Report of the 2015 Education Exhibits Committee –

The Education Exhibits Committee continues to meet the mission of the RSNA. Each member of the committee is committed to the excellence in education of our profession as demonstrated in the report which follows.

The number of submissions to the education exhibit program in 2015 were 4,291. After careful review using a 10-point grading scale, the committee invited 1,762 exhibits for presentation, which represents an acceptance rate of 41% for 2015.

In 2015, submitters were required to submit five figures to include images, charts, or graphs featuring content original to their institution. Authors were also required to attest at the time of submission to the originality of their work, and affirm that the majority of the completed exhibit would consist of content original to the institution where the work was performed. Importance of citing copyright material and seeking permission for non-copyright material was stressed to the submitters. The abstract block structure of Aim/Purpose; Content organization; and Summary was changed to Teaching Points and Table of Contents with the goal of encouraging submitters to emphasize what the learner should expect to accomplish following exhibit review, and to provide a detailed outline that would describe to readers (both the review committee and attendees) what they should expect to view in a completed exhibit.

The Learning Center area was located in Hall D, Level 3 of McCormick Place. Exhibits were organized in a linear design, and continued with the learning center community concept, linking standing poster board exhibits and electronic exhibits within each subspecialty of radiology. Presenters had the option of choosing a digital presentation, hard copy backboard panel exhibit, or stand-alone custom application computer demonstration exhibit within each subspecialty of radiology. Of 1,762 accepted exhibits, 1,558 exhibits (88%) were prepared via the RSNA’s digital presentation system; 189 (11%) using backboard panel exhibits and 15 (1%) were presented as custom application exhibits.

The ever-popular Case of the Day exhibits were displayed at the front of the hall in electronic format. Unknown cases were presented each day, Sunday through Thursday, in each of the fifteen topic areas: breast, cardiac, chest, emergency radiology, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, interventional radiology, molecular imaging, musculoskeletal, neuroradiology, nuclear medicine, obstetrical imaging, pediatrics, physics, and ultrasound. Participants were able to submit what they believed were the correct diagnosis for any of the cases on the electronic presentation system, at nearby Internet Zone computers or via any web browser. These popular Case of the Day exhibits offered 0.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ for each correct diagnosis submitted. Lists of names of attendees who correctly identified the cases, and those individuals eligible for ribbons to attach to their badges were prominently displayed near the exhibit area.

Attendees were also provided the opportunity to earn additional AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ by visiting certain exhibits chosen for their interactive teaching potential. The authors of these select exhibits were assigned a date and time to be present at their exhibits, so that a dialogue with the attendees can be established. Exhibits were available for self-study credit at all other times.
One of the highlights of the meeting was the presentation of Education Exhibit Awards. A panel was appointed by the RSNA Board of Directors to judge the exhibits for educational content and gave the appropriate awards in that category. In 2015, exhibits were only eligible to be judged for an award, if their presentation was uploaded to the digital presentation system by the deadline. For hardcopy exhibitors, a PDF version of their exhibit also needed to be uploaded in the system by the published electronic exhibits deadline. The awards are announced during the Wednesday plenary session and a complete list of award winners are printed in the Thursday-Friday edition of the Daily Bulletin as well as posted in the Learning Center announcement area. Each award-winning exhibit was identified by a sign above the exhibit and also identified in the online program.

The Education Exhibits Committee is divided into organ-centered subcommittees, each with a chair. This structure achieves the following: increases the number of reviewers judging a single abstract; allows for more in-depth review and discussion within the subcommittees; and provides more oversight of the entire review process by the committee chair. The members of the Education Exhibits Committee are to be commended for their willingness to serve, especially in this time of reform and economic challenge as well as for their timely review of the large number of submitted abstracts. Each member of the committee was responsible for performing over 200 reviews on average. The committee held its annual meeting on Monday morning of the RSNA meeting where the entire process of the educational exhibits are reviewed, from abstract form and submission process, evaluation of abstracts, to the presentation in the Learning Center exhibit hall to ensure optimization of the educational content and the experiences of the submitters, presenters, and reviewers. The members of the 2015 Education Exhibits Committee are listed on www.rsna.org and in the RSNA Meeting Program.

I would like to thank all the committee chairs and members for their diligence, hard work and loyalty to this committee and the RSNA. I would also like to personally extend my gratitude to Dr. Isaac Francis, for his hard work in insuring such a smooth transition.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chair, Education Exhibits Committee