Welcome to winter! The temperatures and snow here in Chicago lately have certainly made winter come early this year!

Please be sure to read through this edition of the Pulse to stay up to date on JRCERT organizational information. There is important news concerning the upcoming JRCERT 50th Anniversary Excellence in Education Conference, JRCERT Board of Directors updates, accreditation quick tips, and other important information.

On behalf of the JRCERT Board and staff, we wish you all a very happy and safe holiday season! We look forward to working with all of you in 2019!

Leslie

The JRCERT is currently seeking a candidate for the position of Accreditation Specialist. The individual must have the following qualifications: certification by the ARRT in radiography and/or radiation therapy, master’s degree, experience as an educator or site visitor, strong communication skills, ability to manage multiple priorities, and ability to work independently as well as part of a team.

This individual will be responsible for reviewing accreditation documents, supporting program officials throughout the accreditation process, and representing the JRCERT at professional organization and state meetings. This position requires relocation to Chicago, IL with a flexible start date.

The JRCERT offers a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits. If you are interested in the opportunity to become a part of the JRCERT staff, please send a cover letter, curriculum vitae, salary requirements, and three letters of reference to Leslie Winter via e-mail (lwinter@jrcert.org). Due to the upcoming holidays and end of semester obligations, the JRCERT has received requests to extend the application deadline. Please submit the necessary documentation no later than February 15, 2019.
Excellence in Education Conference

Preparations for the JRCERT 50th Anniversary Excellence in Education Conference on November 4-5, 2019 at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago are well under way! Registration for the event will be open soon. Information about the conference including speakers, location, and other important information will be available at www.jrcertconference.org beginning January 15th, 2019. The JRCERT is proud to announce that Laura Aaron, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(M)(QM), FASRT will headline the conference as keynote speaker. Dr. Aaron will present “Tricks of the Trade for Radiologic Sciences Educators/Strategies for becoming an effective educator”. Other confirmed speakers include Jeff Killion, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(QM), Nina Kowalczyk, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(CT)(QM), FASRT, FAEIRS, Kelli Welch Haynes, Ed.D. R.T.(R), and Janice Martin, M.A., R.T.(R). Topics being presented will include interprofessional education, leadership, ethical responsibilities, collaboration, evaluation, assessment, and soft skills. A complete list of all speakers and topics will be available on the conference web site. Early bird registration is $350 and will go up beginning mid-April so be sure to register early and get the early bird rate! Hotel rooms at the Blackstone Hotel are available at a discounted rate of $199.99/night. This rate is available during the conference days as well as before and after the event if you would like to extend your stay in downtown Chicago. Please contact the Blackstone for more details. We look forward to seeing everyone in Chicago next November!
Standards Revision Update

The JRCERT Standards Revision Committee would like to update you on the progress of the project. The committee has worked diligently over the past six months to finalize Draft 2.

Draft 2 is now available on the Standards Revision webpage. The JRCERT will announce a call for comments via both surveys and email. If at any time you wish to comment, please feel free to email us at Standards.Revision@jrcert.org.

JRCERT representatives facilitated Standards revision presentations at national and state society meetings throughout 2018 including:

• The American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) 60th Annual Meeting
• The American Association of Medical Dosimetrists (AAMD) 43rd Annual Meeting
• The Wisconsin Society of Radiologic Technologists (WSRT) Annual Conference
• The California Society of Radiologic Technologists (CSRT) Annual Conference.

The JRCERT is grateful for those who provided feedback on Draft 1. Draft 1 remains on the website for those wishing to perform a more thorough crosswalk; however, some noteworthy changes in Draft 2 are as follows:

• A full-time equivalent clinical coordinator is required if the program has more than 15 students enrolled in the clinical component of the program. (All documents)
• The direct supervision of students during surgical procedures. (Radiography documents)
• Three-year average credentialing examination pass rate of not less than 75 percent at first attempt within six months of graduation. (Excluding Medical Dosimetry documents)
• Three-year average credentialing examination pass rate of not less than 75 percent at first attempt within twelve months of graduation. (Medical Dosimetry documents)
• Three-year average job placement rate of not less than 75% within twelve months of graduation. (All documents)
• Programs must have access to a fully energized laboratory. (Radiography documents)

The project remains on schedule and you can review the complete timetable at our main Standards Revision webpage or by clicking Standards Revision Project Timetable.

JRCERT representatives will be facilitating Standards revision presentations at the following meetings in 2019:

• West Coast Educators Conference, Wednesday, February 6th, Orlando, Florida.
• Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology (ACERT) 44th ACERT Conference, Thursday, February 7th, Las Vegas, Nevada.
• The Association of Educators in Radiologic Technology of the State of New York, April 10-12th, Lake George, New York.
• Other dates/locations to be determined – check the JRCERT website.

As always, we look forward to your continued input and to publishing a comprehensive Standards 2021 document.

Sincerely,

Lorie Zelna, M.S., R.T.(R)(MR)
Standards Committee Chair
First Vice Chair – JRCERT Board of Directors
Board of Directors Update

The JRCERT Board of Directors met in Chicago for their biannual meeting from October 18-19, 2018. As always, the Board discussed many items on their agenda and considered the accreditation awards for many programs.

The Board is pleased to announce that Mahsa Dehghanpour, Ed.D., CMD has been elected to serve on the JRCERT Board of Directors at the conclusion of the April 2019 Board meeting. Dr. Dehghanpour is currently the Medical Dosimetry Program Director at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. Welcome Dr. Dehghanpour!

