

# 2016 Summer Newsletter

Can you believe a quarter of a year has passed since I sent out the inaugural Society of Skeletal Radiology president's newsletter? Well, it has, so if you haven't read the first one yet, now might be a good time. Herein, please find the second installment of "Why It's So Great To Be a Member of the SSR!"



## **SSR Committees**

On July 15, 2016, the SSR held its first quarterly teleconference of the committee chairs in an effort to better coordinate and streamline the activities of each committee and to foster an environment of communication and cooperation between them. Based on the direction provided in the report of a Strategic Planning Committee that was convened last year, each committee chair outlined the planned activities for his/her group over the coming year. Highlights are as follows:

**Executive Committee:** The major goal of the EC this year is to encourage and support greater autonomy and interaction within and among the various Society committees; this teleconference was a major step in that direction (previously, committee chairs met only once a year during the annual meeting, and largely took direction from the EC regarding committee initiatives). The second goal is to foster more robust relationships with other musculoskeletal imaging societies around the world to encourage mutually beneficial synergies for the collective memberships. Such an arrangement has been formalized with the European Society of Skeletal Radiology (ESSR) which allows up to 10 SSR members to attend the ESSR Annual Scientific Meeting in Bari, Italy June 15-17, 2017:

We are now working on forging a similar agreement with the Australasian Musculoskeletal Imaging Group (AMSIG). Finally, the EC has put the final touches on an important **member's survey** that will be distributed imminently to all Society members. The results of this exercise will have a strong influence on the direction that Society energy and resources are allocated, so please be sure to take the time to fill yours out completely when you get it.

**Electronic Communications Committee:** This is a busy year for Jeff Brody (chair) and his group. The major goal for this year is to put into place a CME source for SSR members to access on the Society's website. Selected electronic posters from the 2016 meeting will be made available for SA-CME credit, and both SAM lectures from the meeting will be available for both CME and SAM

credit, **free of charge to all SSR members!** This exciting new feature of your Society website should be live sometime in the fall, so keep watching for updates on the site. As a natural outgrowth of this, the committee chairs agreed that the formation of a new Electronic Learning Committee should be chartered and be responsible for non-annual meeting CME content for the Society. The ECC continues its efforts to improve the function and content of the Society website in other areas as well. Input from the forthcoming member's survey will help guide these efforts.



**Finance Committee** (Donna Blankenbaker, Society Treasurer and chair): The Society would like to transition to electronic (web) payments of Society dues to the degree possible in an effort to save costs of mailing. If you haven't paid your 2016-7 dues yet, please do so soon! There will be formation of an ad-hoc Sponsorship and Vendor Relationships Subcommittee to promote the SSR to vendors and encourage support of our meeting and activities; if you (or another member you know) has connections that might prove valuable in this way, please let Donna know!

**Historical Committee** (Bonner Guilford, chair): The timeline project (an interactive historical archive and repository of important moments in SSR history) is moving along well, and will hopefully become part of the website in the near future. Look for a call for materials that the Committee needs to fill gaps as they identify them sometime in the coming weeks. In addition, this group is planning a virtual "walk-through" timeline at the 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in Santa Barbara next March, which sounds really cool. (Hopefully there will NOT be a holographic representation of Chuck Resnik in a swimsuit sitting in a hot tub.)

**Membership Committee** (Elaine Gould, chair): We already have 20 approved applicants for MIT (Member-In-Training) status in the Society, and another 20 in process. This is a great start. If you are a program director for an MSK fellowship, please remind your fellows of this great opportunity to reap the benefits of SSR membership at a fraction of the usual cost! The Committee is also working to develop a proposal for a mentorship program to engage MIT's after completion of their fellowships.

**Nominating Committee** (Jonathan Luchs, chair): In an effort to get more SSR members interested in committee work onto a committee as expediently as possible, Jonathan will be sending a list of all [committee vacancies](#) to committee chairs along with a list of members who have expressed such an interest. Some committee chairs indicated that engagement and participation among their committee members can vary significantly, and a decision was made to craft language into the

bylaws whereby each committee chair will have to approve continued participation of all committee members on an annual basis based on performance. Hopefully, this will better ensure efficient and equitable distribution of responsibilities in the business of the Society going forward.

**Practice Parameters and Technical Standards Committee** (Adam Zoga, chair): Adam will be contacting key members of other societies, including ACR and AIUM, to better integrate the SSR into key policy and standards creation.



**Program Committee** (Laura Bancroft, President-Elect and chair): As you know by now, the timeframe for abstract submission has been moved up significantly this year to allow for publishing of the abstracts in Skeletal Radiology and on the SSR website in a timely fashion. Highlights of the 40th SSR annual meeting, to be held March, 2017 at the Bacara Resort in Santa Barbara, will be 2 SAMs: “Peripheral Nerve Imaging” and “Imaging of Metabolic Disease and Osteoporosis”. Dan Wessel has assumed Case of the Day duties. The meeting will include a special tribute to the previous presidents, so you don’t want to miss it! Veritas is working with the Committee to offer up a variety of social activities for members and their guests, so stay tuned for details.

**Residency and Fellowship Education Committee** (Ted Miller, chair): Ted’s committee will be uploading a suggested reading list and a set of milestones for MSK fellows to the website imminently; keep an eye out for this resource. They are also working on a survey for residents who have completed R4 MSK electives to gauge what impact these “mini-fellowships” have had on their career choices, and is working collaboratively with the Nominating Committee on resident and fellow engagement strategies.

