



The Imagist



**NYSSRS President
Barbara Neumann, RT**

NYSSRS Blog is Open For Comments

If you are reading this newsletter you must be aware of the nyssrs.org website. What you may not know is that the blog that can be found on the homepage is open for comments. Blogs are basically an easy way to have open discussions on is-

ues. Authors are identified and given permission to write posts on an issue they wish to opine about. Everyone who reads it has the ability to comment, even anonymously if desired. The blog is a great way to bring local state or professional issues to the

forefront, to make others in our profession aware of what is going on or to express concerns about issues that make you unhappy. All technologists may join the discussion – spread the word! ♣

Resolution Passed by House of Delegates Demonstrates Lack of Knowledge

By Paulette Peterson R.T.(R)(M)(QM)

The resolution passed by the 2007 House of Delegates shows a lack of knowledge by the delegates about what is happening throughout this vast country. The resolution states that the ASRT endorses the Associate Degree as entry level into the profession, completely disregarding certificate programs. This resolution is flawed in many ways.

First it ignores the fact that certificate programs exist in several venues including the military, proprietary schools, 4 year colleges and universities and in post baccalaureate programs.

It also implies that graduates of these programs are somehow inferior because they are missing some classical liberal education. Well, a

study I conducted shows that 65% of the students in certificate programs have either completed an Associate, Baccalaureate, or Masters, have some college credit or are taking concurrent courses.

Another fact is that of the certificate programs that have agreements with colleges an average of 48 credits is given to graduates from certificate programs. That is close to the standard associate degree in most two year colleges.

Many people think this endorsement will elevate the profession. Yet another flawed notion. Look to our friend the nurses as a model. Nurses have always been considered professional and for most of their history thousands were educated in cer-

tificate programs that were hospital based. Since the leadership of the nursing profession started pushing for higher degrees the only result has been a huge shortage in the field. Ask our friend in physical therapy with their PhD's how happy they are to be working in positions equivalent to a staff after all that education and the expense that goes with it.

The bottom line is that I am not even sure a definition of entry level is necessary. But if a resolution much be in place then let us write one that is accurate and plausible, one that celebrates our diversity, embraces all of our colleagues and serves as a model for other health professions. ♣

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Annual Conference a Great Success

The Otesaga Hotel provided a spectacular venue for the 2007 annual conference. Grand Victorian charm and five star service was offered to all who attended. The hotel offers the American food plan. This plan includes the room, all of the food, tax and tips in one

price. Attendees raved about the quality of the food and the ambiance of the facility. Baseball fans also had a chance to explore Cooperstown, home to the Baseball Hall of Fame and charming shops and restaurants. President-elect Dieder Costic said "perhaps it is

time we recognize all of our hard work with a little pampering". In addition to the great atmosphere attendees received relevant and interesting lectures from great speakers for twelve continuing education credits. ♣

Board Objects to ASRT Affiliation Agreement

The affiliation agreement received from the ASRT was flawed in many ways. There were incorrect references to the bylaws, items were listed out of order and the most troubling was a clause where the ASRT could drop and affiliate with or without cause.

In 2007 The NYSSRS met all criteria required to maintain affiliation with the ASRT. President Barbara Neumann submitted bylaws which were revised at the 2006 annual business meeting to be "in agreement" with those of the ASRT. She also assured that all board members were ASRT members, submitted a financial report and documented that legal tax information was in order.

The new affiliation agreement was in response to an ASRT bylaws revision and policy that will now require annual renewal of the affiliation agreement. This is a major operational change since the New York State Society first became an affiliate of the ASRT in the nineteen forties.

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Concerned, President Neumann hired an attorney to review the document and give an opinion. The attorney identified several areas where NYSSRS objected and wrote a letter to the ASRT expressing the concerns of the Board. After holding discussions with the ASRT Board, staff and legal counsel a second affiliate agreement was sent out that remained virtually unchanged from the first. The ASRT

was again contacted and NYSSRS was told their concerns would be addressed at the February Board meeting. At this point in time the NYSSRS has not signed the affiliate agreement as it would be against legal counsel. President Neumann stated that it is possible that the affiliate would be placed on probation if the ASRT chooses to do so. An affiliate can be placed on probation for a period of two years for not completing the ASRT's requirements. After that the ASRT could take a more severe action.

