

ASHNR NEWS Spring 2023

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ashok Srinivasan, MD, ASHNR President

First and foremost, I would like to extend a heartfelt gratitude to all ASHNR members and supporters for making the 2022 annual in-person meeting in Aurora, CO a great success. I had a great time reconnecting with friends and HN colleagues and had the opportunity to learn so much from the experts. We are moving into a new post-pandemic world where the satisfaction of holding in-person educational activities and the excitement of social gatherings needs to be balanced with the flexibility of listening to 'what we want when we want it'. While there is no right or wrong answer in these matters, each society is trying to find the best options for its well-wishers to continue to deliver high quality educational content. Dr Mosier, our President-Elect, has put together a superlative 2023 meeting program that will reinforce concepts one knows, revisit topics that may be controversial and stimulate intellectual curiosity in both the newer and senior members. We hope to see all of you in Orlando this fall!

It is also with great sorrow that we learnt last fall about the passing of Dr Som, one of the giants in our field. Dr Som was not only a pioneer in the field of head and neck radiology but also was instrumental in helping our field achieve the prominence it has today and mentored dozens of radiologists who went on to become experts in their own right. We have a section in this newsletter devoted to



the thoughts of many of our HN family whose lives Dr Som touched in so many ways.

Lastly, I would like to thank my friends on the executive committee who have been instrumental in running different aspects of our operations and ensuring the society stays focused on all our missions.

## **57TH ANNUAL MEETING PREVIEW**

**Kristine Mosier, DMD, PhD**ASHNR President Elect/Program Chair



After a very successful, fulfilling and fun meeting in Denver, 2022, we are once again looking forward to an in-person meeting for this year's ASHNR! Please plan to join us Sept. 20 – 24th in Orlando, Florida! The program development is well underway, so please watch you mailboxes for news and updates. This is will be an action-packed meeting with over

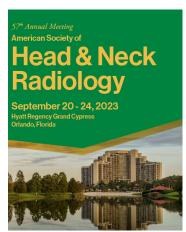
85 speakers in didactic educational sessions covering a variety of topics from more traditional Head and Neck Radiology to newer techniques and cutting edge approaches. We are excited to announce this meeting as our first joint meeting with the European Society of Head and Neck Radiology (ESHNR) whose fantastic speakers you will not want to miss! You'll hear from an all-star cast of senior ASHNR members about how they approached working through cases that stumped them. We will have Scientific Paper sessions to learn about research in Head and Neck Radiology and we will have focus sessions covering a variety of topics including leadership, building and leading your Head and Neck Team, Teaching Head and Neck Radiology, among others. We look forward to many Educational Exhibits and the Case of the Day presentations to teach us new things, give us new perspectives and keep us on our toes! And as always the famous

ASHNR Game Show will wrap up outstanding education in a package of fun.

We are grateful for corporate support of our meeting and we look forward to working with our corporate support partners to provide opportunities to learn about new products and services.

The venue for the meeting is a terrific location close to Disney and with many

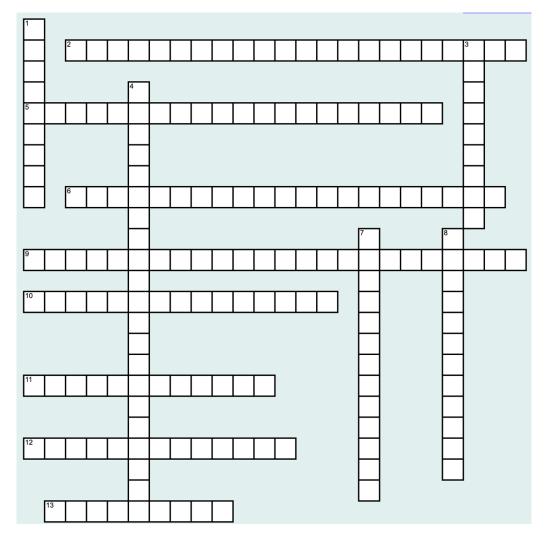
on-site amenities. So bring the family!