**Rules Committee** (Wendy McCurdy, chair): Based on the above activities, this will be a busy year for the Rules Committee. A new Electronic Learning Committee will be added to the SSR bylaws as a permanent committee, charged with all issues regarding CME activities outside the annual meeting (since this bylaws change requires a vote of membership at the annual meeting, an ad-hoc interim committee will be created temporarily to serve this function). They will also craft language regarding reappointment of committee members as outlined in the Nominating Committee section above.

**Socioeconomic Affairs Committee** (Sailaja Yadavalli, chair): The SEC is preparing a helpful list of links to various economic and political web sites and resources germane to the practice of MSK radiology. Look for it soon!



## **Education**

## **Corner**

*We would like to specifically note that these are links to "Courses regarding outcomes research and comparative effectiveness in radiology", particularly as it pertains to the SSR seed grant program.*

### **NYU**

Value of Imaging through Comparative Effectiveness (VOICE): A Collaborative Training Program in Biomedical Big Data and Comparative Effectiveness Research

### **RSNA**

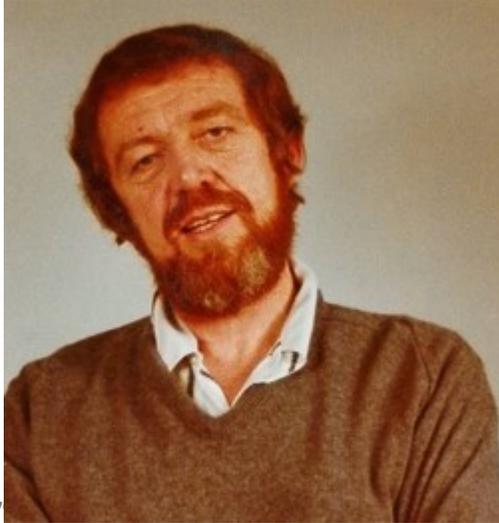
RSNA/ASNR Comparative Effectiveness Research Training (CERT) Program

### **UCSF**

The UCSF Virtual Symposium on Radiation Safety in Computed Tomography. *An educational resource for all who are interested in learning about safety in medical imaging.*

## **Society News**

**Sad news arrived recently; former SSR president, Cosmo Haun, MD passed away on July 13, 2016. His obituary reads as follows:**



*Dr. Cosmo L. Haun, 82, died at his home of Parkinson's disease on July 13, 2016.*

*He was born in Mohawk, TN on August 26, 1933. His father was dairy farmer Iros Haun, and his mother Clara Ailshie taught at a one-room school. Cosmo formed his strong work ethic beginning at age five with dawn milking chores. His education began at a one-room-school but he graduated his local high school as a National Merit Scholar.*

*He entered University of Tennessee as an Agriculture major, later specializing in Agriculture Economics, but finally decided a future of farming was not for him and switched to pre-Med, graduating head of his class in 1959 from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Memphis, TN. Described as "the sleepy looking guy in the back of the room taking chicken-scratch notes," he refused to ever pull an "all-nighter" to study. When he first told his parents that he intended to be a radiologist, they thought he wanted to go into radio.*

*He served his residency in Jackson, MS the same year as the book *The Help* took place, and he called those the worst years of his life. The young doctor reported a story of sheer repugnance for racial discrimination commonplace throughout the hospital. His superiors reacted with a great furor when he threatened to roll a black patient into a white patients' area, almost ending his career before it began. Although he begged to be placed in another residency program elsewhere, his superiors vowed he would remain or forget the practice of medicine.*

*In 1965, he landed in academic medicine at Emory University Clinic. He taught medical students and later became a full professor at Emory School of Radiology. He remained for twenty years during which time he received many honors. He was a founding member of the Georgia Chapter of the Roentgen Ray Society and served as president. He was elected to the prestigious Fellow of the American College of Radiology. In 1984 he entered private practice as Chief of Radiology at Gainesville's Lanier Park Hospital, remaining until it closed. His practice continued with part-time associations with various places including Open MRI, finally retiring after 51 years of practicing medicine.*

*He is survived by Cherie, his wife of 37 years, and three sons. Eldest son, Gregory Cosmo*

*Haun and wife Jennifer are parents of grandchildren Jaden and Silas Haun who reside in Portland, OR. Douglas Geoffrey Haun and wife Jessica are also from Portland. Alan Cosmo Haun resides in Gainesville."*



Lastly, please consider donating to our Research, Education, and Development (RED) Fund and/or the Patrick Liu Innovation Award Fund.

[It's easy to do on the website!](#) The Society has initiated a seed grant program to help kick-start research projects for our younger members, and we need funds to get it rolling. And given that next year's meeting is the 40th annual SSR convocation, the Society has created a "40 by 40" campaign in an effort to raise \$40,000 from its members in time for that auspicious occasion next March. There's a "femur of progress (designed by Bill Morrison, Past President) on the website. [Move the needle!](#)

## **Save The Date**

SSR 40th Anniversary Meeting, Santa Barbara, California ~ March 19-22, 2017. See you there!



Stay engaged, plan to attend the meeting next March, and look for and complete your member's survey when it comes! And, as always, let us know what you think!

**Andy Sonin, MD, FACR**  
*SSR President*