Dear STR Members:

**IT IS A DISTINCT HONOR** and privilege for me to serve as the 37th President of the Society of Thoracic Radiology. The STR has been the foundation of my academic experience since I joined the society more than 25 years ago while still in the US Army. Over this time, with the guidance of many superb radiologist leaders, the Society has emerged as a major force in thoracic imaging. We have changed the approach and breadth of our educational content but remain focused on our core mission, “to promote cardiothoracic imaging for excellence in patient care through research and education.

In this issue, you can find a report detailing the 2018 Annual Meeting, recently held March 4-7 in Austin, Texas. For those who were not able to attend the meeting because someone has to stay home and work, we missed you! Many of you have asked me why our meeting moved from the downtown Austin Fairmont venue. Here is the short version. When we contracted with the Austin Fairmont over two years ago, it was under construction with a scheduled opening August 2017. As the opening date started to slip, we were in constant communication with the Fairmont management; as recently as mid-January they assured us the Fairmont would be ready to host our meeting. By the end of January, it was clear that we could not count on the Austin Fairmont being open by the beginning of our meeting. Many of you noticed that the lights were on at the Austin Fairmont; however, they did not accept guests until the Monday after our meeting had started. We were extremely fortunate that the Hyatt Regency

\[\text{Cristopher A. Meyer, MD}\]

President, STR
Lost Pines had a late cancellation for the exact same time frame and we were able to use rooms and space there. This was especially fortuitous since our meeting overlapped the start of South by Southwest (SXSW®) an event that brings 400,000 people to Austin. And so the show did go on with a spectacular lineup of STR faculty speakers! Thankfully, most of our industry sponsors and 401 meeting attendees were willing and able to move to the new venue on such short notice.

The meeting was paperless again this year using the EventMobi app for both the program and poster sessions; all the materials will remain available to attendees for a two-year period. I would like to specifically recognize Dr. Jeffrey Kanne and the Education Committee, Dr. Terrance Healey and the Awards Committee, and Dr. Joe Schoepf and the Corporate Relations Committee for their tireless work to make the STR 2018 Annual Meeting a success. Finally, a special note of thanks to Sue O’Sullivan and the Veritas staff for their tireless efforts relocating our meeting in one month – it was nothing short of herculean!

With an eye to the future, the STR will be concentrating this year on several exciting initiatives: mentoring, big data, and educating the pipeline. Dr. Georgeann McGuinness, Associate Dean of Mentoring and Professional Development at NYU School of Medicine, is the Chair of the STR Mentoring Committee. In a recent survey, the Mentoring Committee identified 100 members interested in a mentor/mentee relationship. They are also spearheading the formation of affinity groups for STR members with like interests to share ideas. For more information on either of these initiatives please contact georgeann.mcguinness@nyumc.org. The Big Data Subcommittee under Chair, Dr. Carol Wu identified an opportunity for STR participation in the “RSNA Pneumonia ML Challenge,” leveraging the expertise of our members to establish ground truth. Based on the individual’s level of participation, an acknowledgement or co-authorship is possible. If you are interested in participating, please contact carolcwu@gmail.com. In addition, the Big Data Subcommittee has defined several thoracic imaging database initiatives for collection and curation, including pulmonary nodule and diffuse lung disease. Finally, the STR will work to actively establish a “pipeline” of young talent interested in a thoracic imaging career. The first step in this process is to create a Chest Imaging Core Curriculum and populate it with 15 minute lectures by national experts in thoracic imaging and education. The STR will make this material available to schools in the U.S. and abroad to teach medical students and allied health professionals the fundamentals of chest radiographic interpretation and the appropriate applications of advanced thoracic imaging techniques. This should dovetail nicely with a new initiative of the Journal of Thoracic Imaging dedicated to teaching the fundamentals of chest radiographic interpretation led by Drs. John Austin and Barbara McComb.
During my tenure as President, I welcome your input. How can we collectively advance the mission of the STR? Please feel free to email me at cmeyer2@uwhealth.org to share your thoughts or to volunteer for a more active role in the STR.

Looking forward to working with all of you to grow the STR!

