

July 13, 2012

To the honorable members of the Oregon Board of Medical Imaging:

It has been established that the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) are organizations that are inextricably linked to one another. As stated on the ARRT website with respect to governance, "A nine member board of Trustees establishes ARRT policies [...] Five Trustees are appointed by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT)".

Given that five of the nine members of the ARRT Board of Trustees are appointed by the ASRT, **the ASRT is not an impartial body dedicated to education.** A quick scan of the ASRT's website shows that their real time actions and deeds speak much louder than their self serving rhetoric served up for their own financial gain. The ASRT is clearly biased towards individuals who are members of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. (ARRT) After all the majority of the board members of the ARRT were appointed by the ASRT. **The ARRT is a competitor to my registry the ARMRT.**

The ASRT opposes anyone doing MRI who is not a member of the ARRT. Again quoting from their web site:

Opposition to Radiologic Technologists Supervising and/or Training Unlicensed or Uncertified Individuals

The American Society of Radiologic Technologists opposes any radiologic technologists being required to supervise and/or train any unlicensed or uncertified individuals in the delivery of **medical imaging** or radiation therapy procedures unless they are enrolled in or have graduated from an educational program in the radiologic sciences accredited by a mechanism recognized by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists or equivalent.

Adopted, Resolution 02-3.01, 2002

Amended, Main Motion, C-08.15, 2008

Amended, Main Motion C-09.49, 2009

(It is important to note that the ARRT does not recognize the ARMRT)

Yes, indeed, the ASRT opposes ARRT registered MRI technologists teaching anyone other than their own members or future members. Yet, right here in Portland, Oregon we have MRI Technologists from the American Registry of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologist (ARMRT) teaching students enrolled in Portland Community College's MRI program during the students' clinical rotations (it should be noted that the PCC program is under the auspices of the ARRT). These skilled and seasoned ARMRT MRI Technologists cannot sign off, noting that a PCC student has successfully completed a required clinical MRI examination, simply because they do not belong to the ARRT.

ARMRT MRI Technologists are happy to teach Portland Community College's students enrolled in their ARRT sponsored MRI program. I have to assume that PCC welcomes ARMRT Technologists teaching their MRI students during their clinical rotations. Yet because the PCC program is under the auspices of the ARRT, an organization clearly linked to the ASRT, PCC MRI students cannot leave a paper trail indicating that it was an ARMRT Technologist who helped bring them into the field of MRI technology. I have to note that this comment is in no way intended to disparage the dedicated clinical

educators at Portland Community College; they are simply following the rules of the ARRT and their supporting organization the ASRT.

Another position statement from the ASRT:

Unification of the Profession

It is the position of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists that the Society foster unification of the radiologic science profession.

Adopted, Resolution 89-1.20, 1989

Amended, Resolution 94-1.19, 1994

Amended, Resolution C-07.13, 2007

Amended, Main Motion, C-09.35, 2009

Well this no surprise except their definition of “Radiologic Science” includes diagnostic imaging modalities that have nothing what so ever to do with Radiologic Science (X-Ray). Currently, to the best of my knowledge, all individuals licensed to administer ionizing radiation (X-Ray) are already unified.

Their aim is clear, the ASRT and the ARRT wish to control the field of diagnostic imaging. Once again please note that the majority of the board members of the ARRT, five of nine, were appointed by the ASRT. The ARRT has been openly hostile towards my registry, the ARMRT, for many years.

Using antiquated nomenclature for clarity, the ASRT is in the X-Ray, (Radiologic Technologist) education business. If one wishes to give a continuing education seminar that is approved by the ASRT one must pay the ASRT per continuing education credit. This is their business and they are paid well. They’ve taken their cue from the ARRT in that they seek to monopolize the continuing education credit business just as the ARRT has sought for many years to monopolize, control, and serve as the gatekeeper for all individuals who wish to enter the diagnostic imaging field. Regardless of how exclusionary their practices may be it is their right to further their financial goals.

While the ASRT and ARRT have a right to further their political and financial aims through lobbying (and they do plenty of it) the Oregon Board of Medical Imaging is a publically funded state mandated body that cannot show obvious bias towards one body of people to the exclusion of another. The Oregon Board of Medical Imaging is not in the business of furthering the goals of the ASRT or the ARRT. Excluding and disenfranchising all diagnostic imaging professionals who do not come from Radiologic (X-Ray) background is precisely what would happen if the OBMI adopted the ASRT’s standards for continuing education.

Respectfully submitted,

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