



SRU Newsletter

Mitchell E. Tublin, MD, Editor-in-Chief • Susan Roberts, Managing Editor



Alfred B. Kurtz, MD Receives 2011 Distinguished Service Award *Lennard D. Greenbaum, MD*

In 2007, the SRU Executive Board established the Distinguished Service Award to honor SRU members for outstanding service to the society and to the field of radiology. The recipient is selected by the Awards Committee, which consists

of the three most recent past presidents of the Society, and the candidate is approved by the Executive Board.

On October 20, 2011, at the annual Fellows' dinner, I had the honor of presenting the 2011 Distinguished Service Award to Al Kurtz.

Al was the ninth President of the SRU, serving from 1991-1993, and presided over the metamorphosis of the society. Prior to that time the SRU was a group of 50 mostly academic radiologists who met once a year for one day to present their latest research and/or information to one another. Al, along with Tom Shawker and Phil Ralls, reorganized the SRU into a society open to all radiologists. They had new bylaws written and planned an annual three-day educational meeting. Membership immediately grew to over 900 radiologists, and the SRU became the organization that we know today – the leading voice for radiologists with an

interest in ultrasound.

Al's contributions to ultrasound are not limited to the SRU. His distinguished academic career has been spent entirely at Jefferson Medical College and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, where he is now Professor of Radiology and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He is a terrific educator and a prolific writer of books and peer-reviewed articles on ultrasound. He is a sought-after lecturer and has served on numerous editorial boards of journals dealing with ultrasound. Al's leadership skills have also been recognized by the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM). He is a past president and has served on numerous committees.

With all of his involvement in the field of ultrasound, Al has never lost sight of the really important thing in life – his family. He is a devoted husband to Barbara, his wife of 38 years, a loving father to his three daughters, Dana, Liza and Amy, and a doting grandfather to Mason and Avery.

I have known Al for over 25 years and he is one of the nicest, most approachable people you will ever meet. If you see him at a future meeting, walk over and say "hi", congratulate him on his award and then have a delightful chat with this very special person. ●

Manish Dhyani, MBBS Receives SRU 2011 Member-in-Training Award

The winner of the 2011 Member-in-Training Award is Manish Dhyani, MBBS. Dr. Dhyani is a mentored research fellow in the Massachusetts General Hospital Clinical Ultrasound Research



Laboratory, headed by Dr. Anthony E. Samir. He won the award for his paper *Shear Wave Sonoelastography: A New Method to Differentiate Intermediate Stages of Liver Fibrosis*. The purpose of Dr. Dhyani's study was to evaluate the utility of a new non-invasive ultrasound imaging technique, shear wave elastography (SWE), for the diagnosis of moderate or greater liver fibrosis. The results of the study of 63 patients indicated that SWE-derived liver stiffness estimates correlate with liver fibrosis stage and can be used to differentiate intermediate degrees of liver stiffness, albeit with sensitivity and specificity tradeoffs. Further studies in larger populations and technological improvements are necessary to reduce the substantial width of the reported confidence intervals.

The Member-in-Training Award is presented annually to the SRU resident or fellow member submitting the best paper on original ultrasound research. The winner of the award is invited to the annual meeting to present the paper, and receives a cash award of \$1,000 and a commemorative plaque. Dr. Dhyani presented his paper during the plenary session at the 2011 annual meeting in Chicago.

Details on how to apply for the 2012 Member-in-Training Award will be sent to the membership in early 2012. ●

Jonathan M. Rubin, MD, PhD Receives 2011 Lawrence A. Mack Lifetime Achievement Award

Ronald O. Bude, MD

In October 2011, Jonathan Rubin was awarded the Lawrence A. Mack Lifetime Achievement Award (Larry Mack Award) at the annual SRU Fellows' meeting. This is an annual award recognizing not only a lifetime of achievement in ultrasound but also a lifetime of excellence in ultrasound research. Jon is richly deserving of the award.

In a move that presaged his subsequent academic career, Jon concurrently obtained both MD and PhD degrees from the University of Chicago, completing the process longer ago than he would probably like to admit. After completing a radiology residency and spending the first six years of his academic radiology career there, he moved to the University of Michigan, where he has remained. His CV shows a plethora of publications, patents, awards, and all the other trappings of academic success possessed by those truly accomplished in our specialty: 199 peer-reviewed papers (in at least 79 of which he was the first author or the author of major importance), 9 patents, 126 invited talks (many of which were in foreign venues, and nearly all of which concerned his own research or exciting developments in ultrasound – he often refuses the standard CME lectures which clutter the CVs of so many others), and 39 grants (14 NIH), 7 of which were major grants on which he was the principal investigator (2 NIH). He has served on at least a dozen NIH study sections. He has received numerous awards and honors, including the Joseph H. Holmes Clinical Pioneer Award from the AIUM, and has attained fellowship in the SRU, AIUM, and ACR.