Spring is knocking on the door and summer will be over before you know it. Look for announcements for registration to open up in the not-to-distant future! Please encourage your trainees to submit scientific abstract or educational exhibits.

We look forward to seeing you all in September for a fantastic educational experience and a chance to connect with, and catch up, with your ASHNR family!

Try it online at: https://mycrosswordmaker.com/1164531/2022-3-ASHNR-Official-Crossword





to seeing everyone at ASHNR23!

Across

- Neurographics -Kids with problems chomping at the bit
- 5 Neurographics -Blood flow by another route
- 6 Neurographics -Twist and shout to get the picture out!
- 9 COM this was first described by Hubert Von Luschka in 1856

- Neurographics -A CT that can see more by providing intrinsic spectral sensitivity
- 11 COM -Not your usual lumps and bumps in the middle of the face
- 12 COM Going skin deep when it should not!
- 13 Neurographics -On the tip of what Rudolf the Reindeer is famous for

Down

- Bronze winning exhibit on looking at you wildly!
- 3 Gold medal scientific We need to talk about this
- 4 COM A portion of the cranium described by the Stealers Wheel song in
- 7 COM Tumors arising from Chromaffin cells
- 8 COM Melissa Etheridge sang about coming to these in 1993, if not shut may cause problems



This year, the ASHNR International Relations Committee is striving for global impact by pursuing new opportunities for cross-country collaboration, while continuing to grow existing initiatives. Our new theme for the ASHNR+ESHNR webinars is #HN-Global—featuring diverse intercontinental speakers on unique topics,

with complementary perspectives from American and European faculty. We are also assisting the Ex-Comm in operationalizing a proposed ASHNR-BSHNI visiting professorship. Building on the success of virtual ASHNR meetings during COVID-19, we hope to encourage international attendees with a combination of hybrid formats, group registration plans, and in-person social events. The committee has leveraged key contacts to augment international H&N representation at other radiology meetings, such as ASNR and RSNA. We are working with various



organizations and societies to explore sustainable and scalable ideas for cross-country teaching and mentorship in Asia, Africa, South America, and Australia. Our long-term goals include strategic partnerships and continued outreach to advance the mission and interests of ASHNR as a world leader in head & neck imaging.

## **CORE CURRICULUM FUND**

Suresh Mukherji, MD ASHNR Core Curriculum Fund Chair



The American Society of Head & Neck Radiology Core Curriculum Fund (CCF) was created in 2008 with the specific mission of supporting research and educational activities that advance the field of Head & Neck Radiology. Over the first 10 years, the CCF reinvest-

ed nearly \$250,000 into our society by annually funding the William N Hanafee MD Research Grant, the ASH-NR Core Curriculum Research Seed Grant, and Core Curriculum educational sessions at our annual meeting. Since its inception, CCF-Hanafee Grant funding has supported the careers of 14 junior faculty and trainees. The outcomes of these projects have been presented at the annual meeting and the results have contributed to clinical translation of many of these techniques, including diffusion, perfusion, PET-CT, zero echo time MRI and MR neurography, to head and neck imaging.

Over the past year, the CCF committee developed a strategic plan that was submitted to the ASHNR Executive Committee – this plan suggests a substantial increase in annual reinvestment to support our educational and research missions. The proposed reinvestments will increase the number and funding level of annual ASHNR career development grants (Hanafee and Seed Grants), support a joint ASHNR/ESHNR collaboration, create a

Global Outreach Program to support low resource countries, and provide sustained resources to adequately fund the infrastructure necessary to support and expand the educational content of ASHNR website.

The ASHNR has already taken steps to implement these recommendations. The ASHNR awarded 4 new grants this past year totaling \$62,500, and the ASHNR/ESH-NR international collaboration will be integrated into the 2023 annual meeting programming. This increased reinvestment of CCF funds into the ASHNR core mission will continue to expand over time, and we thank all of you who have contributed to the CCF for your generosity. We encourage our members to continue to invest in the future of Head & Neck Radiology and to stay tuned for more CCF-funded projects and initiatives.

