

# MICHIGAN RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Bi-Monthly Newsletter for Members of the M.R.S.



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY DANNY MA, M.D..



Danny Ma, M.D.  
Michigan Radiological Society President

Dear Fellow Michigan Radiological Society Members,

Thank you to all healthcare workers and especially our radiologists, radiation oncologists, and medical physicists. You have been tireless in providing care and treatment to Covid-19 patients. You have also treated non-COVID -19 patients during this period of time, while doing everything possible to protect these vulnerable patients from exposure to COVID-19. You have been a critical factor in these trying times in helping Michigan flatten the curve since the first cases of COVID-19 were discovered in Michigan on March 10, 2020. You are all true heroes!

At the Michigan Radiological Society, the pandemic has not slowed us down. To plan for the upcoming year, we have been busy organizing committees and the Executive Committee recently convened for our annual Summer Retreat. In addition to ongoing projects, some new ideas examined ways to reach out to our membership. This includes an Ambassador Program that visits your practice or hospital, in person or virtually, to network and disseminate more information about the MRS. We will also create a mentorship program to pair MRS members with medical students interested in pursuing a career in radiology or radiation oncology throughout the state. Please contact me at [madanny@hotmail.com](mailto:madanny@hotmail.com) or Shannon Sage at [shannon@michigan-rad.org](mailto:shannon@michigan-rad.org) to arrange an Ambassador visit or if you are interested in becoming a mentor.

The ACR Capitol Hill day was canceled in May due to the pandemic, but that did not stop our lobbyist James Cavanagh JD, from hosting a conference call for MRS members with Senator Debbie Stabenow's health policy advisor, Alex Graff, on June 18. The meeting went well, and further details can be found in the Legislative Update on page 3. We hope to continue our advocacy efforts at the annual MRS Legislative Day on September 23, 2020. Contact us if you are interested in joining us to meet with our State Legislators in the House and Senate.

Please refer to page 7 of the newsletter to make your donation to the Michigan Radiology Political Action Committee (MRPAC). Dr. Mark Weiss, Dr. Evita Singh, and the rest of the MRPAC Committee are making every effort to ensure your profession is represented in these incredibly challenging times during a critical election year. Your contribution is vital to our advocacy efforts.

Please support the American College of Radiology and Michigan Radiological Society by [renewing your membership](#) if you have not done so already.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and stay well!

Danny Ma, MD

# Legislative Update



by James Cavanagh, JD

- Members of MRS “virtually” met with Alex Graff, health policy advisor to U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow. The meeting was on behalf of the ACR and was part of its “Virtual Capitol Hill Day.” Members urged that cuts to radiology and other medical specialties attempting to recover from the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic be stopped. In addition, members urged support for legislation that would suspend prior authorization requirements for a period to ease the burden on practices working through their backlog of patients. Finally, members advocated for a measure of civil immunity for health care professionals providing medical services in response to the pandemic.
- MRS is planning its annual “Legislative Day” for September 23. Members will meet either in person or virtually with legislators and staff to discuss key issues facing the profession.
- MRS continues to be engaged in its advocacy for prior authorization reform legislation and equitable resolution to surprise billing through legislation allowing for at least some form of arbitration of disputes.
- MRS will be offering its expertise to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) on implicit bias training. On July 9, Governor Whitmer issued an Executive Directive which directs LARA to begin developing rules that will require implicit bias training as part of the knowledge and skills necessary for licensure, registration and renewal of licenses for health care professionals. Pursuant to the directive, LARA is required to consult with relevant stakeholders in the medical profession in state government and elsewhere by November 1, 2020.

# Leadership Interview



This month the Leadership Spotlight features Mark DeLano, MD, Director of the Division of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging, Michigan State University.

Welcome Dr. DeLano thank you for agreeing to participate in the MRS Newsletter's Leadership Spotlight feature. You are the Director for the MSU College of Human Medicine Division of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging, partner and Chair of Research and Education at Advanced Radiology Services, PC, and Medical Director for adult radiology at Spectrum Health System in West Michigan, please tell us about your department.

