



Newsletter

International Society of Radiology
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ICR 2010 PROGRAM NEARING COMPLETION

The scientific program for the 26th International Congress of Radiology next 9-12 April in Shanghai, China, is nearing completion, according to Xiaoyuan Feng of Shanghai, chairman of the organizing committee. The four-day program will feature 70 refresher courses, 6 plenary lectures and 3 focus sessions featuring speakers from 18 countries.

The congress will begin on Thursday 8 April with registration, a welcome reception and afternoon refresher courses. The full program begins on 9 April with the opening plenary session plus scientific sessions and refresher courses. The meeting closes at midday on Monday, 12 April with a final plenary session. Social programs and a congress dinner are planned for the evenings of 9, 10 and 11 April. All sessions are to be held in the Shanghai International Convention Center.

The topics for the courses will include cardiovascular, chest, abdomen, genitourinary, neurologic, head and neck, musculoskeletal, pediatric, interventional procedures, women's health, ultrasound, nuclear imaging, molecular imaging, PACS and informatics, and radiologic technology.

The congress solicits proffered papers, posters and exhibits from radiologists wishing to attend. Abstracts for papers and scientific exhibits should be submitted via the congress website, www.icr2010.org, before the deadline of 15 December, Dr. Feng added. There will be commercial exhibits, as well.

ICR 2010 is the second international congress in China. The first one was in 1996 in Beijing. Information about convention registration and hotel reservations can be obtained from the same website.

GO RAD BEGINS ACCESS ON ISR WEBSITE

GoRad (Global Outreach Radiology) a new feature of ISR electronic communications referencing current articles about medical imaging applications from a dozen leading internationally circulated radiology journals was installed on the ISR website (www.isradiology.org/gorad) at the beginning of August.

GoRad is a listing of articles selected by the editors of participating journals for linkage between the ISR and their electronic versions of current issues, explained Eric Stern, the editor-in-chief of the newly commissioned ISR project. Dr. Stern is a faculty member at the radiology department of the University of Washington in Seattle in the USA.

“The purpose of GoRad is to advance radiology education to our global radiology community by selecting current, practical and timely articles with content targeted for practicing radiologists in developing nations,” he added.

“Editorial board members from participating journals will select the articles to be referenced. The selected articles will be listed in the ISR website as they are added periodically. Websites of the cooperative journals are linked to the ISR website so that articles can be accessed easily.

“The journals which have agreed to cooperate as of July include, the American Journal of Roentgenology, Radiologica, the Korean Radiology Journal, the American Journal of Neuroradiology, Radiology, the Journal of the American College of Radiology, Radiographics, the Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Oncology, and Journal de Radiologie. Several others are still pending their decision to participate.

“This project will be valuable to journals which will become known in all parts of the world, as well as being valuable to radiologists in many countries,” Dr. Stern predicted.

NOMINATIONS SET FOR 2010 ISR OFFICERS

At the biennial meeting of the International Committee next 9-12 April during ICR 2010 in Shanghai, China, delegates from ISR national member societies will be asked to vote on a slate of officers proposed by a nominating committee and approved in the June 2009 meeting of the Executive Committee.

The nominee for president will be Nickolas Gourtsoyiannis of Heraklion, Crete, Greece. He was elected as president-elect in 2008. He will succeed the current president, Hans Ringertz of Stockholm, Sweden, who becomes past-president.

The nominee for president-elect is Jan Labuscagne of Bunbury, Australia, who completes a term as secretary general. Moving from treasurer to secretary general will be James Borgstede of Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA. The nominee for treasurer is Ricardo Garcia Monaco of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The nominating committee also selected two recipients of the Beclere medal, the ISR's award of distinction. They are Claude Manelfe of Toulouse, France, who will complete his term as past-president, and Rolf Guenther of Aachen, Germany, who has served several terms as a member of the Executive Committee and who has contributed advances to medical imaging.

The choices for the featured Beclere and Fuchs lectures on the program of the International Congress will be A. James Barkovich of the University of California, San Francisco in the USA to deliver the Beclere lecture, and Dai Jian Ping of Beijing, China, to deliver the Fuchs lecture. Antoine Beclere was a pioneer French radiologist, whose family endowed a series of foundations including one now conducted by the ISR. Walther Fuchs was a Swiss radiologist who was for 20 years the ISR secretary-general.

PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION

There was a time, now long since passed, when the only mission of the International Society of Radiology was to sponsor a periodic International Congress of Radiology together with a host national radiology society. That remains a prime responsibility of the ISR every two years. Most of us senior radiologists still feel that the most rewarding educational effort is a scientific meeting with a solid program, informative exhibits and a chance to talk shop with other participants. This is why, with strong convictions, I can encourage all of us to plan to attend ICR 2010 on 9-12 April of next year in Shanghai, China.

But in the recent few years, the ISR has been able to expand its efforts for the education of diagnostic radiologists to take advantage of the rapid spread of the electronic era. The ISR website has been exploited to provide new dimensions of education via the internet and a radiologist's own computer in his office or home.

As noted elsewhere in this Newsletter, the ISR website now has two virtual congress packages which radiologists can use to get current information and to test their learning by taking computerized tests. We have a computer mechanism for all of us to get credit for participation.

Besides the virtual campuses, the website also has the beginnings of GoRad, the listing of "how to" articles from more than a dozen leading radiology journals. This program was proposed to the ISR last spring by Eric Stern, a professor at the University of Washington in Seattle, USA. With our blessing he has put together a system for the editors of participating journals to nominate articles for GoRad. Our website listing is linked with the electronic publication of the participating journals. So a properly deft radiologist can go by the link to read the article and/or download it.

