



# Pulse

A Publication of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology

## From the CEO

Greetings, and welcome once more to spring! The snow has melted and the temperatures are rising rapidly in Chicago! The JRCERT Board of Directors completed its April 2018 meeting on April 19-20 here in Chicago. The Board took accreditation actions on several programs and discussed many important topics.

Please be sure to read the articles in this edition of the *Pulse* as they relate important information regarding the JRCERT. Also, please read the [Summary of the](#)

[April 2018 Board Meeting](#) to review some of the actions taken during the recent meeting.

Thank you for your continued support of programmatic accreditation and the Board, staff, and myself wish everyone a pleasant spring and summer season.

Leslie



Leslie Winter, M.S., R.T.(R)  
Chief Executive Officer

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## Save the Date!

The JRCERT will be hosting its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Excellence in Education Conference in downtown Chicago on Monday and Tuesday, November 4-5, 2019. Speakers from around the country will present a variety of

topics pertaining to accreditation and education. More details about this conference and an open call for speakers will be forthcoming. Mark your calendars now to join us in Chicago!

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.

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## Board Update

The JRCERT Board of Directors met at the JRCERT office in Chicago on April 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> for their biannual meeting. Laura Aaron, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(M)(QM), FASRT chaired her last meeting as a JRCERT Director and Chair of the Board. Dr. Aaron was installed as a Director at the conclusion of the April 2011

Board of Directors meeting and was later installed as the Chair of the Board at the conclusion of the April 2015 meeting. The JRCERT Board of Directors and staff extend their greatest appreciation to Dr. Aaron for her many years of service and dedication to the organization. Thank you, Laura!



Traci Herrmann, M.Ed., R.T.(R) is currently a Professor of Allied Health at the University of Cincinnati - Blue Ash College. She completed her bachelor's degree in radiologic technology at The Ohio State University and holds a master's degree in health education from the University of Cincinnati. She is presently a doctoral candidate for a degree in education studies with a concentration in higher education

and education policy. Tracy is a past president of the Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists (OSRT) and the Association of Education in Imaging and Radiologic Sciences (AEIRS). She advocates for radiation protection via her work on the Image Gently campaign and has written and spoken nationally on best practices in digital radiography and fluoroscopy. Her current research interests are student engagement and inclusion in medical imaging education.



Chad Hensley, III, M.Ed., R.T.(R) (MR) is currently a Radiography Clinical Coordinator for the University of Nevada - Las Vegas. He earned both his master's degree in education and bachelor's degree in radiologic sciences from the University of Nevada - Las Vegas. Chad is co-founder of the Nevada Society of Radiologic Technologists (NVSRT), board member for Lambda Nu, conference management team

member for the Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology (ACERT), and also holds active membership with the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT).

Welcome Directors Herrmann and Hensley!

## Standards Revision Update

The JRCERT Standards Revision Committee would like to update you on the progress of the project. The committee met in April to begin the process of developing Draft 2. This process begins with the committee thoroughly reviewing each comment from all our stakeholders to identify themes. The [survey results](#) are available at the [Standards Revision webpage](#).

JRCERT representatives facilitated Standards revision presentations at national, regional, and state society meetings throughout 2018. The JRCERT is grateful for national and state organizations for providing thoughtful feedback. To see a chart of feedback sources, a list of revision presentations, and a list of organizations that provided feedback, please [click here](#).

The committee identified three main areas that will still need additional input and further vetting: 1) **Objective 2.3** – requirement of an energized laboratory (Radiography Degree document), 2) **Objective 3.1** – clinical coordinator threshold (All documents), and **Objective 6.3** – program effectiveness data thresholds (All documents).

Upon review of stakeholder input, we noted many of your questions

and have attempted to provide some clarifying information. Therefore, we have developed a **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** type document that will be an ongoing feature under the [Standards Revision webpage](#). Please take a moment to review the document.