Cris A. Meyer, MD

President, Society of Thoracic Radiology
IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR and privilege to serve as the 36th President of the Society of Thoracic Radiology. I was very fortunate to have been surrounded and supported by so many capable, intelligent, hard-working individuals who have really driven the STR to new heights.

Let me start by congratulating our new President, Dr. Cris Meyer, and our new management company, Veritas, headed by Sue O’Sullivan, on a wonderfully successful Annual Meeting in Austin. Not only did they succeed in staging a high-quality meeting, but to do it against the backdrop of the last minute cancellation of the Fairmont venue due to the fact that the hotel was not yet open, was nothing short of miraculous. The Lost Pines was a wonderful venue, and the shuttle service still allowed attendees to sample Austin in the evenings.

The STR committees have all been hard at work over the last year, and I wish to thank them all for their efforts. I would like to highlight a couple committees for the work they have done.

First, the Big Data Subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Carol Wu, has been very active in identifying the areas of expertise where the STR can influence the development of AI and deep learning initiatives that affect thoracic imaging. The first two areas they are focusing on are nodules and ILD, and they are working to develop case repositories for each area. They have also arranged for the STR to partner with the RSNA to co-brand a series of chest radiographs to serve as truth for a competition for the RSNA Pneumonia ML Challenge at the 2018 meeting. All of these activities will be open to STR member participation, so, please consider getting involved.

Second, the Mentorship Committee, chaired by Dr. Georgeann McGuinness, has revitalized our mentorship program and expanded it to include affinity groups that members can participate in, even if they are not directly involved in the mentorship program.

The STR developed a Strategic Plan in 2011 that was reviewed and updated in 2015 and again most recently just prior to this years’ Annual Meeting. It is the blueprint the Officers of the STR will use to guide the society. By reviewing and updating this document, the STR Officers can make sure we stay aligned with the goals outlined and respond to changes in the practice of Cardiothoracic Imaging. The most recent update of the strategic plan will be shared with the members once the document has been finalized. I encourage you all to review it and to see where you can get involved.
Finally, I would like to offer a special note of thanks to the STR Officers Drs. Cris Meyer, Caroline Chiles, and Jane Ko for their exceptional leadership, support, and advice during my tenure. I have every confidence that they will make the STR into an even stronger, more vibrant organization of which we will all be proud.

Sincerely,

Thomas Hartman, MD
STR 2018 Annual Meeting
Jane P. Ko, MD

STR HELD ITS ANNUAL MEETING at the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines in Cedar Creek, Texas, March 4-7, 2018. The meeting included 61 registrants from outside the United States from 18 countries, with 17 registrants from Canada, 15 from Brazil, and 7 from New Zealand.

President-Elect Dr. Cristopher Meyer and the Education Committee, chaired by Dr. Jeffrey Kanne and consisting of colleagues Drs. Kathleen Brown, Brett Elicker, Brent Little, Santiago Martinez-Jimenez, David Naeger, Mark Parker, Claudio Silva, Arlene Sirajuddin, Robert Steiner, and Carol Wu compiled a comprehensive curriculum of cardiopulmonary imaging for continuing medical education.

There were many exciting, informative, and interesting topics presented by our faculty. Some meeting highlights include:

- The Sunday sessions covered hot topics pertaining to emerging technology for quantitative imaging of the lung. Nodule, functional lung, and diffuse lung disease evaluation using CT and MRI were presented in the morning followed by topics of artificial intelligence and radiomics, 3D printing, and CT dose discussions for cardiopulmonary applications in the afternoon.

- Lung cancer screening remained an integral part of the STR curriculum, and the program had a focused session on this topic including a discussion “Update on Lung-RADS™” by Dr. Ella Kazerooni on pending revisions to the Lung-RADS™ screening management recommendations.

FACTS ABOUT OUR ANNUAL MEETING
- 401 registrants
- 18 countries
- 31 hours of CME
- 122 faculty
- 50 scientific presentations and posters
- 117 educational posters

REGISTRANT COUNTRIES
- Argentina
- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- India
- Ireland
- Israel
- Republic of Korea
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Norway
- Saudi Arabia
- Singapore
- Spain
- Sweden
- Taiwan
- United Kingdom
- United States
• The session on interstitial lung disease on Monday included The Felson Lecture titled “IgG4 Related Disease” by Dr. Jay Ryu of the Department of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the Mayo Clinic. He reviewed this autoimmune entity that is often hard to diagnose and affects multiple organs. Dr. David Lynch presented a discussion on new criteria for the diagnosis of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis that had been recently issued by the Fleischner Society.