I am pleased to announce another contribution which will appear in the ISR website in coming

months. This is an electronic version of Gamuts of Radiology, a definitive reference book for differential diagnoses of diseases. The book provides a listing of thousands of diagnoses together with illustrations of the images. It has been donated to the ISR and to the American College of Radiology by its editor of several editions, Maurice Reeder, a radiologist living in Washington, DC. The first edition was prepared by Dr. Reeder in cooperation with Benjamin Felson, a noted speaker and writer from the University of Cincinnati, in Ohio, USA. Dr. Reeder and his publisher, Springer, have granted the ISR the right for electronic distribution of the Gamuts contents. This is the second donation from Dr. Reeder. His first one was his volume on x-ray diagnosis of tropical diseases which he compiled with Philip Palmer.

In months to come, we hope to add other educational materials and resources to our website for the access of radiologists all around the world.



Hans Ringertz, M.D.
President



The executive committee at the second International Congress of Radiology met 23-27 July 1928 in Stockholm, Sweden. In the picture, left to right, are: Prof. M. Haudek of Austria, Prof. P. Tandojol of Italy, Prof. W. Friedrich of England, Prof. Gosta Forssell of Sweden, president of the congress, Prof. Thurston Holland of England, who was president of the first congress in 1925 in London, Prof. George E. Pfahler of the United States, and Dr. Antoine Beclere of France, designated president of the third congress in 1931 in Paris.

SECOND VIRTUAL CONGRESS GRANTS CERTIFICATES

Radiologists participating in the two virtual campuses available to them via the ISR website, can get credits for their use of the sections and their response to examinations featured with part of the presentation, announced the ISR webmasters, Ricardo Garcia Monaco of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Luis Donoso Bach of Barcelona, Spain.

Effective in August, the ISR website www.isradiology.org will contain forms participants can print to demonstrate their activity. One version states only that the participant has visited the virtual campus. A second form will reflect the number of examinations a participating radiologist has answered and indicate how correctly the participant answered the questions. Some 80 percent of correct answers is required to get the automatic credit for taking each examination.

During June some 1200 persons visited the virtual campus site in the third month of the second virtual campus. In addition to the virtual campuses, 873 persons visited the book on tropical disease radiology and about 1000 others visited other portions of the website.

The credit forms are designed to be applied to continuing medical education (CME) programs in most countries. They reflect the result of the examination, rather than the amount of time a person spends in either of the virtual campuses. A record of certificates printed will be retained in the ISR virtual congress files.

While the system is implemented currently for the second virtual campus, it has been extended to the materials in the first virtual campus, which is also still available in the ISR website.

FIRST AFRICAN CONGRESS

The first African Society of Radiology international conference will be held 9-11 October 2010 in Tripoli, Libya, announced Hassan A. Gharbi of Tunis, Tunisia, the ASR president-elect and meeting organizer. The meeting will be cosponsored by the Libyan Society of Radiology and the Mediterranean and African Society of Ultrasound.

The African society was organized in 2007 by Dr. Gharbi and several radiologists from other countries in the African continent. Its creation came with the encouragement of several national radiology societies and the cooperation of the ISR. Jan Labuscagne, then of South Africa, was the first president, but he moved to Australia, leaving Dr. Gharbi in the lead.

A scientific program is being prepared. Participation in the October 2010 ASR conference will be open to radiologists from all of Africa and other countries, said Dr. Gharbi. For additional information, Dr. Gharbi can be contacted at the Ibn Zohr Radiology Department, 1003 Tunis, Tunisia, or via email at hassen.agharbi@planet.tn.

ISR JOINS IMAGE GENTLY

“Image gently” is a project intended to reduce excessive radiation from x-ray procedures of children. Its sponsoring organization in the USA, the Alliance for Radiation Safety in Pediatric Imaging, has attracted more than 20 sponsoring organizations including the ISR as of May of this year. The international sponsoring groups include societies in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Latin America, and recently, the European Society of Pediatric Radiology. The thrust of Imaging Gently efforts is to persuade performers of radiation imaging studies of children to adjust and reduce the exposure of settings from those used for adults. Both the energy levels and the collimation of images should be adjusted for the size of a child, the sponsoring Alliance asserts. Its website is www.imagegently.org.

IAEA MOUNTS EFFORT TO RECORD PATIENT DOSE

In April of this year, the International Atomic Energy Agency announced a new project to record medical radiation exposures to patients over a lifetime. Besides calling attention to the increased exposure from the growing volume of x-ray examinations, the IAEA also notes a jump in patient exposure from CT scans as distinct from traditional x-ray examinations, said Madan Rehani, an IAEA radiation safety specialist.

The IAEA has invited the ISR and other international organizations to participate in the design of a “smart card” which people might carry to record their radiation exposures over a lifetime. How such a system might function has not been determined, he said.

HONG KONG SEMINAR

The Hong Kong College of Radiology and the British Royal College of Radiologists will sponsor their third joint scientific meeting and the 17th consecutive scientific radiology meeting in Hong Kong 31 October and 1 November at the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. The program will include parallel sessions on clinical diagnostic radiology, and on nuclear imaging, clinical oncology and palliative medical approaches. Among the 20 speakers will be Andy Adam of London, England, who will deliver the keynote lecture on the diagnostic program. Details about registration and hotel accommodations can be obtained on the meeting website <http://www.rcr.ac.uk> or <http://www.hkcr.org>.