

ASRT Foundation
2022 Chair's Report to the House of Delegates
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It is my pleasure to provide this report to the House of Delegates in my capacity as chair of the ASRT Foundation Board of Trustees.

The pandemic has continued to pose challenges to the Foundation, but we hung tight to our core mission and were able to help many of our members achieve their goals. Thanks to the generosity of our dedicated donors and corporate supporters, the Foundation gave, in fiscal year 2021, 246 scholarships and grants totaling \$318,135. Here are the highlights.

Helping Members When They Needed it Most

At its April 2020 meeting, the Foundation Board of Trustees recognized the challenges our members were experiencing because of the Coronavirus pandemic. ASRT allocated \$150,000 and the Foundation \$100,000 to initiate a COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant. Those funds, along with member and corporate donations, enabled us to provide nearly \$300,000 in support to 650 members who were experiencing financial hardship; 88 of those grants were issued in FY 2021.

Advancing Education, Safety and Research

Because of the unwavering support of loyal donors, we can continue to fulfill our mission to provide scholarships to medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals who want to advance their education through an additional degree or credential. We also can provide entry-level scholarships to ASRT members who will be joining our profession. During the 2021-2022 academic year, we awarded a record-high number of scholarships totaling \$265,500 to 87 recipients.

Our strong corporate partnerships make possible our continuing mission of giving as well. Siemens Healthineers renewed the Siemens Healthineers Education Journey Award, which provided three awards of up to \$4,000 each for members to attend an educational conference.

Additional efforts to spur research in the profession are paying off. Our three-tiered level of grant opportunities available to ASRT members makes research accessible to researchers of all experience levels. As of March 2022, three new researchers took advantage of the opportunity to work with members of our Research Mentor Advisory Group and received helpful guidance on their projects.

Strengthening Affiliate Connections and Membership

In partnership with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, we again offered the Advancing Your Profession: Education and Professional Growth Grant. The goal is to award at least one recipient per active affiliate up to \$500 to help reimburse the cost of continuing education, educational conferences or products, and ARRT primary or secondary exams. In addition to the \$500 reimbursement, the grant covers the recipient's new or renewed affiliate membership and first-time ASRT membership, both of which are required to be eligible for this opportunity. ARRT has committed their support of this program through FY 2024.

Expanding Global Outreach

ASRT members will again share their expertise and knowledge at home and abroad. Two members are selected annually to receive the International Speakers Exchange Award and represent ASRT at the meetings of our sister societies in the United Kingdom and Canada. Because travel was suspended, our 2020 recipient, Kori Stewart, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(CT), CIIP, will present, "Artificial Intelligence in Radiology: Will Radiographers/Technologists Work With Robots Soon?" at the 2022 UK Imaging and Oncology Congress in Liverpool, England, this July.

The Foundation remains committed to its longtime partnership with RAD-AID International global community outreach projects. Although travel abroad was halted in FY 2021, the Foundation supported five projects through participation in an expanded affiliation called the U.S. Healthcare Disparities Initiative, which focuses on providing aid to medically underserved communities in the United States.

New Programs

One of our ongoing goals is to add the programs members need in order to learn and advance.

Additional scholarships in the 2021-2022 academic year were supported by Hitachi, the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board and Revenue Cycle, and through in-memoriam gifts from Jack and Angie Cullinan.

Hologic, a leading innovator in women's health, initiated the Hologic Mammography Scholarship to promote the mammography profession in the 2021-2022 academic year. They continued their support for this program for the 2022-2023 academic year and will fund two individuals pursuing mammography certification.

The Elio "Leo" DelVecchio Memorial Scholarship, initiated by ASRT Life Member Michael DelVecchio, B.S., R.T.(R), FASRT, will fund one medical imaging technologist pursuing a degree in the 2022-2023 academic year.

The Watson Community Outreach Grant, established by Liana Watson, D.M., R.T.(R)(S)(M)(BS), RDMS, RVT, FASRT, CAE, will support a RAD-AID/ASRT Fellow to provide expertise in sonography or mammography in an underserved community.

Focus on Diversity in the Radiologic Sciences

Elekta expanded their radiation therapy scholarship to improve diversity, inclusion and representation in the health care industry. Two additional scholarships were awarded to Black entry-level radiation therapy students in the 2021-2022 academic year. Elekta is again supporting these additional awards for the 2022-2023 academic year.

The ARRT funded two additional awards of the Royce Osborn Minority Student Scholarship in the 2021-2022 academic year.

The Foundation will award the first recipient of the LGBTQ+ Scholarship in the 2022-2023 academic year. The scholarship supports a medical imaging technologist or radiation therapist pursuing a degree or additional certification. It was established by William May, M.Ed., R.T.(R), FASRT, an ASRT Life Member and founding member of the Foundation Board of Trustees.

Looking to the Future

The Foundation is committed to building a stronger profession by offering programs that are meaningful to our membership. We accomplish this goal by looking for new corporate partnerships that will enhance our offerings and by cultivating stronger relationships with our faithful members, donors and potential donors. We graciously thank everyone who makes this work possible.