

## Report of the Refresher Course Committee

The 2013 Refresher Course Committee (RCC) worked to fulfill its charge to design, develop, and implement a full curriculum of courses, special sessions, and symposia that meet the criteria for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*<sup>™</sup>. The Committee consists of a full complement of subcommittee chairs responsible for tracks, special courses, and sessions. The Refresher Course program remains extremely popular with attendees, and it is anticipated that over 63,000 registrants attended various components of the program during the 2013 meeting. The 2013 RCC is at full membership with 38 subcommittee chairs, 3 ex-officio members, and Chair. The Refresher Course Committee members are listed on [www.rsna.org](http://www.rsna.org) and in the RSNA Meeting Program.

The refresher course program is developed to include several approaches, including faculty mentorship, international representation, handouts, audience response system, course integration with real-time on-site web-based engagement, and assimilation of Education and Science. Faculty mentorship involves gradual development of course faculty to include both established individuals paired with new talent for individual courses. All faculty have been encouraged to respond to and accept the mentorship role in course preparation and delivery, and society participation. As in past years, select RSNA faculty members were invited to participate in a one-day educational program to help them prepare for their courses. The workshop focused on how to incorporate proven question-writing strategies, how to best deliver a self-assessment module (SAM) the Audience Response System (ARS), The RSNA Diagnosis Live<sup>™</sup> system, adult learning principles, and the roles of interactivity and technology in effective teaching.

International representation has been identified as an important parameter for consideration by the subcommittee chairs when choosing their faculty and developing their curriculum. Subcommittee chairs have been encouraged to balance such considerations with a prerequisite of fluid, understandable language and good presentation skills in order to maximize the breadth of perspective without compromising communication.

The 2013 Refresher Course Program consisted of 238 traditional refresher courses presented by over 900 faculty members. All areas of interest were represented. Most courses were updated or modified, and approximately 103 courses were new. Series Courses again provided combined education and research on related topics. Offered were half-day sessions in Breast, Cardiac, Chest, Gastrointestinal, Emergency, Genitourinary, Informatics, Musculoskeletal, Interventional, Vascular, and Neuroradiology, five half-day courses in Interventional Oncology, and two and a half days in Pediatric Radiology. Repeated this year were the Essentials of Radiology Track consisting of ten courses for radiologist and trainees interested in reviewing basic radiology, the Associated Sciences refresher course track, Case-based Review courses in Cardiac, Neuroradiology, Pediatric Radiology, Radiation Oncology, Magnetic Resonance, Nuclear Medicine (PET/CT), Musculoskeletal Radiology, and Ultrasound. The case-based courses were designed for self-assessment using the Audience Response System. In addition to the Case-based courses, there were 67 additional courses utilizing interactive audience response technology. This year, 10 courses utilized RSNA Diagnosis Live<sup>™</sup> technology. At the 2013

meeting a total of 35 Self-Assessment Modules (SAMs) that qualify for the ABR's Maintenance of Certification were offered in a variety of subspecialties and general content areas.

Once again in 2013, controversy sessions took place on Wednesday afternoon, as well as on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. This type of programming addressed radiology-related topics that were particularly controversial.

The RCC supports the Chicago Radiological Society by sponsoring a speaker at their meeting. Appreciation, of course, always goes to the professional volunteers who spend tireless hours as track heads, course directors, and faculty members who make the Refresher Course Program a success as well as the invaluable assistance by RSNA staff.

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Chairman, Refresher Course Committee