AS I BEGIN MY YEAR AS PRESIDENT of the Society of Thoracic Radiology, I salute the outstanding service of my predecessor, Dr. David Lynch, whose presidential year brought great honor and many accomplishments to our society. The graphic identity of the STR was updated under David’s leadership, with a new logo for the Society and an updated layout and new title for the STR newsletter. David also guided the planning and execution of a recent Strategic Planning session aimed at guiding the society forward in the coming years. Results from that session are now being evaluated by the officers and executive committee for implementation. On the international front, David oversaw the establishment of an affiliation agreement between the STR and the European Society of Thoracic Imaging (ESTI) and moved plans forward for the Third World Congress of Thoracic
Imaging to be held June 8-11, 2013, in Seoul, South Korea. As we move ahead in fulfilling the Society’s mission, we will count on David’s continued participation and wise counsel. Thank you, David, for a job very well done.

**THE SOCIETY HELD ITS 29TH ANNUAL MEETING** and postgraduate course from March 6-9, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point resort in Bonita Springs, Florida, with 397 participants in attendance from seventeen different countries. Fifty-four educational lectures covered the topics of diffuse lung disease, pulmonary infections, pulmonary vascular imaging, and coronary and cardiac imaging.

**SPECIAL SESSIONS IN THE COURSE** were designed to help thoracic radiologists understand the changes in classification of lung cancer and the impact of those revisions on thoracic imaging. Dr. William D. Travis, an internationally renowned pathologist from Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, delivered the The Felson lecture, entitled “Radiologic Implications of the New IASLC/ATS/ERS Lung Adenocarcinoma Classification.” In the following session, Dr. David P. Naidich from the New York University Medical Center delivered the inaugural Gordon Gamsu Memorial Lecture, entitled “Subsolid Pulmonary Nodules: Current Approach to Diagnosis and Management.” Dr. Jeffrey Klein delivered an update on the status of CT screening for lung cancer and discussed the recent findings released by the National Lung Screening Trial (NLST), a project that involved many members of the STR.

**THE SCANLON SYMPOSIUM** featured four speakers on the topic of pulmonary MRI. The Scanlon Lecturer, Dr. John D. Newell, Jr., was unable to attend. His presentation entitled “Emerging Role of MRI in the Diagnosis and Management of Pulmonary Disease” was delivered by Dr. David Lynch. Multiple workshop sessions were also conducted, and three self-assessment modules (SAMs) enabled attendees to advance the fulfillment of their maintenance of certification requirements.

**AN IMAGE INTERPRETATION SESSION** on Sunday afternoon featured three young experts in thoracic imaging: Drs. Daria Manos, Santiago Rossi, and Amita Sharma. Their discussions of six unknown cases were combined with the interaction of an Audience Response System under the astute guidance of the moderator, Dr. Melissa Rosado de Christenson, President-elect of the Society.
TWO CASE-OF-THE-DAY PRESENTATIONS were the opening highlight of each morning during the meeting, followed by a series of scientific papers presented under the guidance of Dr. Sanjeev Bhalla (chairman) and other members of the Scientific Sessions committee. The winner of this year’s Jack Westcott Research Award was Dr. Tessa S. Cook from the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania; the runner-up was Dr. Christopher Mudge of Brown University-Rhode Island Hospital.

AS THIS YEAR PROCEEDS, I look forward to working with my fellow officers, the STR committees, and all members of our Society to build upon the energy, camaraderie, and positive momentum that have carried the STR steadily forward. In March, 2012, the Society will hold its 30th annual meeting and postgraduate course – a landmark event that we hope all will attend.

Gerald F. Abbott
STR President

Dr. Abbott accepts the gavel from Dr. Lynch
Dear Colleagues:

I’M SORRY TO HAVE MISSED the STR this year, but departmental policies and needs have prevailed. As I write, I’m a bit baffled at what exactly I’m receiving today, but I’ve been told it relates to the NLST. Bear with me.

The NLST is a saga of several dimensions that for me has extended over more than 12 years. I was naive when I undertook the challenge, and can’t say with certainty that I would have proceeded had I understood at the outset what would be involved. I’m immensely glad I did.

CT screening has been a controversial subject, the fulcrum upon which science, public perception, politics, and collegiality have pivoted for many years. We are all so pleased that the NLST has shown unequivocally that this technology is effective. It reduces lung cancer mortality. We proved it. This is the single biggest gun in the armory against lung cancer to have been validated in decades. And it was a bunch of radiologists that proved it.

The NLST has been a major education for me on several levels:

- It has given me an intimate working relationship with many friends and introduced me to some of you with whom I had not previously worked.
- Each of you, and your staff, across the 23 ACRIN sites were so impressive and fundamental to the quality of the trial, and I am hugely grateful.
- Our colleagues in the NLST LSS have been true partners, and collectively, we radiologists led the effort to close philosophical divides and to reconcile perspectives in ways that exceeded my hopes.
- You folks have taught me more about humility, integrity, initiative and grit than any prior experience...with the possible exception of my daughters.

Thank-you for all of this. Thank-you for catching me as I fumbled. Thank-you for the honor of joining me in this trial. And thank-you for this recognition today.

