

## **Professionalism Committee – 2014 Annual Report**

In 2014 the RSNA Professionalism Committee enhanced its website (*RSNA.org/professionalism*) on *RSNA.org*, increased its interactive educational vignettes on professionalism as part of its Web offerings, and planned and presented three refresher courses and one Centennial-related course at the RSNA 2014 annual meeting.

### **RSNA Professionalism Resources**

The Professionalism Committee website features educational materials and resources in professionalism, located in the Education Offerings section of *RSNA.org*. The resources include the RSNA Statement on Professionalism, the RSNA Vignettes on Professionalism in Radiology (see below), a link to “Medical Professionalism in the New Millennium: A Physician’s Charter,” a link to Online Courses on Ethics and Professionalism, and recommended reading materials.

### **RSNA Vignettes on Professionalism in Radiology**

Led by Professionalism Committee member Dr. Stephen Chan, current and former members of the committee continue to develop provocative and informative vignettes on a range of issues in professionalism. The vignettes are intended to raise awareness about the need for radiologists to incorporate professionalism into daily practice and to spark discussion of this core competency. Each vignette describes a scenario with dilemmas familiar to radiologists, asks questions about handling the issues, and provides answers based on scientific literature, discussions, and references for further reading.

As of October 2014, eight vignettes have been posted: “Disclosure of Radiological Error,” by Stephen D. Brown, M.D., “Partner Relationships,” by Joseph H. Tashjian, M.D., “Sexual Harassment,” by Marilyn J. Goske, M.D., “Medical Trainees and Medical Training,” by Craig M. Johnson, D.O., “Suboptimal Utilization of Imaging Studies,” by Stephan Chan, M.D., “Conducting Research with Industry,” by Stephan Chan, M.D., “Hiring Practices and Workplace Discrimination,” by Kenneth A. Buckwalter, M.D., and “Professionalism in Radiology Research: Authorship,” by Anastasia Hryhorczuck, M.D. and Kate Hanneman, M.D. Upcoming topics include plagiarism, the aging radiologist, reporting bad news, and social media. The vignettes are

promoted to the membership through *RSNA News*, RSNA Insider and other channels, including the RSNA Facebook and Twitter accounts.

### **Refresher Courses at RSNA 2014**

For RSNA 2014, the committee sponsored three refresher courses and one Centennial-related course:

#### **RC316 “The Aging Radiologist: How to Cope, When to Quit”**

Presented Tuesday, December 2, 2014, 8:30 - 10 a.m., this repeat course was a response to the changing demographics of radiologists, specifically, the increasing number who are over 60 years old. Conceived and moderated by Donald Bachman, M.D., the course’s faculty included Bruce J. Barron, M.D., William J. Casarella, M.D., Stephen Chan, M.D., and Robert A. Schmidt, M.D. Topics included the physiology and psychobiology of aging as it affects radiologists, appropriate and changing roles for radiologists, department and practice policies to assure patient safety and professional fitness without discrimination, and guidance for the older radiologist about how to contribute, when to stop, and how to preserve a sense of self-worth.

#### **RC616 “Service Excellence in Radiology”**

This repeat course was presented on Thursday, December 4, 2014, 8:30 - 10 a.m. The faculty members were Kenneth A. Buckwalter, M.D., course moderator, Bruce J. Barron, M.D., Ella Kazerooni, M.D., and Brent Wagner, M.D. The course addressed why customer satisfaction scores are important, how radiology can document the value it adds to healthcare enterprises, and how to manage workplace interruptions.

#### **RC716 “Mitigation of Litigation”**

Presented Thursday, December 4, 2014, 4:30 - 6 p.m., this new course outlined the professional standards, guidelines, and behaviors that enhance accuracy, efficiency, and good practice patterns. Conceived and moderated by David M. Yousem, M.D., the course’s faculty included Rosemary Schnall, Kelly Yousem, J.D., Michael M. Raskin, M.D., J.D., and Professionalism Committee member Ronald L. Eisenberg, M.D., J.D. Topics included the elements of legal suits, what the

radiologist can do to reduce the risk of being named in a lawsuit, and the ethics and qualifications involved in providing expert witness testimony.

### **RC724 “The Ethical Power of Radiologic Technology: Reviewing the Past to Prepare for the Future”**

Presented Thursday, December 4, 2014, 4:30 - 6 p.m., this Centennial-related course complemented RSNA’s Centennial Celebration by looking back at the impact of radiological technologies on major societal ethical dilemmas, and looking forward to anticipate the ethical dimensions of future radiologic technologies. Conceived and moderated by Stephen D. Brown, M.D., the course’s faculty included Bruce J. Barron, M.D., Ingrid M. Burger, M.D., Ph.D., and Stephen Chan, M.D. Topics included the ethical implications of radiological technology, how imaging technologies may be assessed from a bioethical perspective, the ethical challenges generated by evolving prenatal imaging technologies, and the ethical questions that have arisen out of neuroimaging advances.

### **Review of Online Courses on Ethics and Professionalism**

The Professionalism Committee assumed co-responsibility for reviewing and maintaining the Online Courses on Ethics and Professionalism originally proposed and developed by the ABRF in 2011. RSNA Professionalism Committee members worked with their counterparts on the ACR Committee on Professionalism to develop a sustainable ongoing review process to ensure that the courses are relevant, accurate and current. Each course was reassessed in 2014 by the original authors and reviewed by the committee to maintain SA-CME eligibility.

### **In Appreciation**

I wish to thank all the members of the Professionalism Committee for giving so generously of their time and expertise, particularly as we prepared four courses, reassessed and reviewed ten online courses, and created and reviewed a number of vignettes: Jonathan C. Baker, M.D., Bruce J. Barron, M.D., Kenneth A. Buckwalter, M.D., Stephen Chan, M.D., Ronald L. Eisenberg, M.D., J.D., Anastasia Hryhorczuk, M.D., Brent Wagner, M.D., and Kate Hanneman, M.D. The Professionalism Committee welcomes Brandon P. Brown, M.D., M.A., and Michael Veronesi, M.D., Ph.D., as our newest members. On behalf of the committee I also wish to thank the RSNA

Board of Directors and, in particular, our Board Liaison, Mary C. Mahoney, M.D., FACR, for her strong support and enthusiasm for our endeavors. The committee also appreciates the support of the RSNA staff, whose material assistance, guidance and wisdom are indispensable to our success.

As I complete my second year as Chair, I am proud of the work the committee accomplished this year. I am honored to serve with such talented, dedicated and hard-working individuals.

**Stephen D. Brown, M.D.**  
**Chair, Professionalism Committee**