**Dr. DeLano:** *"MSU Radiology is a statewide enterprise following our community-based medical school model providing primary to quaternary care in multiple health systems unified by our subspecialized radiology practice. The two primary campuses are in East Lansing where our basic science faculty are based, and the West Michigan campus based in Grand Rapids housing our larger clinical campus. I oversee academic activities in our West Michigan campus and serve as the academic bridge for teaching and research activities across campuses. MSU's largest private practice affiliate, Advanced Radiology Services (ARS), has 185 MSU clinical faculty providing subspecialized care across the state. The largest MSU teaching affiliate is the 16 hospital Spectrum Health System where I am Medical Director for Adult Radiology. Our radiologists also serve Bronson Healthcare, Holland Hospital, and several other key access hospitals. In addition to the 2 million exams per year conducted by ARS, the Kent Radiology practice at Mercy Health Saint Mary's is also part of our West Michigan Division. The ARS and MSU Healthcare joint venture, Spartan Radiology, serves McLaren Greater Lansing and McLaren Bay Region. Our faculty share a common purpose of educating MSU medical students and residents in the science and practice of radiology. We work to develop, promote, and translate advances in diagnostic radiology and interventional therapeutics through innovative and inspired education and research, in partnership with engaged clinical practices."*

Please tell us about yourself and your background.

**Dr. DeLano:** *"I am a first-generation college graduate, born and raised in Grand Rapids by parents who were also born and raised here. I grew up working in the family welding business learning a trade and fostering a work ethic, both taught by example. Initially I had intended to pursue engineering, but my exposure to life sciences at the GR junior college during high school steered me toward biomedical sciences and I majored in biology at MSU. Between college and medical school I welded at Demmer Corporation in Lansing while teaching in MSU's Advanced Baccalaureate Learning Experience (ABLE) Program, an enriched academic experience offered to disadvantaged students who have applied for admission to the College of Human Medicine, and taught at Stanley Kaplan for the MCAT. The diversity of the 3 jobs that summer was remarkable and taught me much about the spectrum of the human experience and privilege."*

*I was fortunate to have Dr. Jim Potchen as an undergraduate advisor and mentor during medical school at MSU. The opportunities he afforded me included an NIH funded summer research fellowship conducting ex vivo pulmonary phosphorus MR spectroscopy which spawned my early interest in MR and cross-disciplinary collaboration. I went to Duke for Radiology Residency and Hopkins for Neuroradiology Fellowship before returning to East Lansing as faculty at MSU. While at Hopkins Dr. Potchen encouraged me to spend time with the cardiac MR team at Hopkins to lead CMR at MSU on my return. I quickly learned the value of interdisciplinary expertise and cross-fertilization of subspecialty ideas. MSU became a leader in both cardiovascular and neuroradiology with robust industry collaboration. We were one of the early Cardiac and Neuro Development sites for GE and we launched one of the first full service clinical 3T MR sites in the world by 2002. I have served as the Director for the MSU College of Human Medicine, Division of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging since 2009. This evolving role in our expansion campus has focused on the educational and research scholarship of our Division, with clinical service primarily managed by our affiliated private practices. As such, our success has been driven by cultivation of common ideals and a shared mission and vision. Specifically, our collaborative academic-private faculty partnership leads in innovative medical education, research and clinical practice, bringing patients personalized precision care."*

How would you describe your leadership philosophy/style?

**Dr. DeLano:** *"As much a product of my environment as my nature, my leadership style is participatory and democratic. The complexity of our organizational structure and the numerous constituencies I serve requires adaptive and dynamic leadership that is responsive, supportive and directive. There are a number of foundational elements that are critical to leadership, but first comes trust. The establishment of trust is most important driving a capacity to lead and foster engagement. Teams must know and deeply believe that I care about them and our mission, that I have their backs, that I represent them and our department or enterprise to the world. Trust grows in a supportive environment where consistent and responsive leadership listens and provides guidance to those facing organizational challenges and inevitable change. Trust is essential for a safe and respectful culture. Respect for the individual as unique and valued has bidirectional benefits and is critical for team function. Respectful and safe environments enable teams to fearlessly articulate, refine, establish, and commit to common goals. Respectful leadership requires humility and acceptance of alternative views to inform my decision making. I encourage a culture in which people can have healthy debates with one another. Choices made by individuals should be in alignment with the common goals and the clearly defined expectations of the enterprise. With trust and respect, healthy communication and accountability becomes possible. Constructive conflict and redirection make more sense when a team has well-defined target. Accountability is a reciprocal component of my views of leadership. Part of that commitment is having the courage to make difficult decisions and changes as needed. Leadership by example demonstrating a strong work ethic, respectful and goal directed behavior toward shared goals is rewarding and contagious. It is also of great importance in the maintenance of wellness. Leadership requires effort. It is hard work, but there is also great joy in the transformation of effort into results. Sharing this perspective and the enthusiasm for connecting people to purpose improves performance and reduces stress and burnout for the entire team, empowering others for greater achievement."*

Did you have a mentor and please describe the impact they had on your career?

