified nurse practitioners do not have the education, experience or skills required to perform highly technical procedures like x-ray, computed tomography, nuclear medicine, vascular-interventional or bone densitometry. This proposal is a threat to patients and registered radiologic technologists.

The OSRT encourages all radiologic technologists to join in our effort to oppose this shortsighted proposal. Please submit your comments to the federal government and let them know that you strongly oppose the VA's efforts to bypass patient safety measures by allowing nonqualified certified nursing professionals to perform medical imaging procedures. You can submit comments to the Federal Register at <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/05/25/2016-12338/advanced-practice-registered-nurses#h-4>. (Copy and paste this link which will take you directly to the comment page: <https://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=VA-2016-VHA-0011>.) The public comment period is open until July 25, 2016. More details can be found on the OSRT website at <http://www.osrt.org/news/407-certified-nurse-practitioners-performing-medical-imaging-just-say-no>.

CALL FOR NEW MEMBERS

The experienced and dedicated men and women that lead our organization work very hard to make sure that our jobs and our field remain untouched by government policy. This is not possible without a supportive membership, so please spread the word to your student, technologist, professional, and education colleagues. In addition, the OSRT provides you with some of the greatest networking resources, health policy information updates, opportunities to meet other professionals, continuing education and so much more! Help us improve the advocacy power the OSRT has for our profession.



Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists

Bimonthly Student Edition

July/August 2016 • Volume 16 • Issue 2

Hello Everyone! For those of you who are on summer vacation from summer classes, I hope you are all enjoying your break, and for those of you, like myself, who don't, I hope you are continuing to learn and work hard toward the Radiologic Technology degree that we're all striving for! Whatever the case may be, summer break or otherwise, there are two events taking place this summer that I would like to share with all of you.

Firstly, I am thrilled to report that I attended the ASRT Annual Governance and House of Delegates Meeting June 24-26 at the Tropicana hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. I witnessed the hard-working professionals on the forefront of radiology on the national level so that I am able to report back to Ohio students. The ASRT website describes, "The ASRT House of Delegates meets annually to debate and vote on motions and proposed changes to the ASRT Bylaws and to adopt clinical practice and educational standards. During the meeting, delegates' primary duties are to represent the radiologic science profession and their affiliates or chapters and to take action on issues that affect professional practice."

This brings me to the second issue at hand: the Department of Veterans Affairs is proposing an amendment that would allow advanced practice nurses to "order, perform, supervise, and interpret laboratory and imaging studies". This means that certain nurses could both perform and interpret x-ray, CT, MRI, mammography, DEXA, exams and more without the level of training that radiologic technologists undergo to ensure the safety of our patients, the quality of our diagnostic images, and the proper use of ionizing radiation. I am personally urging all of you to write a short statement of opposition explaining why you disagree with the amendment. If enough opposition is not submitted by July 25, 2016, the amendment may pass and could have massive ramifications to the security of our jobs and the future of radiology as we know it. The instructions for submitting a statement are as follows:

- 1) Go to: www.federalregister.gov
- 2) At the top right you will find a "Search Documents" search bar, search for "Advanced Practice Registered Nurses"
- 3) Click on the first link that the search returns (Dated 5/25/2016)
- 4) Take a moment to read over the amendment. Then, at the top right of this page, click the green button that reads "Submit a Formal Comment"
- 5) Enter your personal information as well as your comment of opposition. Submit.

Although we are only students, we must help protect the profession that we will one day call our own, and the patients who undergo radiologic imaging studies. Please take the time to aid in the fight! Submit a statement of opposition, and enjoy the remainder of your summer!

Stephanie Bachman, Student Director, Bachmasl@mail.uc.edu





OSRT VISION

The OSRT will be the voice of Ohio medical imaging and radiologic science professionals.

OSRT MISSION

The OSRT will advocate for medical imaging and radiologic science professionals by advancing professional practice to enhance the quality of patient care.

The Foundation Corner

It won't be long before it is time for technologists and students to submit their applications for OSRTERF grants and competitions. The Foundation Directors have been working very hard to revise the application process. We are also editing the forms to provide as much information and guidance as possible. The OSRTERF is striving to be a mentor for all who desire to participate in the competitions at the OSRT Annual Meeting. When the changes have been finalized, you will be the first to know! All students, members, active members and educators will receive an email directing you to the OSRT website and the rules and applications for grants and competitions.

Enjoy the rest of a beautiful summer!

Sheryl Bacon

Chairperson, OSRTERF



Thanks to you, our dedicated members, for your continued support!

Do you have a topic you would like to see included in the next edition? Send it in so others can hear your voice!

A Note from the Editor

Hello readers!

I was lucky enough to have had the opportunity to attend the ASRT Annual Governance and House of Delegates meeting with many of our fellow Ohio technologists.

It was a great opportunity to get an up close look as to why decisions are made within our profession. The chapter and affiliate delegates were inspiring. They are true professionals and take great pride in our field. We are lucky to have these individuals from all over the country representing us, but we are especially lucky to have such a strong presence from Ohio. Thanks to all of these dedicated folks for their hard work and experience.

Thanks for reading! I welcome feedback or suggestions for improvement.

Please feel free to contact me: hemmea@ucmail.uc.edu

Thanks!

Lizzy Hemme

Cardinal Rays Editor

