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## The Society for Computer Applications in Radiology

**T**HE SOCIETY FOR COMPUTER Applications in Radiology (SCAR) will have its annual meeting during the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) meeting in Chicago, IL, November 26-December 1, 1989. Our meeting is tentatively planned for Wednesday, November 29, 1989 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the McCormick Center Hotel, contiguous to McCormick Place, the site for the RSNA meeting. The specific meeting room will be announced as soon as it is confirmed. The meeting location may be changed, but the time and date will remain the same. Final details for the meeting will be published as soon as possible. All SCAR members are urged to attend. Guests are welcome to observe the meeting but will not be allowed to vote. Agenda items include (1) election of new officers; (2) possible changes in the bylaws; (3) treasurer's report; (4) SCAR scientific activities—conferences, projects, and publications; (5) report from the Editor of the *JOURNAL OF DIGITAL IMAGING*; and (6) other business.

The upcoming annual meeting should be of great interest to SCAR members. The society is in its first year and has almost 500 members. It is beginning to reach a size where it will have the resources to become an effective organization. SCAR needs to establish its priorities and directions for the next few years. The present officers want SCAR to be an active supporter of scientific endeavors and have committed SCAR to participation in and sponsorship of a variety of scientific conferences in 1989 and 1990. We are also strongly committed to the *JOURNAL OF DIGITAL IMAGING*, SCAR's official journal. The new officers of SCAR, I am certain, will support these endeavors as well as expand SCAR's efforts. In this regard, the input of the membership is crucial. Be sure to attend the annual meeting to voice your opinion, write to the officers on matters of concern, and send your work to the *JOURNAL OF DIGITAL IMAGING* for its consider-

ation. Also, fill out the questionnaire that will soon be sent to all SCAR members.

There are two important "computer committees" sponsored respectively by the American College of Radiology (ACR) and the RSNA. These committees have a significant role to play regarding computers and their applications to radiology. Most of the members of both committees are members of SCAR and are attuned to the needs of the every-day working radiologist as well as the needs of the academician and the basic researcher.

The ACR committee is presently known as the Committee on Radiological Systems and Informatics and was formerly known as the Committee on Computers. For some years it was the principal sponsor and organizer of the highly successful biennial ACR Conferences on Computers, which have been taking place now for twenty years. The committee is a participant in the important ongoing ACR-NEMA standardization activities. Among its other activities, the Committee on Radiological Systems and Informatics intends to serve the ACR membership by providing standards and advice on what to look for in a radiology information system (RIS) and a radiology reporting system, by publishing a fascicle on PACS, and by providing a list of experts in various areas of computer science. The present chairman is Ronald L. Arenson, MD of the University of Pennsylvania.

The RSNA committee is known as the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC). It was established in late 1986 and is chaired by Edward V. Staab, MD of the University of Florida. The committee's charge is to be "responsible for evaluating technologies (e.g., computer software and hardware, magnetic and optical data storage devices, electronic data transmission) that facilitate scientific communication and allow quicker or easier access to diverse forms of scientific information. The committee shall also be responsible for making recommendations re-

garding such technologies to appropriate RSNA committees and the Board of Directors." The committee has been quite active since its founding. It endorsed and assisted with a superb video-disk demonstration project at the 1988 RSNA meeting. This project was under the direction of Dr Anne Osborn of the University of Utah. At the 1988 meeting ECC members presented a refresher course, "Electronic Aids to Education and Practice in Radiology," and will be presenting a similar course at the 1989 meet-

ing. The committee has a close working relationship with the faculty at the National Library of Medicine, an excellent technical and reference resource.

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