Early in his career, with the collaboration of a neurosurgeon at the University of Chicago, he pioneered the use of intraoperative sonography for the localization of CNS abnormalities, leading to a reduction of the morbidity and mortality inherent in unguided neurosurgical procedures. This technique is in wide use today. A decade later he developed power Doppler sonography, a color flow imaging technique that is more sensitive for detecting blood flow than standard color Doppler sonography. As a testament to the usefulness of this technique, it is in wide use today and is



incorporated into the imaging hardware of all higher end ultrasound units. I think most readers would consider this alone to be a crowning achievement.

Currently he is involved in many research projects. He conceived of and is developing a method to quantify blood volume flow using ultrasound. If this technique is successful, the ability to estimate actual volume blood flow will have broad applications in both the study of physiology and pathophysiological processes. He is also involved in the use of elasticity imaging in several areas, most notably the study of Crohn's disease. He has also shown the novel use of the twinkle artifact to detect urinary calculi and hernia meshes.

But his impact is imperfectly described by what has already been said. Those of us who have worked with him will always remember two things which further serve to distinguish him: his academic integrity and his bounding glee when explaining a basic science aspect of ultrasound. From many years of working with him it is obvious to me that Jon is totally devoted to the truth. Preconceived notions, or things "known" to be true, are immediately discarded if contradicted by experimental evidence. And to all who have asked him for an explanation, it is hard not to be influenced by his boyish enthusiasm, even if his "simple" explanation is sometimes still too complex to understand.

For Jon ultrasound is fun. ●

~ Coming Attractions ~

The April issue of the newsletter will feature the following articles:

- **Ask the Expert:**
Evaluating a Patient for Renal Artery Stenosis
- **2012 Toshiba Residents Program**
- **2012 Member-in-Training Award**
- **2012 Call for Papers**

Five New Fellows Elected at 2011 Fellows Meeting

At the annual Fellows' meeting on October 20, 2011, five SRU members were elected to Fellowship.

Congratulations to Nitin Chaubal, MD, Wui K. Chong, MBBS, Jon Jacobson, MD, Anne Kennedy, MB BCh, and Roya Sohaey, MD. Brief biographies of the new Fellows appear below.

Nitin Chaubal, MD received his MD degree and radiology training in India, and is a consultant in ultrasound at Jaslok Hospital and Research Center in Mumbai, Director of the Thane Ultrasound Center and a visiting faculty member at Seth G.S. Medical College. He is President of the Indian Federation of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology and a Fellow of the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine, the Indian College of Radiology and Imaging and the Indian College of Medicine in Ultrasound.

Wui K. Chong, MBBS received his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals in the United Kingdom. He is the chief of diagnostic ultrasound and an associate professor of radiology at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, NC. He is the editor for the ultrasound section of the *Journal of Clinical Imaging Science* and a manuscript reviewer for the *Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine, Radiology*, and *Ultrasound*, the journal of the British Medical Ultrasound Society.

Jon Jacobson, MD received his MD degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, MI. He is a professor of radiology and director of the division of musculoskeletal imaging at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI. He has nearly 150 publications, focused largely on musculoskeletal ultrasound imaging, and has participated in 18 externally funded research projects, for four of which he was principal investigator.

Anne Kennedy, MB BCh received her Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB BCh) degree from the University of Dublin in Dublin, Ireland. She is a clinical professor at the University of Utah Health Sciences Center, Salt Lake City, UT, Co-Director of the Maternal Fetal Diagnostic Center, and Executive Vice Chairman of the Department of Radiology. She is one of the primary authors of **Diagnostic Imaging, Obstetrics**

and contributed extensively to **Diagnostic Imaging, Ultrasound**.

Roya Sohaey, MD received her MD degree from Northwestern University School of Medicine in Chicago, IL. She is a professor of diagnostic radiology and professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, OR. She is also the Director of Ultrasound, Perinatal Center, Maternal Fetal Medicine Division and a co-director of the women's imaging fellowship in diagnostic radiology. She is a primary author of **Diagnostic Imaging, Obstetrics, 2nd Edition**. ●

Don't miss the
**2012 AIUM Annual Convention
and Preconvention Program**

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