On July 11, 2018, JRCERT representatives will facilitate a pre-conference forum of the standards revision just prior to the Association of Educators in Imaging and Radiologic Sciences (AEIRS) 2018 Annual meeting. Registration for this event has been closed due to maximum attendance.

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](#).

We welcome comments at any time, so if you were unable to respond to one of the initial surveys, please feel free to send comments to:

[Standards.Revision@jrcert.org](mailto:Standards.Revision@jrcert.org), [mail@jrcert.org](mailto:mail@jrcert.org), or look for a

JRCERT representative at an upcoming conference.

As I transition to the role of JRCERT Board of Directors Chair,

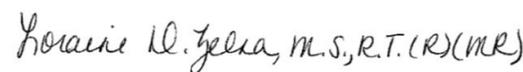
I'd like to welcome Mrs. Lorie Zelna, M.S., R.T.(R)(MR) to the role of Standards Committee Chair. I am confident that Lorie will provide excellent leadership and dedication to this most important charge.

As always, we look forward to your continued input and to publishing the second draft of the Standards in the near future.

Sincerely,



Bette A. Schans, Ph.D., R.T.(R), FASRT  
Previous Standards Committee Chair  
Chair – JRCERT Board of Directors



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





## ASRT Magnetic Resonance White Paper to Set Workplace Safety Guidelines for MR Technologists



**By ASRT President Amanda Garlock, M.S., R.T.(R)(MR)**

As a practicing Magnetic Resonance (MR) technologist, I embrace best practices to make sure I am current with patient safety measures and protocols. Therefore, when I became President of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) in June 2017, I launched an initiative to update MR best practices.

To gather data, the ASRT conducted a comprehensive survey of MR technologists in the summer of 2017 to gauge their insights on issues ranging from facility safety measures and self-reporting safety incidents to dedicated safety zones in the MR suite and initial MR training. The response was encouraging with more than 2,600 MR technologists embracing the exercise and providing valuable information.

The ASRT assembled a workgroup of MR technologists to analyze the results and draft the framework for a white paper. This has been an ongoing process and will take several months to complete. I'm incredibly proud of the white paper workgroup and all the MR technologists who completed the survey. It's exciting to be part of a group of dedicated professionals who are painstakingly examining data, identifying trends and establishing best practices that will enhance the profession.

When the white paper is completed, MR technologists can look forward to a document that provides workplace safety guidelines, facility workflow processes, patient safety protocols and ongoing training tactics. It will be an industry-wide tool to create positive changes for the MR community and patient safety. We predict the white paper will be available by summer 2018. Upon completion, it will be located on the ASRT Web site, [www.asrt.org](http://www.asrt.org), at no cost for technologists, facility managers, and students. It is our responsibility to provide registered technologists with the tools, services, and support they need to succeed. The MR safety white paper will help us achieve

the mission of the ASRT to advance and elevate the medical imaging and radiation therapy profession and to enhance the quality and safety of patient care.

Amanda Garlock has been a registered technologist for 11 years. She graduated from Pima Medical Institute in 2007 with her A.A.S. in Radiologic Sciences. She spent the next few years working in a busy clinic while working on her bachelor degree and then finally earning her masters in healthcare administration from Colorado State University. She was elected to the ASRT Board in 2012 as the Vice-Speaker of the House and since then has held the positions of Speaker, Vice-President, President-Elect and President. In June 2018 she begins her final year on the board, serving as the Chairman. Her involvement with her professional association is supported by Whidbey Health, where she currently is an imaging lead technologist. She also finds time to teach part-time as an online instructor for Pima Medical Institute's Advanced Track Radiography Program.

## Site Visit Scheduling

The JRCERT office has recently received questions from program officials about the site visit scheduling process. What follows is a description of the processes that take place before a site visit.

One year before the proposed site visit date, program officials will receive a Greetings Letter informing the program that they are scheduled for reevaluation within the next 12 months. This letter notes the due date for the Self-Study Report, as well as a tentative month for the on-site evaluation.