**Dr. DeLano:** *"Of all those that have influenced me, Dr. Jim Potchen has made the greatest impact. He first inspired me through undergraduate medical humanities courses that revealed a world of critical thought about medicine, the human condition, our motivations, and purpose seen through the lens of philosophers, great authors and their literature."*

*He also introduced me to radiology, critical inquiry, and the joy of learning. Sharing his passion for learning, mentorship, and serving others through the academic mission has been incredibly rewarding. Embracing the idea that life is more than a zero-sum game, that if we help others do better, we all do better, is transformative for people and organizations. His advocacy provided great opportunity, putting me in the room where great things were happening, from corporate advisory meetings, to seminal meetings with industry on molecular imaging, to his annual Creative Concepts meeting series, and many others. His capacity to bring people together and share ideas and advance knowledge has served as a great example of his leadership, and his love of life. I also include Dr. Norm Beauchamp as a key career guide and mentor, and chief amongst his many attributes are his commitment, discipline and focus in advancing the goals of his team."*

What do you see as some of the biggest issues or challenges currently facing the practice of Radiology or your department in particular?

**Dr. DeLano:** *"The service ethos of being a professional is at odds with the fee for service mentality. There is a cost to all effort, but a stark difference lies between the cost of the time invested and the ROI in terms of practice building, career building, and ensuring the integrity of our profession into the future. The value-proposition of radiology continues to expand when we engage our patients, referring physicians, our hospital systems, and keep our focus on outcomes. Providing the highest possible quality of service across broad geographies and diverse populations is being facilitated by distributed teleradiology solutions. Maintaining boots-on-the-ground presence at practice sites of patient contact remains essential. Our commitment to evidence-based solutions will require high levels of engagement across our specialty, and integration with multi-disciplinary teams as care pathways are defined."*

How do you think the ACR and/or the MRS can assist in addressing these issues/challenges?

**Dr. DeLano:** *"Collaborative, rather than competitive integration of best practices is continues to be facilitated by the ACR and organizations such as the High-Value Practice Academic Alliance. Optimizing value is central to many of the challenges facing our profession. Advocacy for radiology as an economically sensible part of reducing the cost of care is needed. Expanding the body of evidence demonstrating that expedited diagnosis in the ED leads to reduced length of stay and more prompt and appropriate care is needed. Likewise, cancer screening continues to show the evolving impact of radiology on improving outcomes and reducing the cost of care. Increased emphasis on diversity, equity and inclusion are needed for our sustainable future. Diverse teams have been shown to be more productive teams. Paraphrasing a recent article from the journal Nature and posing the question "Is your practice as diverse as it could be?" is the same a "Is your practice as productive as it could be?" What leader doesn't want to ask that question? Organized radiology needs to continue to promote the efforts of the Commission for Women and Diversity to improve representation of underrepresented groups in our specialty."*

Is there anything else that you would like to add?

**Dr. DeLano:** *"Radiology is a fantastic and evolving medical specialty and each day presents an opportunity to appreciate our calling as physicians as a force for science, advocate for people and populations, and educators of future physicians. Our ability to sense, see, diagnose, and treat continues to amaze. Brilliant innovations such as Dr. Gulani's MR Fingerprinting and the therapeutic breakthroughs of interventional oncology are transforming our field and patients' lives, offering new insights and hope. Radiology is central to personalized, precision medicine, and is well-suited to reinforce our oath as physicians to "respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps we walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow." Our specialty embodies the finest traditions of medicine."*

# Michigan Radiology Political Action Committee

Fellow Members of the Michigan

Radiological Society (MRS), The COVID 19 Pandemic continues to impact Michigan and the United States especially the Healthcare community.

The United States Senate and the House of Representatives are working diligently to pass an additional Covid19 financial aid package. MRS and the Michigan Radiology Political Action Committee (MRPAC) want to make certain physicians, particularly Radiologists, are at the table when it comes to dispersing the allocated funds from this financial aid to our tireless healthcare professionals.

