

**Society of Skeletal Radiology
Annual Business Meeting
Loews Ventana Canyon Resort, Tucson, Arizona
Sunday, March 7, 2004
Minutes**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. B.J. Manaster, President, at 8:00 am. There being 98 members in attendance, a quorum was present.

II. Welcome

Dr. Manaster welcomed all attendees to the 27th Annual Meeting of the Society of Skeletal Radiology.

III. Approval of the March 2, 2003 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the Annual Business Meeting of March 2, 2003 were presented for discussion.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as presented

ACTION: The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Officer and Committee Reports

Secretary's Report

Dr. Cheryl Petersilge welcomed all to the meeting and provided briefing on plans for the 2005 meeting. She announced that the SSR 2005 Annual Meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida. Even though the SSR has held previous meetings in Florida, this is the first meeting being held in Orlando. She noted that the weather in Florida at this time of year fully meets SSR expectations with a high of 75°F and a low of 55°F. The meeting will be held at the Portofino Bay Hotel at Universal Orlando. It is a 5-star hotel managed by Loews. The meeting will be held on March 13-16, 2005, one week later than the usual time for the SSR meeting. Dr. Petersilge invited all to mark their calendars for the 2005 meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Dr. Mark Kransdorf reported that the financial health of the SSR is good. He stated that the Society is in good financial position. He presented financial results for the period ending December 31, 2003 and noted that net worth of the Society has increased by over 35% during the past 12 months. He reported that the Society continues to improve its net worth but has not yet achieved the goal of having 2-3 years of financial reserves. With the increased expense of the annual meeting, the goal is becoming larger each year.

Dr. Kransdorf reported that the annual meeting was the single largest expense for the Society. Currently, membership dues help supplement meeting costs. To make the meeting self-sufficient the registration rate for the meeting would have to increase to approximately \$500. The Executive Committee has decided to keep the meeting registration cost at its current level and to continue supplementing meeting revenues with dues revenue to cover the cost of the meeting.

Dr. Kransdorf noted that the SSR Annual Meeting continues to be the best bargain in town with a cost of approximately \$14 per CME hour credit. This compares to similar courses that cost in range of \$30-\$40 per CME credit hour.

President Elect's Report

Dr. Art Newberg welcomed all to the meeting. He noted that the meeting is being held at the best resort in Tucson and every year the Society continues to go upward in the quality of our meeting sites. He noted that the Executive Committee will continue to find outstanding sites for future meetings.

Dr. Newberg thanked all authors and presenters who submitted abstracts for this year's meeting. The deadline for abstract submission was much earlier than previous deadlines and he thanked all for their cooperation in making the new schedule work successfully.

He invited all attendees to actively participate in the meeting. Attendee participation in the sessions and the Question & Answer periods is essential for the success of the meeting. He invited all to submit abstracts for next year's meeting.

He thanked members of the Program Committee, Cheryl Petersilge and Bill Morrison, for their contributions to the planning for this meeting. He thanked Steve Mason and SSR Staff for their hard work in preparing for the meeting. Lastly, he thanked the Exhibiting Companies for their participation in the meeting.

Dr. Newberg introduced the Case of the Day and Focus Sessions scheduled for this year's meeting. He stated the Dr. Dick Daffner will moderate this year's Focus Session on Socioeconomic Issues. He encouraged all members to attend these sessions.

Dr. Newberg welcomed University of Arizona residents to the meeting. He reminder all attendees to complete the CME Evaluation Booklet and the Meeting Questionnaire and submit at the Registration Desk before at the end of the meeting.

Ad Hoc Membership Committee Report

Dr. Carol Andrews presented the report from the Ad Hoc Membership Committee. The committee was formed to study membership and other issues facing the Society. As the Society has grown from a Society of 10 members to one with over 400 members, the Society faces new issues related to this growth and maintaining a degree of intimacy in its activities. The Ad Hoc Membership Committee worked to examine these issues and bring recommendations to the Executive Committee.

Dr. Andrews thanked all of the committee members who participated in this assessment. She stated that the committee was charged with developing recommendations to the following issues:

- How large should the Society become?
- Should the Society be more or less restrictive in membership criteria with regard to the practice of MSK radiology?
- How will the Society's mission change with the changing membership demographics?
- Should Canadian colleagues be allowed the rights of full membership in the Society and will this affect our socioeconomic and political voice in the radiology community?
- Should members be required to meet standards for participation to maintain membership?

Dr. Andrews reported that these issues included in a survey that was sent to all SSR members. Twenty percent of the SSR membership participated in the survey. She noted that the results of the survey were posted to the SSR website. She provided an overview of the survey results and shared some of the comments received in the survey

Dr. Manaster thanked the committee for their efforts. She reported that the Executive Committee considered the committee's recommendations and comments and have approved two actions: (1) a change to the By-Laws that will be voted on later in the meeting to allow full membership for Canadian members, and (2) a modification to the membership rules to require a minimum of 50% time in MSK radiology to become a member and an abiding interest in MSK radiology thereafter. Currently, the rule requires a minimum of 50% time in MSK radiology to become a member and continuing membership. However, this rule is unenforceable and self-selection is preferred for continuing membership.