## Ways to make a tax deductible contribution:

- 1. Online at www.ashnr.org
- Check, payable to ASHNR Core Curriculum Fund, to: ASHNR Core Curriculum Fund, 820 Jorie Blvd, Suite 300, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523
- 3. Phone 630-574-0220 ext.234
- 4. From a donor-advised charitable fun (Coming soon! Stay tuned for details.)

Help support your future, contribute today!



The members of the Education Committee, under the leadership of my predecessor, Dr. Char Branstetter, was tasked with choosing the best scientific and educational material at the 2022 Annual Meeting. Char and I extend our thanks to the entire committee for completing a difficult job – there was so much great content at the meeting, it was

almost impossible to select winners.

The <u>Gold medal scientific Presentation Award</u> went to Eva Chau, MD, a student at UPMC for CT of the Larynx: Is an Additional High-Resolution Acquisition Necessary for Diagnostic Accuracy

#### **Electronic Exhibit Winners**

<u>GOLD</u>: Ty Dodd. On the Nose: Practical Approach to

Pediatric Sinonasal Masses

SILVER: Alejandra Pajon Julio. Open Your Mouth and

Stick out your Tongue

BRONZE: Natalie Utley. A controlled Approach to

Uncontrolled Eye Movement

#### **Electronic Exhibits Certificates of Merit**

 Yoshiaki Ota. Advanced Imaging Biomarkers for H&N Paragangliomas

- Alex Stevens. Ecchordosis Physaliphora: Does it Even Exist?
- Dhairya Lakhani. Diseases of the Middle Cranial Fossa
- Maili Lim. A Glimpse Through the Third Window
- Sarah Farmer. Uncommon Nasal Cavity Masses
- Akiri Baba, Middle Ear Cholesteatoma

I want to personally thank all the authors who contributed to the Case of the Day: Nancy Pham, Sara Tedla, Audrey Verde, Michael Kwofie, Misia Yuhasz, Michael Starc, Sara Strauss, Mike Bazylewicz, and Jamie Wicks. The cases ranged from difficult to nigh impossible! Our overall winner (with the most correct cases for the week) was Bernd Daeubler. Our other winners, chosen at random from among the correct answers, were Sandeep Naik, Galal Omami, and Esther Nimchinsky. Each of the winners received a Head and Neck Radiology book of their choice from Elsevier.

A big congratulations to everyone who tried their hand at the Case of the Day, and to everyone who shared their knowledge at ASHNR 2022.

## **ABSTRACTS for the 2023 Annual Meeting**

We hope to see you all for the 2023 Annual Meeting. The deadline for abstract submission will be May 31, 2023, and the call for abstracts is available at: <a href="https://ashnrabstracts.com/">https://ashnrabstracts.com/</a>.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Christine Glastonbury, MBBS**ASHNR Vice President/Membership Committee Chair



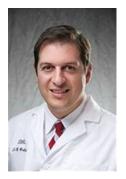
The ASHNR membership committee are proud to say that we currently have a 1115 members from the USA and around the world! That's 1114 people besides YOU who like all things Head & Neck!

We are always looking to welcome trainees [medical students, residents and fellows!] to our society, where

they can access all the great educational material, be guided by our YPS society in mentorship and hopefully make a lot of new HN friends.

We would like to encourage our members to remember to sign up again for 2023 membership. THIS YEAR we have a "matching dollar program" – thanks to an anonymous donor, there will be \$50 given to the ASHNR core curriculum fund for every NEW active / affiliate /associate member before tax day 2023! [to a maximum of \$3000]. So BRING your current friends to come make new friends in ASHNR.

The membership committee of Ian Mark, Jeanie Choi, Colin Poon, Alvand Hassankhani, Neelu Jain, Amit Agarwal and I, are looking forward to seeing you at this year's ASHNR meeting.