Also, two other invited guest lecturers covered relevant, timely topics in pulmonary medicine and oncology. The Gamsu Lecture by Dr. David Palma of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, University of Western Ontario was titled “Radiation Induced Lung Injury: Detecting Recurrence and Texture Analysis” and reviewed stereotactic beam radiation therapy. Dr. James Lockey from the University of Cincinnati gave an in-depth discussion “Emerging and Recurring Occupational Lung Disease in the 21st Century” for the Scanlon Symposium.

• New to the program this year was a session titled “Cardiothoracic Conundrums.” Challenging cases encountered in clinical practice were presented by members and trainees and included pitfalls related to new devices, emphasized importance of clinical history, and reviewed disease mimickers. The audience voted for their favorite conundrum, which was delivered by Dr. Kavitha Yaddanapudi from Stony Brook University titled “Case of Vanishing Dissection.” The session, moderated by Dr. Geoffrey Rubin, of Duke University, was well received and both entertaining and educational.

• An informative session for young faculty and trainees focused on mentorship and understanding team diversity. A reception in the evening on the same day was held for junior faculty and trainees and provided a great way to meet new colleagues.

• Four SAMS sessions covered Lung cancer screening, Cardiac Imaging, a NASCI/STR session on Coronary Arteries and Aorta, and Infection.

• The meeting app developed by Veritas, our new management partner, provided the schedule, syllabus, presenter information, surveys, and SAMS credit at our fingertips.

The STR Annual Meeting scientific program was a success, given Dr. Terrance Healey and the awards committee’s hard work in selecting 137 scientific and educational abstracts and determining awarded presentations. A new “American Idol Session” contained impressive abstracts presented by trainees and junior faculty. Three electronic educational exhibits were also selected for oral presentation on Wednesday morning to the general session.
Dr. Joan Chi, a second-year radiology resident at Northwell Health, received the Jack Wescott Award, acknowledging the best presentation by any trainee, whether fellow, resident, or medical student, for a presentation titled “CT Calcium Score in Patients with Prior Non-Gated Chest CT: Is it Necessary?”

The welcome reception for the meeting attendees and another for trainees and junior faculty were well attended. In summary, we hope those of you who could join us in Texas had a wonderful time filled with education and meeting new friends and colleagues. We look forward to seeing you at our next annual meeting in Savannah, Georgia in 2019.

SAVE THE DATE!

The STR Congratulates the 2018 Annual Meeting Awardees

Case of the Day
Dr. Adam Guttentag, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Best Oral Presentation by a Junior Faculty
Dr. Robert Ambrosini, University of Rochester Medical Center
“Lung-RADS Recommendation Compliance and Lung Cancer Detection in Patients with Suspicious Pulmonary Nodules on CT Lung Screening Examinations.”

Best Oral Presentation by Resident
Dr. Zachary Guenther, University of Calgary
“Chest computed tomography predictors for progression to CTEPH following incident acute pulmonary embolism: A Case-Control Study.”
**Jack Westcott Award**

Dr. Joan Chi, Northwell Health

“CT Calcium Score in Patients with Prior Non-Gated Chest CT: Is it Necessary?”

**Poster Award Winners**

**Cum Laude**


Gardner, A. Ropp, A. Frazier, J. Jeudy. “The Dean Effect: Explaining a Rare Flow Artifact Mimicking Pathology on CT Angiogram of the Aortic Arch.”