Auditing Committee Report

Dr. Curtis Hayes provided the Audit Committee Report. He indicated that the committee had reviewed detailed financial reports for the Society and found them to be impeccable and in good standing with no irregularities.

Electronic Communication Committee

Dr. Felix Chew presented the Electronic Communication Committee Report. He noted that the committee has been in operation for 10 years and has maintained the Society's website for 10 years. The Society was one of the earliest radiology sub-specialty societies with their own website. The website has grown and is now an integral part of our operations and over the last 5 years has been self sustaining and making profits based on revenues from job postings and Amazon.com referral fees. He reminded members to "click through" the SSR website when ordering books or other items from Amazon.com.

He stated that he was stepping down after 10 years on the committee and Dr. James Choi will be taking over as the committee chair.

Research Committee

Dr. Mike Recht reported that the Research Committee has been active during the past year. The Research Committee continues to seek ways to foster research within the Society. Last year, the first special research session was held at the annual meeting. It went very well and the research session has been continued and the second session will be held at this year's meeting. The Research Committee is working with the Executive Committee to develop a plan to solicit funds from vendors to establish a research fund within the society to foster research activities. A third item that the Research Committee has worked on was a mentoring program. Unfortunately, there was insufficient interest in this program and this effort has been discontinued.

Residency & Fellowship Committee

Dr. Chuck Resnik presented the report. He indicated that rules to be followed for the fellowship match for 2005 applicants are available for anyone interested. He thanked those participating in the match and invited others who are interested in the match to contact him for additional information. He reported that the 2005 match is going well and will be as good as last year's match.

Rules Committee

Dr. Buckwalter presented the Rules Committee report. He stated that the Rules Committee has taken action to change the bylaws of the SSR to make Canadian members full voting members of the SSR. He stated that previously, Canadian members were considered to be International Members and did not have voting rights in the society. He encouraged all to vote in favor of this change to the By-laws.

Dr. Manaster listed additional changes that the Executive Committee has asked the By-laws Committee to work on during the coming year:

- Reorder the list of objective in the Society's By-laws
- Addition of a Finance Committee
- Committee membership rotation on the Electronic Communications Committee to five years to reflect the learning curve involved in this committee.
- Modify the role of the Standards Committee to avoid overlap with the Socioeconomic Committee and make the ACR Councilor a non-voting member of the Standards Committee to facilitate close working relationships.
- Change to membership rules concerning percentage of practice devoted to MSK radiology.

Socioeconomic Committee:

Dr. Daffner presented the Socioeconomic Committee report. He reported that the primary committee activity during the past year has been planning and organizing the focus session on Socioeconomic

Issues that will be held later in the day. He stated that the biggest issue facing the committee is malpractice and tort reform. He stated that relief is not imminent and the only way to influence tort reform is through the electoral process and becoming more politically active.

Standards Committee

Dr. David Rubin presented the Standard's Committee report. He reported that the Standards Committee has decided to take primary responsibility for drafting new ACR Guidelines that deal with MSK imaging. The committee will start with guidelines dealing with MR Imaging. The ACR Practice Guidelines and Technical Standards are becoming the de facto legal standards and the SSR has not had enough inputs into the development of these standards. The guidelines and standards have the potential to be tied to accreditation and perhaps eventually to reimbursement. Therefore, it is important for the SSR to provide inputs to these standards. Moreover, if SSR does not take an active lead in establishing MSK standards, they could be established by other groups lacking expertise in MSK radiology.

A secondary issue is that the ACR monograph on MSK MR is out of date. Inputs are needed to update this document.

The SSR Research Committee has established a goal of preparing inputs and introducing 12 new guidelines over the next 3 years. This year, the committee plans on preparing standards for knee, shoulder, tumors, and ankle & hind-foot. It takes up to 18 months to implement a change to a standard. It takes up to 18 months to implement a change to a standard. The first drafts are due to ACR by July 1, 2004. He stated that the drafts will be disseminated to SSR membership for comment prior to submission.

V. SSR Representative Reports

Report on the Academy of Radiology Research

Dr. B.J. Manaster reported that the Society continues to provide financial support to the ARR. One of the organization's primary objective was to establish the NIBIB and to get funding for the NIBIB. This objective has been accomplished. The institute issued 10 RFAs during the past year covering various imaging topics. These RFAs have generated responses at more than double the typical NIH response rate. More than 50% of the RFAs have been received from investigators with no previous NIH support. Therefore, the NIBIB is truly opening new areas of research opportunities.

Report on the ACR Council

Dr. Art De Smet provided a report on his participation at the ACR annual meeting as the SSR Councilor. He reported that because of the medicolegal implications of a national standard, the ACR Standards were changed to their new name of ACR Practice Guidelines and Technical Standards. Similarly, because of legal concerns as to the requirement for radiologists to directly communicate all significant findings to referring physicians, a resolution was passed that the practice guideline for communication be revised and discussed at the 2004 meeting.