As your American College of Radiology councilor, I would like to update you on the college's activities this past year.:

During the 2022 annual meeting, the ACR held the convocation for the new fellows of the ACR. Congratulations to the ASHNR members awarded the ACR fellowship: **Douglas** 

C. Brown, MD, Gary Joseph Felsberg, MD, Claudia Francoise-Eve Kirsch, MD, Jonathan Asher Morgan, MD. This honor is awarded to college members who have demonstrated service to the ACR, evidenced by significant accomplishments in scientific or clinical research in the field of radiology; made substantial contributions to literature; and/or provided outstanding work as a radiology teacher. Only 10 percent of college members have been awarded this honor.

#### **Medicare Reimbursement**

From 2021–2023 ACR successfully led a coalition against scheduled Medicare cuts saving the radiologic profession \$1.637 billion.

### **Texas Surprise Billing Lawsuit**

The American College of Radiology® (ACR®), American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), and American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) filed a joint amicus brief with a Texas federal court Feb. 21 in support of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) suit challenging the government's implementation of the No Surprises Act (NSA). The brief states that the government's 600% administrative fee increase to enter the independent dispute resolution (IDR) process, as allowed by the NSA, restricts providers' access to this tool to obtain fair compensation for physician services. The Texas Radiological Society and Houston Radiology Associated are co-plaintiffs in this most recent TMA lawsuit.

#### **MIPS Submission Deadline Nears**

Groups and individuals required to participate in the 2022 Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) have until 8 pm ET, March 31, to submit their performance data to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The American College of Radiology® (ACR®) Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR) team advises submitting the data in advance of the March 31 deadline to ensure it is received with no errors.

## South Dakota Scope of Practice Legislation Defeated

The South Dakota Radiological Society (SDRS) and the American College of Radiology® (ACR®) were successful in their campaign to defeat Senate Bill (SB) 175, legislation introduced in the state senate earlier this year that would have allowed a physician assistant (PA) that completed 2,080 practice hours to perform medical services — including taking X-rays and performing radiologic procedures — without a collaborative agreement with a physician.

# **ACR Celebrates Its 100th Anniversary**

The American College of Radiology is celebrating its 100th anniversary 2023-2024. The ACR was informally founded in 1923 and incorporated in 1924. To celebrate its first 100 years, the ACR has been running articles in the ACR Bulletin, established a timeline of its history on the Centennial Web page, featured Trivia Tuesdays via social media, and is planning a gala at its 2023 Annual Meeting to be held at the Washington Hilton May 6-9. The gala will be held on the evening of Saturday, May 6, and will feature a video on the first 100 years of the ACR. Dinner and dancing through the decades will be part of the Gala activities. Plans for 2024 will look forward envisioning the ACR and the profession of radiology well into the future. Please feel free to participate in this two-year celebration by contacting Darlene Poucher at dpoucher@acr.org.

I highly encourage each member of the ASHNR to become an ACR member if you are not one. There are many opportunities to be involved in ACR functions and serve on committees. You can also contribute to the RAD- PAC campaign, either individually or as a part of your group practice. We must continue to have a high level of engagement on the national legislative level to ensure our profession's future. This is critical to allow us to continue to provide the highest level of care to our patients and communities.

## IN MEMORIAM: DR. PETER SOM MARCH 12, 1941 - SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

On September 19, 2022, we lost a pillar of the Head and Neck (HN) imaging community. Dr. Peter Som passed away at the age of 81. Peter was known by every radiologist and otolaryngologist as an authority on the anatomy and pathology of the HN as well as how to best evaluate various diseases at imaging. His deep understanding of the clinical issues and the treatment implications of subtle findings made his opinion one of the most sought after in the discipline.

Peter was born on March 12, 1941. He grew up in Manhattan where his father was a renowned head and neck surgeon. Indeed his father, Dr. Max Som was considered a pioneer in the field of voice sparing partial laryngectomy for cancers of the larynx. Peter recalled spending time in the operating room with his father before he was ten years old. He would even occasionally go on house calls with his father. This early interest and exposure to otolaryngology presumably played a role in Peter's choice of profession and helped establish Peter's long held belief in the importance of integrating the clinical findings with the imaging in these complex cases.