Dr. Dehghanpour will replace Laura Borghardt, M.S., CMD, as the certified medical dosimetrist on the JRCERT Board. Ms. Borghardt’s six-year term will conclude at the end of the April 2019 Board Meeting. Thank you Ms. Borghardt for your many years of dedication to the JRCERT!

JRCERT Staff News

If you have called the JRCERT office recently, you may have noticed a different voice answering the phone. Meagan Cruz is the newest addition to the JRCERT staff and will take over as Office Assistant upon Betty Matulewicz’s retirement in March, 2019. Also in March, 2019, Administrative Assistant Jean Samuelson is set to retire. Betty and Jean combined have given 17 years of experience to the JRCERT. The JRCERT Board of Directors and staff thank Angie for her dedication and continued support of the organization.

In August 2018, Senior Executive Assistant Angie Mielcarek celebrated 25 years at the JRCERT. The JRCERT Board of Directors and staff thank Angie for her dedication and continued support of the organization.

Traci Lang, M.S.R.S., R.T.(R)(T) was recently promoted to Associate Director and Jacqueline Kralik, M.A.L., R.T.(R)(CT)(MR) was recently promoted to Assistant Director. Congratulations Traci and Jacqueline! Jay Hicks, Ed.D., R.T.(R), is no longer with the organization; we wish Jay success in his future endeavors.
Emergency Closings

The JRCERT continues to send our best wishes to all of those affected by the plethora of natural disasters this year. If any program requires assistance from the JRCERT during any unforeseen circumstance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Additionally, with the winter season upon us, please understand that the JRCERT office may close unexpectedly in the best interest of the staff's safety. If you should call the office during normally scheduled business hours and receive an office is closed message, please check the JRCERT web site for possible information about the office closure in the scrolling ribbon at the top of the page. In the event the office is closed, JRCERT staff will respond to your inquiries and correspondence as soon as possible.

Annual Reports/Customer Satisfaction Surveys

Over the summer months, the JRCERT opened a satisfaction survey to all of our programs. A link had been included in a broadcast email as well as the 2017 Program Annual Reports. So far, we have received hundreds of responses with very useful feedback. Thank you to everyone that completed the survey!

If you would still like to complete the survey, please click on the following link. The survey will remain open until the remaining annual reports are submitted. As a reminder, the 2017 Annual Reports for those programs graduating students after October 1, 2017 are due by January 18, 2019.

Annual Fee Increase

At the JRCERT Board of Directors meeting in October 2018, the Board voted to adopt a revised JRCERT fee schedule. The new fee schedule will be effective on January 1, 2020. Pursuant to JRCERT Policy 11.000, the JRCERT publishes notification of fee increases at least one (1) year prior to the proposed date of increase. Please be sure to review the revised schedule at the following link.
Accreditation Quick Tips

**Clinical Setting Recognition**

There are several things to consider when programs are seeking to obtain recognition of a clinical setting. Program officials should make contact with the clinical setting and the radiology administrator ahead of submitting information to the JRCERT. A current affiliation agreement and accreditation documentation of the clinical setting are required documents when submitting the information through the JRCERT Portal. Additionally, program officials are required to submit data regarding desired clinical capacity, the number of qualified practitioners, and the number of imaging rooms, mobile and/or C-ARMS, magnets, workstations, treatment units, or simulators, depending on the modality. A clinical instructor must be identified and that individual must provide their curriculum vitae and documentation of ARRT/MDCB registration or an unrestricted state license. Finally, the radiology administrator’s name and email address must be provided. When all information has been uploaded and the program clicks “Submit” in the Portal, an email will automatically be sent to the radiology administrator at the clinical setting. This individual must electronically sign through the link in the email in order for the clinical setting to be reviewed by the JRCERT.

**Required Signatures**

Please note that several items require signatures upon submission. These signatures are received electronically and are requested via email to the individuals. As noted above, the radiology administrator’s signature is required when a clinical setting is submitted for recognition. In regards to initial and continuing applications, the CEO and Dean of the sponsoring institution must provide electronic signatures upon submission of the Self-Study Report as well as the Response to the Report of Findings. The CEO and Dean will likewise need to electronically sign when the program submits an Interim Report.

**Adverse action by an accrediting agency**

It is the responsibility of the program to notify the JRCERT should an accrediting agency of the sponsoring institution take an adverse action. For example, if the program’s sponsoring institution is accredited by the Middles States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) and MSCHE were to place the institution on Warning, the program and/or sponsoring institution must notify the JRCERT consistent with JRCERT Policy 11.800.
The JRCERT Welcomes New Programs

Congratulations and welcome to our newly accredited programs! Since the April 2018 meeting of the Board of Directors, four applicant program have been awarded initial JRCERT accreditation. The sponsoring institutions and program officials are to be commended for their hard work and demonstrated high levels of professionalism:

**Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts**  
Sacramento, CA  
Radiography

**Northwest Florida State College**  
Niceville, FL  
Radiography

**Northwest Iowa Community College**  
Sheldon, IA  
Radiography

**SUNY Erie Community College**  
(Buffalo, NY)  
Radiation Therapy

The JRCERT is the only agency recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) for the accreditation of traditional and distance delivery education programs in radiography, radiation therapy, magnetic resonance, and medical dosimetry.

The JRCERT Newsletters are archived on the JRCERT Web site, www.jrcert.org, under the “Accreditation Information” tab.

**Pulse Editors:**  
Jason Mielcarek, M.A.M.Ed., Accreditation Assistant  
Joanne Sauter, B.A, Administrative Assistant

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