He stated that in response to the recent advertising efforts of many screening CT companies, the ACR reaffirmed its position that there is no scientific evidence that routine screening by CT is beneficial in an asymptomatic population. He also reported that the new program to train and certify radiologist assistants was supported in principle with a statement defining which roles and responsibilities these individuals should have. There was considerable discussion about the role of radiologist assistants but the resolution was adopted with a significant dissension. Dr. De Smet stated that he will provide more information on this subject during the focus session held later in the day.

Another important change was the elimination of the procedure, which allowed on the floor editing of proposed resolutions with subsequent immediate voting. Occasionally such last minute editing resulted in inappropriately phrased resolutions. Under the new policy a resolution can only be accepted as presented, be rejected or be referred back to the Reference Committee for revision and presentation the following year.

To maintain the a seat on the ACR Council, at least 60% of SSR members must also be ACR members. He encouraged all SSR members to join the ACR to ensure that we maintain our seat on the Council and our voice in this important community.

VI. Membership Committee Report

Dr. Ted Miller presented the Membership Committee report. Dr. Miller reported the SSR membership as follows:

- 346 Full Members
- 16 International Members
- 7 Emeritus Members
- 369 Total Members

He reported that 10 members have been dropped from the membership list for failure to pay dues. Two members were reinstated to membership this past year by seeking reinstatement within one year of being dropped from the membership list.

Dr. Miller reported that 54 persons applied for membership this year, 50 qualified for Full Membership, 3 qualified for International Membership and 1 person did not meet requirements for membership.

A listing of all applicants for membership was provided as a handout to attendees.

VII. Election of New SSR Members

Dr. Manaster presented the listing of SSR applicants as submitted by the SSR Membership Committee for consideration by the membership.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the prospective members be approved as presented by the SSR Membership Committee (list attached).

ACTION: The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Manaster welcomed the new members to the society.

VIII. SSR Bylaws Changes

Dr. Manaster presented the proposed changes to the SSR Bylaws as submitted by the SSR Rules Committee for consideration by the membership. The change being voted on involves changes to make Canadian members Full SSR members.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the proposed bylaws changes be approved as presented by the SSR Rules Committee (revision attached).

ACTION: The motion was unanimously approved.

IX. SSR Nominating Committee

Dr. Manaster thanked committee members who have devoted much time to the Society during the past year and are completing their term:

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|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Felix Chew | Electronic Communication Committee |
| • Kevin McEnery | Electronic Communication Committee |
| • Carol Andrews | Ad Hoc Membership Committee |
| • Bonner Guilford | Ad Hoc Membership Committee |
| • John Hunter | Ad Hoc Membership Committee |
| • David May | Ad Hoc Membership Committee |
| • Ted Miller | Ad Hoc Membership Committee |

- Mark Murphey Ad Hoc Membership Committee
- Chris Nusser Ad Hoc Membership Committee
- Hilary Umans Ad Hoc Membership Committee

Dr. Andy Sonin reported that the Nominating Committee considered applicants for the Electronic Communication Committee. The following persons were nominated for committee assignments in 2004:

- Jim Choi Chair, Electronic Communication Committee
- Catherine Roberts Electronic Communication Committee

Dr. Sonin stated that the Nominating Committee considered nominations for officers of the Society. He reported the following nominations for Society Officers:

- Treasurer Carol Andrews
- Secretary Mark Kransdorf
- President-Elect Cheryl Petersilge

Dr. Sonin encouraged all attendees to complete an application form to serve on SSR Committees for 2005.

X. Election of New SSR Officers

Dr. Manaster presented the nominated officers as submitted by the SSR Nominating Committee for consideration by the membership.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the nominated officers be approved as presented by the SSR Nominating Committee.

ACTION: The motion was unanimously approved.

XI. Announcement

Best Paper Awards

Dr. Manaster reported that the SSR typically awards a best-paper award each year and that author is invited to give their presentation at the RSNA Annual Meeting. She reported that another best-paper award is being initiated at this year's meeting. The second best-paper award will be awarded to a junior member to present their work at the International Skeletal Society (ISS) meeting. The person receiving this best-paper award will receive an invitation to the entire ISS meeting (fees waived) and the SSR will provide up to \$1,500 as a travel award. The meeting will be held in Malta.

Award for Best Paper at the 2003 Meeting

The award for the best paper at the 2003 Annual Meeting was presented to Dr. Joseph Martini.

Recognition of Dr. BJ Manaster, Outgoing SSR President

Dr. Newberg thanked Dr. Manaster for her service to the Society. He especially thanked her for her leadership during a period a growth and expansion. He presented a plaque to Dr. Manaster to recognize her contributions to the SSR.

XII. Adjournment

There being no further business, on motion made, seconded, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am.