After undergraduate work at the University of Wisconsin, Peter studied medicine at NYU Medical and then went to Mt. Sinai for his internship and residency in Radiology. His academic career advanced rapidly, and ultimately he was promoted to Professor of Radiology and Otolaryngology at Mt Sinai. He authored hundreds of papers, published in both radiology and otolaryngology peer-reviewed journals., He co-edited and co-authored 5 editions of the authoritative textbook, Head and Neck Imaging. He was instrumental in the early development of the American Society of Head and Neck Radiology, serving as President of the Society, and in 2004 he received the highest honor from the ASHNR, the Gold Medal. Indeed his accomplishments were known the world over, attracting visiting students to study his unique approach to the difficult topic.

Dr. Som was respected as a teacher, both nationally and internationally. Knowing the significance of clinical findings became the basis of what many consider Peter's greatest gift. Whether lecturing or writing chapters, serving on a scholarly panel or just giving a consult, Peter's opinion would always include a point by point discussion as to why a certain finding was important. . This in-depth knowledge of the use of imaging in head and neck disease became a magnet to students from all over the world wanting to advance their own understanding of this intricate discipline. Peter is best known for his work in HN imaging but he had many other interests. Peter's mother was a classical violinist and Peter started piano lessons when he was four. Apparently he showed significant potential and at one time was considering further study and perhaps a career in classical music. Luckily for the field of head and neck imaging, he followed a different pathway. He maintained his interest in music. Peter's wife, Judith Som, remembers when they were first married Peter would play for her while she read on the couch. Peter would occasionally hit a very discordant note. Judy would look up with a questioning expression and say "what the hell was that?" Peter would respond: "just seeing if you were listening."

Growing up, Peter loved large jigsaw puzzles and murder mysteries. These were hobbies that would occupy and test his mind. When Peter was in the army and stationed at Fort Dix, he started building very complex ship models to fill some of the quiet periods. He continued to work on them all of his life and several are in the study in Judy and Peter's home. They are ornate masterpieces made of very tiny pieces of wood and are complete with complex rigging that would require magnifying glasses and tweezers to delicately squeeze into place.

Peter's sense of humor would frequently work its way into his lectures. The jokes would vary with the different talks but Peter had a few favorites. I can remember one that he would always insert in his lecture about Imaging of the Sinuses or Imaging of the Skull base. As the story goes Peter was sitting with the residents and fellows going over a complex skull base case. Indeed even Peter said he had never seen one like it. The discussion continued and eventually one of the excellent senior bone radiologists at Mt. Sinai walked over to see what was going on. On seeing the case he apparently said: "Wow, I've never seen an aneurysmal bone cyst of the sphenoid bone." Peter's only response was: "well, now you have."

Peter was the ultimate New Yorker. He loved the theater and loved concerts at the Lincoln Center and in Central Park. Indeed he had a special love for Central Park. Judy would often run in the New York Marathon and Peter would wait on one side of the park to cheer her on. After she ran by, Peter would walk across the park to greet her on the other side. He claims he started timing how long it would take him to walk across the park so that he could track his own progress at the marathon.

If Peter and Judy wanted to get out of the city for a day or two, the preferred mode of travel was a beautiful old Jaguar Vanden Plas. A likely destination might be a fall music or theatre festival in New England. I can definitely picture the car gliding through the leaves at high season in western Massachusetts.

He loved dining out. He would take visitors to small places on side streets of New York where the food was incredible. To complete his fascination with the city, he and Judy would take a Circle Line Tour around Manhattan every few years. He was a supporter of many New York institutions including St. Jude's Hospital, the Central Park Conservancy, the American Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the New York Philharmonic.

He is survived by his wonderful wife Judy, his daughter Jamie Calabro and his two cherished grandsons, Ethan Linden and Oliver Lindenbaum.

Peter was a great friend and outstanding educator. He will be missed.