**Certificate of Merit**


J. Gutierrez Chacoff, L. Kha, L. Jimenez Juan, F. Sanchez Tijmes, A. Oikonomou. “Drug Induced Lung Disease: Disease Mechanisms and CT Manifestations Secondary to Classic Chemotherapy and new Systemic Therapies.”
Some photos from our course sessions and business meeting:

“Cardiothoracic Conundrums” Presenters

Moderators and Junior Faculty and Trainees of the “American Idol” Session

STR Member Luncheon

Sessions with participation from the attendees

Dr. Hartman passing the gavel to President-Elect Dr. Meyer

STR Executive Committee

STR Executive Council

Special Thanks to Veritas Meeting Solutions!
Photos from our welcome reception that you may enjoy:
American Cancer Society Forms National Lung Cancer Roundtable
Linda Haramati, MD, MS and Caroline Chiles, MD

**THE STR HAS RECENTLY** joined a new nationwide coalition of organizations committed to reducing lung cancer mortality. Following their success with the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable (NCRCT), the American Cancer Society (ACS) formed the National Lung Cancer Roundtable (NLCRT) in 2017. The Roundtable is focused on smoking cessation and increasing access to high-quality lung cancer screening programs and to top-notch clinical treatment for lung cancer patients. The Roundtable members represent government agencies, patient advocacy groups, pharmaceutical companies, health care organizations, smoking cessation specialists, midlevel practitioners, primary care physicians and physician specialists such as radiologists, pulmonologists, medical and radiation oncologists, and thoracic surgeons.

Dr. Ella Kazarooni, Past President of the STR, serves as Chair of the NLCRT. The initial meeting was held on December 11-12, 2017. Attendees included STR members, Dr. Charles White, Past President of STR who chaired the Screening Implementation Strategies Panel, and STR President-elect Dr. Caroline Chiles and member Dr. Linda Haramati who serve as STR representatives to the Roundtable. STR members and accomplished lung cancer screening researchers Drs. Claudia Henschke and David Yankelevitz were active participants.

The first annual meeting was ambitious, starting off with a welcome from Dr. Richard Wender, Chief Cancer Control Officer of the ACS and Co-Chair of the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable, followed by introductory remarks by Drs. Ella Kazarooni and Douglas Wood, NLCRT Vice Chair and Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of Washington. Robert Smith, PhD, the Principal Investigator of the NLCRT and Co-Chair of the NCRCT, discussed how and why roundtables work. Christopher Draft, Founder, President and CEO of the Chris Draft Family Foundation, Team Draft, then gave an inspirational talk that integrated his strength during his NFL career with the loss of his beloved young wife Keasha Rutledge to lung cancer. Chris is now immersed in the work of his foundation that shines a bright light of strength and determination in the fight against lung cancer.
The remainder of the Roundtable was dedicated to delving deeply into five specific areas: 1) Provider Engagement and Outreach, 2) Lung Cancer Screening Implementation Strategies, 3) Tobacco Cessation in the Context of Lung Cancer Screening, 4) Triage for Appropriate Treatments and 5) Shared Decision-Making. This portion of the Roundtable fostered intensive brainstorming, forged close associations between the widely varied stakeholders, and set practical goals for each task group to meet over the course of the upcoming year.

The NLCRT is funded by an unrestricted educational grant from AstraZeneca and in-kind support from the ACS. The STR is fully invested in the mission of the NLCRT, and we anticipate measurable progress in the upcoming year.
The STR Lifetime Achievement Award and Gold Medal was presented at the annual meeting to Melissa L. Rosado de Christenson, MD. Dr. Rosado de Christenson is a graduate of the Charter Class of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. She completed her residency in diagnostic radiology at the George Washington University of Medical Center and became a diplomat of the American Board of Radiology in 1984. She retired from active duty in the United States Air Force as a Colonel in 2001, after 25 years of service.

Dr. Rosado de Christenson has made many contributions over the years to the subspecialty of cardiothoracic imaging. Her years as Chairman of Radiologic Pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology took her to the top ranks of medical education and brought her renowned teaching skills to thousands of radiology residents. During this time, Dr. Rosado de Christenson authored and co-authored a series of outstanding *RadioGraphics* publications “From the archives of the AFIP.” They remain today great teaching materials.

She has served as a leader in multiple imaging societies including various committee chairmanships and several presidencies including the American Association of Women in Radiology (AAWR), the Society of Thoracic Radiology, and the American Roentgen Ray Society (ARRS). She has received numerous awards from AAWR and ARRS.

During her tenure as President of the STR, Dr. Rosado de Christenson guided our efforts to revise the graphic face of the society in its popular newsletter, and she took on the challenging task of revising and updating the bylaws of the STR, refinements that continue to serve the society in very meaningful ways.

