

Professionalism Committee – 2015 Annual Report

In 2015 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, reformatted and re-launched 11 Ethics and Professionalism Online Courses, and planned and presented three educational courses at the RSNA 2015 annual meeting. It also began development of a proposal for a new vignette-based “flipped classroom” webinar for teaching professionalism to radiology trainees.

RSNA Professionalism Resources

The Professionalism Committee website features educational materials and resources in professionalism, located in the Education and Career Development sections of *RSNA.org*. The resources include the RSNA Statement on Professionalism, the RSNA Vignettes on Professionalism in Radiology, a link to the Ethics and Professionalism Online Courses, and a link to the new Professionalism Educational Toolkit, which offers a collection of recommended reading materials.

RSNA Vignettes on Professionalism in Radiology

Led by Professionalism Committee vice-chair Stephen Chan, M.D., 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, to spark discussion of this core competency, and to encourage reflection around the specific issues. 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 2015, ten 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 Stephen Chan, M.D., “Conducting Research with Industry,” by Stephen Chan, M.D., “Hiring Practices and Workplace Discrimination,” by Kenneth A. Buckwalter, M.D., “Professionalism in Radiology Research:

Authorship,” by Kate Hanneman, M.D., and Anastasia L. Hryhorczuck, M.D., “Professionalism in the Age of Social Media,” by Jonathan C. Baker, M.D., and “Professionalism in Radiology Research: Duplicate Publications and Related Issues,” by Kate Hanneman, M.D., and Anastasia L. Hryhorczuck, M.D. Upcoming topics include the aging radiologist, reporting bad news, patient privacy, medical training from the trainee perspective, toxic workplace situations, colleague incompetence, and change management. The vignettes are promoted to the membership through *RSNA News*, RSNA Insider and other channels, including the RSNA Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Educational Courses at RSNA 2015

For RSNA 2015, the committee sponsored three courses:

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

Presented Sunday, November 29, 2-3:30 p.m., this updated 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 M. Bachman, M.D., the course’s faculty included Bruce J. Barron, M.D., Stephen Chan, M.D., and Robert A. Schmidt, M.D. Topics included coping with the changes of aging, the economics of retirement finance, issues for senior radiologists in radiology practice, and the importance of health insurance and new endeavors. This year, Dr. Bachman and the other panel members expanded this course into a two day CME course held on Cape Cod, MA, which highlights the courses educational richness and the interest it has generated.

“Service Excellence in Radiology”

This repeat course was presented on Tuesday, December 1, 4:30-6 p.m. The faculty members included course moderator Kenneth A. Buckwalter, M.D., Brandon P. Brown, M.D., M.A., Ella A. Kazerooni, M.D., and Brent J. Wagner, M.D. The course addressed why customer satisfaction is important, how to measure and enhance it within radiology, how radiology can document its added value, and how to successfully bring new staff successfully into a service-oriented practice culture.

“Mitigation of Litigation”

Presented Tuesday, December 1, 8:30-10 a.m., this repeat 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., and co-moderated by Leonard Berlin, 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.

Review of Online Courses on Ethics and Professionalism

The Professionalism Committee assumed responsibility for reviewing and maintaining the Online Courses on Ethics and Professionalism originally proposed and developed by the ABRF in 2011. The 11 courses were reviewed, revised, and reformatted to ensure accessibility, interactivity and ease of navigation by a variety of electronic devices. The courses were re-launched as part of the RSNA Online Library.

Flipped Classroom Webinar Series

Committee members Drs. Brandon Brown and Kenneth Buckwalter initiated development of a vignette-based flipped classroom webinar program to teach professionalism to radiology trainees. The proposed webinar will use the Professionalism Committee vignettes and modules as the basis for discussion, with each webinar based on a single module. The proposal will be to require classroom participants to complete the relevant online module and read two pertinent articles in the literature prior to participation. The reverse classroom exercise was demonstrated to Committee members in late August using the Social Media vignette developed by Dr. Baker. It worked well, and with modifications made according to member/participant feedback it will be proposed as a new Professionalism Committee initiative. If approved we anticipate that the exercise will be piloted with a group of radiology residents in 2016. Drs. Brandon Brown and Buckwalter will serve as the instructors, with additional Committee members serving as instructors over time. Dr. Brandon Brown also plans to develop an instructor’s guide to accompany the program.

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 three courses, reassessed and reviewed 11 online courses, created and reviewed a number of vignettes, and began development of a new web-based “flipped classroom” teaching program. I have been so appreciative of the members’ energy and thoughtfulness. I am proud of the enduring traction of the material we have developed, as evidenced by members’ ability to create a substantive independent CME course out of a Committee refresher course and to develop an online webinar that further utilizes the Committee vignettes. My gratitude to vice-chair Stephen Chan, M.D., and members Jonathan C. Baker, M.D., Bruce J. Barron, M.D., Brandon P. Brown, M.D., M.A., Kenneth A. Buckwalter, M.D., Ronald L. Eisenberg, M.D., J.D., Kate Hanneman, M.D., Anastasia L. Hryhorczuk, M.D., Michael C. Veronesi, M.D., Ph.D., and Brent J. Wagner, M.D. 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., for her strong support and enthusiasm for our endeavors. The committee also appreciates the tireless support of the RSNA staff, whose material assistance, guidance and wisdom are indispensable to our success. Working with them has been a highlight of my tenure on the Committee.

As I complete my term 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