With sincere gratitude and respect,

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AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, the STR announced that the Gold Medal Award recipient for 2011 was Dr. Nestor Müller. Dr. Müller was deeply appreciative of this award from his colleagues and friends but regrettably was unable to attend the Annual Meeting. By fortunate coincidence, Dr. David Lynch had the opportunity to present the award to him in person on March 16 in Vancouver. A full announcement and recognition of Dr. Müller was published in the May edition of Journal of Thoracic Imaging.
BY NOW, you have received the May 2011 issue of JTI, which includes an outstanding lung cancer symposium guest edited by Jane Ko and Barb McComb. This timely symposium includes 7 review articles as well as editorials devoted to the preliminary NLST results and the Fleischner Society guidelines for incidentally detected lung nodules.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION the JTI’s new “Resident and Fellow’s Corner,” which is aimed at promoting greater exposure to cardiopulmonary imaging among radiology trainees. This new web feature includes links to a variety of open-access educational content including: a collection of pulmonary imaging review articles, a series of succinct American College of Radiology Appropriateness Criteria® reviews, a blog series by Jonathan Chung entitled “Tips for Trainees,” and links to the STR online lectures and the Korean Society of Thoracic Radiology (KSTR) case of the week series. In our August issue of JTI, we will also be introducing a new series of articles devoted to classic signs in cardiopulmonary imaging. A resident collection of cardiac imaging articles is planned for the near future. Although we have employed a broad-based campaign to “get the word out” through RSNA News, APDR and Aunt Minnie, we would appreciate your efforts at sharing this information with your own trainees.
Officers of the STR, left to right:
Gerald Abbott (President),
David Lynch (Immediate Past-President),
Melissa Rosado de Christenson
(President-elect),
Eric Stern (Treasurer),
and Jeremy Erasmus (Secretary).
Film Panelists and Moderator,
left to right: Daria Manos,
Santiago Rossi,
Amita Sharma,
Melissa Rosado de Christenson
(Moderator)
The new logo of the STR, designed by graphic artist Pamela Kuehl, made its debut at the Society’s recent annual meeting in Florida. Banners, placards, brochures, folders and other materials bore the new logo design. Special temporary tattoos were offered to attendees at the Sunday evening reception to promote the Society’s new graphic identity. A special “Tattoo Parlor” table at the entrance to the reception was manned by Shelly Jones of Matrix Meetings, who applied temporary tattoos to hands, arms, necks, and even a bald head. The new logo’s appearance on many partygoers added a special festive note to the cocktail party.

In creating the logo design, Ms. Kuehl combined the Society’s three-letter abbreviation – STR – into a cohesive and attractive graphic design that has been well received by members.
tattoo parlor

STR members sporting tattoos of the new Society logo at the annual meeting reception (left to right:)
Jean Jeudy,
Electra Kaloudis,
Gerry Abbott,
Arlene Sirajuddin,
Jonathan Killam.
A ONE-DAY STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION for the STR was held on Saturday, March 5th, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort in Bonita Springs, Florida. The session was led by a professional facilitator, Dr. Kathy Henrichs and included a review of findings elicited by a recent survey sent to all STR members. In addition, attendees at the session constructed a list of strategic goals to benefit the STR’s future needs and aspirations, and the possible means to accomplish those goals. Details of the strategic planning session and its recommendations will be the subject of a future newsletter.

THE STR WOULD LIKE TO THANK the following members who enthusiastically participated in the Strategic Planning Session and contributed greatly to its success: Drs. Gerald F. Abbott, Sanjeev Bhalla, Philip Boiselle, Brett M. Elicker, Matthew D. Gilman, Thomas Hartman, Laura E. Heyneman, Ella A. Kazerooni, Loren H. Ketai, Jeffrey S. Klein, David A. Lynch, Tan-Lucien H. Mohammed, Gautham P. Reddy, Melissa L. Rosado de Christenson, and John Wandtke. Barbara McLeod of Matrix Meetings also attended the session and oversaw the organization and execution of the strategic planning meeting.
Mark your Calendar

March 11-14, 2012

30th Annual STR Meeting and Postgraduate Course
Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort & Spa
Huntington Beach
California

June 8-11, 2013

Third World Congress of Thoracic Imaging
Seoul
South Korea
2011-2012 STR Committees

Executive Committee

Gerald Abbott, President
Melissa Rosado de Christenson, President-elect
Eric Stern, Treasurer
Jeremy Erasmus, Secretary
Past Presidents:
David Lynch
Charles S. White

Other STR Committees:

Linda Haramati – Rules
Smita Patel – Scientific Sessions
Loren Ketai – Standards
Sanjeev Bhalla – Electronic Media
Carl Zylak – Historical
U. Joseph Schoepf – Corporate Relations
David Lynch – Nominating
Jane Ko – Research
Laura Heyneman – Education
Thomas Hartman – Membership
Tan Lucien Mohammed – Awards
Jeffrey Klein – Intersociety Relations
H. Page McAdams – Lifetime Achievement Awards
Jeremy Erasmus – Publications
Lynn Broderick – ACR Representative
Gautham Reddy – ARR Representative

Please visit the STR website www.thoracicrad.org to view updated information.
Inspiration

STR Publications Committee

Phillip Boiselle
Ralph Drosten
Jane Ko
Edith Marom
Melissa Rosado de Christenson, Chair

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