Dr. Rosado de Christenson has served as mentor to many young men and women pursuing careers in radiology and thoracic imaging. Her generous efforts have earned her an outstanding reputation that is both national and international in scope. She has dedicated her professional life to our subspecialty with specific efforts that continue to benefit the STR in very significant ways.
The STR research committee is accepting proposals for seed grant funding. The deadline for proposals is September 15, 2018. The seed grant mechanism is aimed towards supporting young investigators in their pursuit of innovative research projects relevant to cardiothoracic imaging. In keeping with the STR Big Data initiative, grant proposals related to big data, AI and informatics are strongly encouraged. Guidelines for proposals are available on the STR website, including submission requirements and budget considerations.

Funding available is maximally $20,000. Preference will be given to residents, fellows, and junior faculty (within 5 years of completion of fellowship). Recent awardees include: Florian J. Fintelmann, M.D. of Harvard Medical School, for his project titled “Role of Imaging Biomarkers on Chest CT for Preoperative Risk Stratification of Lung Cancer Patients: A Multi-Center Precision Medicine Initiative using Machine Learning” and Leah M. Lin, M.D. of Keck Hospital of USC and USC Keck School of Medicine, for her project titled “Evaluation of Lung Cancer Treatment Response to Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy Utilizing Volumetric Dynamic Contrast-Enhanced CT and Texture Analysis.”

Myrna C. Godoy, M.D. Ph.D.
Chair of STR Research Committee
Artificial intelligence and machine learning research is increasingly applied in radiology, particularly in chest radiology. It is critical for chest radiologists to be actively involved in the development and validation of these algorithms. The STR is therefore collaborating with RSNA on a machine learning challenge on detection of pneumonia on chest radiograph. It is vital to have well-annotated images to serve as training and test datasets for this challenge, and we are counting on the subspecialty expertise of STR members. Annotators will be recognized as contributors or authors depending on the level of involvement. If you are interested in volunteering as an annotator for this project and/or potential future STR projects related machine learning, please email strbigdata@gmail.com with your contact information.

Mentorship in the STR is off to a strong 2018! About 140 members responded to the needs assessment survey, indicating a keen interest in mentorship. Mentors and mentees are being matched according to interest and expertise in specific areas such as education, research, cardiac imaging, clinical trials, quality & safety, and many others.

New this year is the creation of Affinity Groups for STR members sharing interests in focus areas. It is hoped that these Affinity Groups (which will live on social media---more on this later), including paired mentor and mentees and those outside the mentorship program, will promote member engagement with the STR, serve as a forum for peer mentoring, build mentoring communities, be a source of information and collaboration around interest areas, and promote research collaborations. For 2018 Affinity Groups are being launched in Lung Cancer Screening, Cardiac Imaging, Quality & Safety, Artificial Intelligence, and IT & Informatics. If you are interested in joining the mentorship program (as mentor or mentee) or joining an Affinity Group please go to the STR Mentorship Survey.

Save the Date: ITMIG invites STR members to join ITMIG’s annual meeting to energize research in thymic tumors and new avenues for the study of other rare anterior mediastinal masses. Chest radiologists have many opportunities to work on international research and educational initiatives by meet leading thoracic surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists, and pathologists, who are happy to help with any radiology driven study. If you plan on attending and are interested in sightseeing before the conference, please contact me, as we plan on organizing a sightseeing trip for those of us interested and coming from afar. For more information please contact Edith Marom (edith.marom@gmail.com).
Inspiration

STR Officers:
- Cristopher A. Meyer, MD
  President
- Caroline Chiles, MD
  President Elect
- Sanjeev Bhalla, MD
  Treasurer
- Jane P. Ko, MD
  Secretary

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- Karen Conner, MD, MBA
- Adam Jacobi, MD
- Barbara L. McComb, MD
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- Kaushik S. Shahir, MD
- Jadranka Stojanovska-Nojkova, MD
- Andrew Yen, MD

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The STR newsletter, Inspiration, has the following submission and publication dates:

Submission Deadlines
- Winter: December 15
- Spring: March 15
- Summer/Fall: August 15

Publication Dates
- Winter: January 15
- Spring: April 15
- Summer/Fall: September 15