Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure and honor to serve as the President of NERRS in our centennial year. Over the past century, Radiology has evolved at breathtaking speed. My goal for the 2019-2020 Educational Program is to both maintain our society’s “traditions”, and also create an updated program which meets the educational needs of our residents and members.

While there is now an enormous amount of educational material available on-line, opportunities for hands-on training vary greatly among our member institutions. Our schedules have become so packed and the pressure to generate RVUs so great, that the opportunity for residents and faculty to socialize following each NERRS meeting (at the Howard Johnson’s on Memorial Drive) has been lost. Increasingly, Radiology has become a “team sport” in which we all need to collaborate with colleagues in industry and across national borders. All of these changes are now framed in the context of providing care that is safe and effective, using systems which ensure the highest level of quality and safety and promote a culture of peer-learning and continuous quality improvement.

In order for the NERRS educational program to respond to these demands, we have created a program which I hope you will find to be innovative and dynamic. This year NERRS will be sponsoring our first-ever “hands on” course, which will provide an afternoon of hands-on Musculoskeletal Ultrasound experience at the Brigham’s Stratus Center in September. Additionally, in conjunction with the 75th annual Holmes Lecture in March, UMass will be sponsoring and hosting a one-day hands-on Interventional Radiology experience for select Radiology residents nominated by our member programs.

In recognition of the global needs for high-quality imaging, and the expanding interest of our residents and faculty in providing this care, we will be devoting a full session to Global Radiology. This session will focus on educating our residents on how they may become involved in global projects and will include presentations by current NERRS residents who have participated in global radiology experiences.

In January, the ACR, under the Direction of Drs. Jonathan Kruskal and David Larson, will be sponsoring a National Peer Learning Summit in Boston. This summit will take place immediately prior to our NERRS session on Quality and Safety, allowing us to incorporate the work of the summit participants in our NERRS session. This should provide a dynamic opportunity for our residents to participate in a cutting-edge policy event.

As in the past, NERRS will again feature a “Career Day”, with faculty representing a wide-spectrum of careers. Our session on Cardiac Radiology will follow a more traditional format, while our session on Interventional Radiology will feature talks on collaboration within interdisciplinary teams, the role of diversity in IR, and opportunities for collaboration with industry to facilitate translational research.

In order to help facilitate connections between NERRS residents and visiting faculty, NERRS will be sponsoring a series of “Meet the Faculty” lunches, in which residents will be able to sign-up for a group lunch with visiting faculty. We hope that these lunches will allow our residents to network with visiting faculty and learn about a verity of career paths, in an informal, relaxed setting.

We have also shortened each program so that our residents can stay for all sessions, and leave by 6 pm, in order to accommodate family and other personal obligations. As part of the shorter program, we will only have “film-panels” for two of the six sessions (IR and Cardiac) and will be moving most of the film-panel content on-line. The unknown cases will be distributed in advance, and
residents will have the opportunity to diagnose each case prior to the NERRS session. The resident(s) with the most correct answers will be eligible for a prize. However, the resident must be present at the end of the NERRS session (at 6 pm) to be eligible to win.

I’m very excited about the 2019-2020 program, and want to acknowledge the dedication, effort and collaboration that the NERRS executive and education committees have provided for me as we developed this year’s program. None of this would have been possible without the willingness of our speakers to participate and share their expertise. Please feel free to let me know any comments or suggestions on how I can better serve you and NERRS this year.

Best,

Max P. Rosen, MD, MPH, FACR
President - NERRS

P.S. One more important item – please send us your preferred email address to: NERRS@MMS.ORG. Next year we plan on moving to 100% digital communication which will save the organization several thousand dollars in printing and mail expenses.