The Self-Study Report is due six months before the proposed site visit date. Upon submission of the Self-Study Report, a JRCERT administrative assistant will review documentation for Standard Six – Institutional/Programmatic Data. The administrative assistant will request any additional/clarifying information to complete the requirements for Standard Six. After this review of Standard Six, the Self-Study Report is reviewed by Professional Staff. Professional Staff may identify required additional/clarifying information to either be submitted to the office or directly to the site visit team. This additional/clarifying information is identified in the Final Professional Review Letter. After receipt of the Final

Professional Review Letter, the program will receive a site-visit scheduling form from the Accreditation Services Coordinator.

The scheduling of the site visit is dependent upon many factors including:

- Availability of site visitors – Site visitors are peer-reviewers who may be employed as program directors, clinical coordinators, deans, or faculty of accredited programs. Their availability fluctuates throughout the course of the academic year, and many require advanced notice for leave time. The role of the JRCERT in the accreditation process also determines site visit team composition. If the JRCERT is identified as the programmatic accreditor, the JRCERT assigns a team composed of an educator and a practitioner. If the JRCERT is identified as the program's institutional accreditor, the JRCERT assigns an academician and an administrator. A Team Chair or Team Member must also be experienced with the type of program sponsor, such as four-year, two-year, or hospital-based institutions. The JRCERT also requires at least one site visitor to be experienced in distance education, if the program uses distance education delivery of four or more courses.

- Availability of modality-specific site visitors – The JRCERT is always looking for site visitors to partake in the peer-evaluation process. However, the number of site visitors in medical dosimetry, magnetic resonance, and radiation therapy is far less than the number of radiography site visitors. The smaller numbers in these modalities correlate into some difficulties in scheduling site visits, especially if multiple medical dosimetry or magnetic resonance site visits are proposed within a short period of time.
- Natural disasters – Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, fires, etc., will all have impacts on proposed site visit dates. The safety and well-being of programs, students, and families is of the highest importance and site visits may need to be adjusted to accommodate these natural events.
- Timeliness of submitting additional/clarifying information – The site visit scheduling process cannot begin until all required information has been submitted, so prompt submission of all materials may assist in expediting the site visit.

The factors listed above may have an impact on the proposed site visit date. The JRCERT thanks you for your participation in the site visit process.



## Upcoming Resources

Would you like to have some tips on developing your interim report? How about refining your assessment plan? Or how to enhance your Report of Site Visit Team Findings at the conclusion of a site visit? The JRCERT asked for suggestions and you provided them. The results of the survey distributed in February 2018

provided some excellent suggestions for professional development activities and we want to thank all of you for your feedback! The survey results are providing direction for the development of resources, whether you are a new program director, an experienced faculty member, or member of a site visit

team. Some of the upcoming resources are revisions of existing modules on the JRCERT Web site, expansion of the outcomes assessment modules, and development of additional online resources for our site visitors. Check the JRCERT Web site this fall for release of some of these new resources.

## 2017 Annual Report

The 2017 Program Annual Report will be available to programs on the Accreditation Management System (AMS) portal the week of July 9, 2018. Programs will receive a broadcast email announcing the availability of the annual report on the portal. Additionally, a link will be provided in the email to a *Guide for Completing the 2017 Program Annual Report*. The guide will also

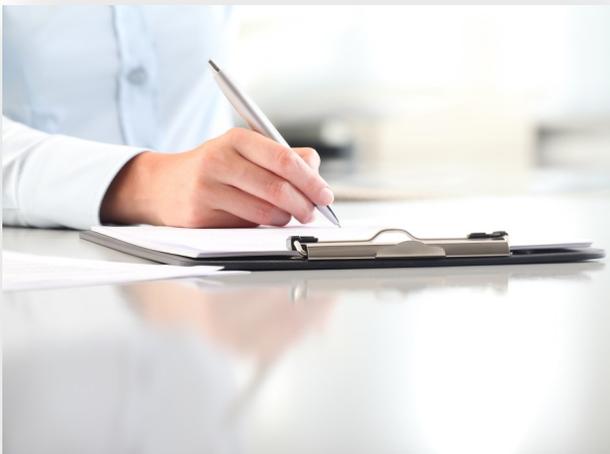
be made available on the JRCERT Web site under the *Program Director & Faculty* tab. The guide is a valuable resource to help answer questions you may have about completing the annual report.