The MRPAC is committed to and working on the following items:

- Supporting candidates for public office who will put patient welfare above economic gain.
- Supporting candidates who believe in the importance of education and training for the art and science of medicine and particularly radiology. Candidate positions on health care cost, quality and patient access are determinative factors for MRPAC support.
- During this legislative session, MRS continues to work with other physician specialty organizations who share the same concerns. MSMS has advocated for equity and fairness in legislation regulating out-of-network health care provider reimbursement, otherwise known as “surprise billing” (HBs 4459 and 4460). But for these efforts, there would have been no arbitration alternative whatsoever to solve disputed claims.
- MRS has committed its efforts to safeguard the integrity of the practice of radiology from attempts by others, without the training or experience, to encroach our scope of practice. This is especially true in these times when a pandemic has given these individuals and groups an avenue of opportunity to claim they are needed to perform imaging in order to address “perceived” concerns about patient access. MRPAC can support candidates who support patient safety and quality healthcare. Non-radiologists will continue to engage in encroaching on the field of imaging and radiology. We MUST continue to be the voice of radiology and protect the public from those who are not qualified to practice our profession.

It is our responsibility and intent to make certain imaging and particularly Michigan diagnostic radiologists, interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, physicists, and radiation therapists are represented.

MRPAC requires your financial help to be effectively involved in these and other issues. MRS needs a seat at the table to make certain our members have their interest heard. More importantly, patient care and evidence-based medicine needs to prevail.

Please help us by making a generous donation to the [MRPAC](#) by clicking here or mailing a check to:

Michigan Radiology Political Action Committee

Attn: Shannon Sage  
4045 E Carpenter Road  
Genesee, MI 48506

On behalf of the MRPAC Committee, Stephen Kilanowski M.D., Gaurang Shah M.D., Alkis Zingas, M.D., Kurt Tech, M.D., Michael Hicks, M.D., thank you for your time, generosity, and membership.

Sincerely,  
Mark Weiss, M.D.  
Chairman  
MRPAC

Evita Singh, M.D.  
Vice Chair  
MRPAC

Suggested annual contribution levels for MRPAC are as follows:

Above and beyond: \$500.00

Executive Committee: \$300.00

Contributor: \$200.00

Supporter: \$100.00





# Need a New Job?

## Check out the MRS Job Bank!

### Mid-Michigan Preview

*Advanced Diagnostic Imaging, PC*  
3400 N Center Suite 400  
Saginaw, MI 48603  
Contact Person: Darlene Egerer  
degerer@adirads.com  
989-799-5600

*Sparrow Hospital*  
1215 E Michigan  
Lansing MI 48909  
517-364-3925  
Job Listings

### Northern Michigan Preview

*Alpena Regional Medical Center*  
1501 W Chisholm St  
Alpena MI 49707-1401  
Contact Person: Steve Smith  
989-356-7000

*Munson Medical Center*  
1105 6th St  
Traverse City MI 9684-2386  
Contact Person: Deb Glicken  
231-935-5890

### Southeast Michigan Preview

*Diagnostic Radiology Consultants, PC*  
Contact Person: Duff Jelsky  
djelsky@drccrads.com

*X-Ray Associates of Port Huron*  
609 Huron Blvd. Suite B  
Port Huron MI 48060  
Contact Person:  
Leopold Fregoli, MD  
alzaco@comcast.net

## New Job Listings:

Diagnostic Radiology Consultants, PC  
PO Box 267  
Alden, MI 49612  
586-573-5060  
OPEN POSITION

X-Ray Associates of Port Huron  
609 Huron Blvd., Suite B  
Port Huron MI 48060  
alzaco@comcast.net  
OPEN POSITION

Rochester Radiology, P.C.  
1101 W. University Dr.  
Rochester MI 48307  
kscharermd@gmail.com  
OPEN POSITION

<https://michigan-rad.org/job-bank/>

# 11th Biennial Breast Imaging Conference

The conference scheduled for November 7 & 8, 2020 at the Marriott Auburn Hills Pontiac has been **canceled** due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The next conference will be scheduled in the fall of 2022.

Below are some resources for obtaining CME credits online.

- <https://www.rsna.org/education/continuing-medical-education>
- <https://arrs.org/ARRSLIVE/Education>