Hugh Curtin

#### Remembrances

Peter was a deeply compassionate man, and true friend. Decades ago, when I was undergoing surgery for acute intestinal obstruction, Peter came to the waiting room, sat with my wife to comfort her, went back to Radiology to read out cases, and returned to sit with her again until I went to recovery. He did not want her to feel alone.

Tom Naidich

As for my memory of my relationship with Peter, I am not only grateful for my friendship with him and also my learning from him, I am extremely grateful that Peter convinced the founders of the ASHNR to create a real society lead by the membership. Early on, Peter left a real stamp on this society and he was dedicated to it for the rest of his life.

**Charles Schatz** 

I first met Peter when I went to Mt. Sinai during my Head and Neck Fellowship at NYU. I spent three months with him and maintained contact throughout my career. He was an excellent teacher, mentor, and sponsor of several fellows trained at NYU who went on to assume leadership roles in the Society of Head and Neck Radiology.

I've had the pleasure of traveling to several international meetings with Peter and his wife, Judy. My favorite recollection is seeing Peter dressed in what looked like military clothing walking through the jungle in Panama.

Deborah Reede

Peter was obviously a wonderful radiologist and extremely supportive of junior ASHNR faculty. I will always remember his kind word after my first ASHNR talk and also allowing me to borrow a couple of his "slides" for a future presentation. I always thought that it was an honor when someone of that stature took the time to be so supportive.

When I first met Peter, I was a bit intimidated by this "Giant" of a person. Over the years, I admired him as much for this sincerity, kindness and authenticity as I did for this accomplishments. I will always remember Peter as a "Gentle Giant".

Suresh K Mukherji

Peter was so very reliable. If he said he was going to make something happen; he would. You could always count on him.

Nandita Guha-Thakurta

I got to know him through our initial work on sinus secretions (ed.)! where we worked together on figuring out why mucous was of different signal intensities within paranasal sinuses. We both enjoyed this collaboration, which included a PhD expert Gary Fullerton in protein MR who was then located in Texas. This culminated in a paper on sinonasal secretions, which of course we had many laughs about- the MR of "s---" became our bond. Peter was always a great mentor, and collaborator.

Bill Dillon

Early in my academic career, Peter decided he would be my mentor. Was I lucky! I don't believe he ever called me by my name; I was always "Kid." If I asked him a question I made sure I had plenty of time, as his answers were, well, thorough. In so many ways he championed my career and encouraged me at every step. I miss him sorely, and our community has lost a Giant.

Patricia Rhyner

It was Peter that first approached me about staying at Mount Sinai after my fellowship, and he graciously took me under his wing early in my career. He was an effective mentor, and even if I never did acquire the air of sophistication that came so naturally to him, the head and neck lessons (and the humor they spawned) made an everlasting impact on me as a radiologist and as a professional. His shoes can never be filled.

**Brad Delman** 

Peter was a uniquely talented individual who loved Radiology, teaching, writing, and living in New York City. His many years of service to Mount Sinai were extraordinary where he was so important to and beloved by not only Radiology, but also by his colleagues in the ENT and Ophthalmology Departments. He leaves a void that can never be filled.

Burt Drayer

Peter was my teacher, supporter, guidance counselor, and friend. He helped keep me honest with head and neck knowledge, academic pursuits, and career decisions, with a (mostly) straight face but always a twinkle in his eye. He is deeply missed.

Amy Juliano

It is hard to accept that Dr. Som passed away so quickly. We all miss him terribly. He really is one of those people who are irreplaceable.

Maria de Fatima Aragao

## 2022-2023 ASHNR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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# **Answer to Crossword from page 2** Ν Υ S Τ MASTICATORSPACE\_CHI3LDS <sup>6</sup>A R T E R I A L \_ C O L L A T E R A L S D MANEUVERS\_FOR\_NECK <sup>®</sup>E C C H O R D O S I S \_ P H Y S A L I P H O R A I R D R A N G L I O M A PHOTON\_COUNTING Α -W -N D O W N A S A L \_ M A S S E S

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<sup>13</sup>A P E X \_ N A S I