The due dates for submitting the 2017 Program Annual Report are as follows:

Programs with final graduation of students between January 1 and September 30, 2017 – **October 5, 2018**.

Programs with final graduation of students between October 1 and December 31, 2017 – **January 18, 2019**.

If programs have not previously had final graduation dates after October 1 and require a due date of January 18, 2019, the programs must notify the office.



## JRCERT Organizational Report Now Available

The [JRCERT 2017 Organizational Report](#) is now available on the JRCERT Web site. The report contains the following information:

- Demographic information on accredited programs
- Summary of program accreditation actions taken by the JRCERT Board of Directors in 2017
- Details on the composition of the JRCERT Board of Directors
- Complete listing of JRCERT site visitors performing site visits during 2017
- If you have any questions regarding the report, please do not hesitate to call the office.

## Accreditation Quick Tips

### Pending Versus Pending Complete

Programs that have submitted requests for approval of clinical settings can view the status of the setting through the JRCERT Portal (<https://portal.jrcertaccreditation.org>). If a setting's status is Pending Complete, JRCERT staff is in the process of reviewing documentation. Staff may ask for additional documentation before

approving the clinical setting. If the status of the clinical setting is Pending, program officials have not completed the recognition request. Program officials must ensure that all necessary documentation has been attached to the clinical settings record. If a pending clinical setting is ready to be submitted for approval, click on the clinical setting and click the

Submit button to change the status from Pending to Pending Complete. The clinical setting will then soon be reviewed by staff.



### Faculty Info

Consistent with Standard Six – Objective 6.5 (Medical Dosimetry/ Magnetic Resonance) and Standard Six – Objective 6.6 (Radiography/ Radiation Therapy), “The JRCERT requires programs to maintain a current and accurate database. Updates should be reflected within thirty (30) days of effective change

date.” Program officials are reminded to ensure contact and demographic information about CEOs, deans, program directors, clinical coordinators, faculty, and clinical instructors is current and accurate. This information includes prefixes, first and last names, email addresses, and

degree/credentials. At this time, only full-time faculty need to be documented through the Portal; part-time faculty do not need to be identified. Program officials can edit information for the appropriate person through the Program Official Change Request.



## The JRCERT Welcomes New Programs

Congratulations and welcome to our newly accredited programs. Since the October 2017 meeting of the Board of Directors, eight applicant programs 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:

### **Central New Mexico Community College**

Albuquerque, NM  
Radiography

### **Fortis College - Landover**

Landover, MD  
Radiography

### **Rasmussen College - Florida**

Land O'Lakes, FL  
Radiography

### **Rasmussen College - Minnesota**

Lake Elmo, MN  
Radiography

### **The Ohio State University**

Columbus, OH  
Radiography

### **St. Johns River State College**

St. Augustine, FL  
Radiography

### **Truckee Meadows Community College**

Reno, NV  
Radiography

### **Wenatchee Valley College**

Wenatchee, WA  
Radiography



## New Employee

We welcome Tricia Leggett D.H.Ed., R.T.(R)(QM) to the team in an exciting and new position! Dr. Leggett is the Director of Instructional Design and Technology and has been tasked with developing innovative electronic learning modules and creating online courses. Prior to joining the JRCERT, she held a variety of positions in radiologic technology that included clinical instructor, clinical coordinator, program director, and site visitor. You can read more about Dr. Leggett [here](#).



***The Pulse Newsletters are archived on the JRCERT Web site, [www.jrcert.org](http://www.jrcert.org), under the "Accreditation Information" tab.***

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Joanne Sauter, B.A., Administrative Assistant

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