The board is monitoring this situation and will keep membership apprised of developments via the website nyssrs.org. ♣



NYSSRS building a strong foundation

New Membership Year: January through December

Watch your mail to renew your membership start-

ing in January. The membership year has been

moved to match the calendar year. ♣



Essay Contest Winners Announced

The New York State Society of Radiologic Sciences is happy to announce the winners of the annual student essay contest. In first place from Orange Community College was Monica Zottola whose topic was "The Accessory Navicular Bone." The second

place winner was also from Orange County Community College, Michael Markiewicz, wrote about "Applications for Radiography in Anthropology." Third place was awarded to Diane Doherty from Fulton-Montgomery Community College whose essay was

entitled "Dose Reduction Utilizing Digital Radiography." Scholarship Committee chair Joe Whitton and his committee member Peter Busterna wish to thank all the entrants this year for their interesting and educational articles. ♣



Students are winners all the way!

Congratulations Broome Community College First Time for First Place in Quiz Bowl Competition

The NYSSRS Scholarship and Education Committee congratulates the student team from Broome Community College for taking first place in the 2007 Student Quiz Bowl competition. Second place was awarded to the team from

Monroe Community College. Hostos Community College walked away with the third place trophy. Seven teams competed from across New York state including Mercy Medical Center, New York City College of Technology, Orange Community College and Westchester Community

College. Congratulations to all who competed and many thanks to moderator David Finaldi, judges Diedre Costic, Steve Herrmann, Cynthia Patrick; score keepers Linda Condon and Roxanne Moran; and sergeant-at-arms Doug Osborn and Brian Harris. ♣

Education and Scholarship

**Joseph Whitton
David Finaldi**



1st Place: Broome Comm College
Kenneth Heinrich, Rebecca Giles, Sarah Winans



2nd Place: Monroe Comm College
Barbara Clements, Devon Werder, Igor Fedorkiv, Coach Professor Dominick DeMichele, Randy Spagg



3rd Place: Hostos Comm College
Coach Professor Charles Drago, Diana Montoya, Luis Garcia, Dania Alonzo, Hector Reyes



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Licensure for Nuclear Medicine Technologists, Contrast Administration and Other Proposed Changes for Medical Imaging

by Dominick DeMichele, B.S., R.T.(R)(CT)

“According to Section 3505 of the law, effective January 1, 2009 individuals who practice Nuclear Medicine Technology must hold a license ...” says Dominick DeMichele, R.T.(R) (CT)

Nationally, in Congress the CARE Bill, and its companion Bill in the Senate, which mandates federal minimum standards to the profession of Radiologic Technology and Radiation Therapy continues to gain ground according to the ASRT. There are currently 125 cosponsors in Congress of HR 583, and 22 cosponsors in the Senate of S. 1042 (as of 12/4/07). In March, Joe Whitton from the NYSSRS put-on his running shoes, and took part in ASRT’s annual “RT in DC” event. This was again a successful event for the ASRT. Joe visited 19 offices and of those, currently 11 Representatives have signed-on to co-sponsor the Bill.

In New York State, applications are now in print for Nuclear Medicine Technologists to register for Licensure with the New York State Department of Health. According to Section 3505 of the

law, effective January 1, 2009 individuals who practice Nuclear Medicine Technology must hold a license in accordance with this Article. This section also provides that radiologic technologists may administer or inject contrast media, provided they obtain an Intravenous Contrast Media Certification from the Department. Part of the educational criteria to meet the requirements of this law was available at the annual conference in November. There are also educational sessions being held by various groups throughout the State.

There are also many other changes and updates being proposed by the ASRT, ARRT, and others which will affect our profession in the next decade. Some of these include repeat certification exams, entry level status in the profession, and even changes in

requirements of becoming an affiliate of the ASRT. Many of these changes will greatly affect our profession, and practice. Make sure to stay updated, and speak-out with your concerns!

In closing, I leave you with a quote from Vince Lombardi: “Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, and a civilization work.” This also holds true for our profession. It is important that we all stay active and make an effort to be aware of the proposed changes around us within our profession. Contact one of the NYSSRS Officers to be placed on contact lists, or to become a member of the group effort and get involved! ♣

