

ASRT Student Leadership Development Program
Report by Allison Hermance-Moore, ST, OSRT Student Leader

My name is Allison Hermance-Moore, and I am a senior in the radiologic technology program at Fortis College in Westerville, Ohio and a current Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists Student Leader. I was fortunate to be chosen with recent Sinclair Community College graduate and former OSRT Student Director Jessica Bates as a participant in the ASRT Student Leadership Development Program. We met in Las Vegas from June 21-24 during the ASRT Educational Symposium and Annual Governance and House of Delegates Meeting. I cannot say enough about how pleased and excited I was to be able to attend and represent Ohio.

After checking into the hotel, we attended a welcome reception with our mentors. ASRT CEO Sal Martino, out-going president Amanda Garlock, 2017 SLDP Alumni of the Year Kyle Kearsley, and SLDP coordinator Becky Apodaca all spoke about how getting involved with the ASRT early in their careers led them to where they are now. During the second day, we attended educational sessions and learned more about the ASRT, its history, its governance, and how it interacts with other organizations on a national and international level. As a former Emergency Medical Technician, I especially enjoyed “Trauma CT: The Key Is Preparation” by Roger A Wilson B.S. R.T. (R)(CT), “Medical Imaging Responses to Natural Disasters” by Kevin Clark Ed.D., R.T. (R)(QM) and Clifford DeGraff M.S.R.S, R.T. (R), and “CT in Adverse Conditions: A Look At The Deployed Environment” by Christopher Gomien M.H.A., R.T.(R)(CT), CIIP, Sec+. Understanding some of the challenges of working in unique conditions and how technologists were able to overcome them was compelling. In the evening I attended the pin exchange, a crazy event where you hear, “I have Ohio, do you have Wisconsin?” and “Ooo, where did you get the crab?” There appears to be a bit of good-spirited competition from different affiliates as to who can create the most coveted pin each year—my favorites were shaped like a hunk of cheese (Wisconsin), a poker chip (Nevada) and the one from Texas that said “All my X’s live in Texas”. It was a fun, silly way to connect with other people and throughout the rest of the meeting I found myself going “Oh right, you gave me a Utah pin” when I encountered someone.

On Friday Jess and I started bright and early by participating in the 6:30 am opening flag ceremony, where the flags of each affiliate were presented. Sometimes it’s exciting when the small things go right: the clicker/voting system worked exactly like it as supposed to right off the bat—I got the impression that almost never happens and has been a focus for Sal Martino to fix for the past few years. The meeting went surprisingly quickly, given the number of people in the room and the number of issues presented. It seemed that everyone mostly agreed on the proposed changes this year, so there wasn’t very much debate. I’ll admit I might have been slightly disappointed by this—I was hoping to see how the house dealt with a divisive issue and comes to an agreement. There’s always next year, as I plan to attend the 2019 meeting in Orlando.

The ASRT Update, given by Sal Martino, was extremely interesting—I hadn’t realized that some states didn’t have licensure requirements before this meeting. The ASRT is taking important steps to strengthen and protect our profession at a national level. This, and later testimonials by members of those states, really helped me understand why we must continue to fight for our profession on a state and national level—we cannot afford to become complacent.

There was also conversation on the combined dues issue. Some affiliates had previously asked the ASRT to explore combining national and affiliate dues across the organization. The ASRT Board presented the

findings from the November 2017 survey related to this—generally, about 50% of the survey respondents said they would drop one or both memberships if the ASRT and the state affiliates decided to combine dues. The piece I found most puzzling was that 17% of respondents that are members of both the ASRT and their state affiliate would drop both memberships rather than pay combined dues—the best guess anyone had was that those members just didn’t want to be told what they had to do. I was delighted to stand at the microphone with Delegate Christine Gialousis M.Ed. R.T. (R)(M)(CT)(MR) as she stated that Ohio was not in support of combining dues, and the issue was again tabled until a later date, keeping the dues separate for now. That night we attended the Honors Evening, where both Tricia Leggett and Jonathan Mazal (both very active with the profession in Ohio and nationally) were honored, along with Melissa Jackowski. I enjoyed seeing Ohio so well represented among those who are so clearly respected and honored within the profession.

On Saturday, I attended the Education, Radiography, and CT chapter meetings. During the Education chapter meeting, educators were encouraged to give the JRCERT feedback on the proposed revision to the standards. In addition, there was discussion of having an aspirational goal of a B.S. degree for entry level students, and how programs can attract and keep students. I spoke about my experiences and frustrations through the application process for programs as a non-traditional student. During the Radiography meeting, there was a little discussion over the practice standard revision and otherwise general sharing about why the attendees chose radiography--their reasonings were diverse, interesting, and very helpful to hear as a student. I was excited to learn about new technology during the CT meeting—a portable head CT scanner that is small enough to fit on an ambulance. I am excited about the advances in technology this profession continues to make.

On Sunday, I attended the second seating of the House of Delegates. According to my notes, every amendment that was not withdrawn was passed with 100% affirming and 0% opposing—the meeting lasted maybe 1.5 hours, which I got the impression was record time. In the SLDP wrap up, we were given some last words of wisdom from Amanda Garlock, Melissa Jackowski, and Mike Latimer. We were invited to ask any final questions and give our opinions and suggestions for future classes. The final event was the installation of the incoming Board of the ASRT, which I enjoyed. It was a nice event to close the conference.

I look forward to continuing to grow and support the ASRT and the OSRT through everything I have learned as I progress through my senior year (6 more months!) and into my career. I encourage all students to apply for this amazing opportunity, and to feel free to reach out to me or other members of the OSRT if they have questions about how to get involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Hermance-Moore