

APDR Achievement Award

Michael J. Shortsleeve, MD, FACR

Introduction by J. Pierre Sasson, MD

It is a special honor for me to present the tribute for Michael J. Shortsleeve, MD, FACR, as he accepts the 2013 APDR Achievement Award. I have known Mike for 22 years. He was my program director at Mount Auburn Hospital (Cambridge, MA), and I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this honor.

Mike was a "classics" major at Holy Cross College. He also squeezed in enough premed courses to qualify for admission to Dartmouth Medical School. In those days, Dartmouth was a 2-year school, so Mike transferred to Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine for his clinical years. After receiving his medical degree from Johns Hopkins, he did an internship at Mount Auburn Hospital. It was there that he began a lifelong interest in gastrointestinal radiology under the guidance of Richard Schatzki, MD (of Schatzki ring fame).

After completing his residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), Mike returned to Mount Auburn Hospital as a faculty radiologist. Mike was a natural teacher, and he gradually assumed responsibility for the radiology residency program. He served as program director for 18 years. It was during this time that he became active in the APDR. Mike served as the 12th president of the APDR. In a tongue-in-cheek effort to support the development of one of the six basic competencies, "communication," he started the "Beer and Pretzels" reception at our annual meeting. It was an immediate success in 2005 and continues to this day. Mike was instrumental in convincing the RRC to expand the "first-time taker" pass rate to include the resident who conditioned a single category in June and then passed it the following November. This refinement was especially appreciated by the small programs and actually allowed the RRC to better distinguish a solid program from one with deficiencies.

At the conclusion of Mike's year as APDR President, Jerry Arndt, MD, the founding father of the APDR, asked him to assume responsibility for its Archives Committee. At that time, the Archives Committee was made up of Sheila and Jerry Arndt and was based in their home on their personal computer. The Arndts had maintained all of the APDR historical data and all correspondence with the American Board of Radiology (ABR) regarding the ABR oral examinations since the inception of the APDR in 1993. Under Mike's guidance as the second chair of the Archives Committee, all of the APDR historical data and updated lists of oral board examiners were transferred to a new APDR database supported by the IT department of the RSNA. This year, the APDR, through the Archives Committee, made available to the ABR 250 APDR members to assist in the ABR examination process!



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Mike's interest in radiology education extends beyond the resident level. He has been active in educating the medical students within the Harvard medical system. Mike has taught the medical students rotating through Mount Auburn Hospital, taught the second-year students studying the pathophysiology of the gastrointestinal tract, and taught in the radiology clerkship at MGH and is a co-director of the primary care radiology elective for fourth-year Harvard medical students. He is also a regular lecturer in the BWH/MGH Radiology Review course sponsored by the Department of Continuing Education of Harvard Medical School.

The Mount Auburn radiology conference room is the meeting place for the Boston Gut Club, with Mike serving as host. Mike and his colleague, Frank Scholz, MD, sponsor the annual New England Gastrointestinal Radiology Review Course at the Mount Auburn Hospital amphitheater. This last opportunity to learn gastrointestinal radiology (for free) is typically attended by 20 residency programs from the Northeast.

Mike has authored 32 peer-reviewed articles and given 42 presentations/exhibits related to his clinical interests, mainly gastrointestinal radiology. He holds a patent for a biliary tube assembly for the administration of solvents into the biliary tract. He has served as a reviewer for *Radiology* and as an oral board examiner for the ABR. The ABR gave Mike its Distinguished Service Award in 2010. Mike has also served the

New England Roentgen Ray Society as a panel member, panel moderator, and lecturer and as vice president. The American College of Radiology (ACR) awarded him fellowship in 1999, and he has served the ACR on residency-related committee work.

Mike has also assumed many leadership positions at Mount Auburn Hospital. He is currently serving as chair of the Department of Radiology and chair of the Oversight Committee for the Mount Auburn Cambridge Independent Practice Association and as a hospital trustee. He is also the chief of radiology at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In addition to Mike's commitment to education and leadership, he has maintained a robust clinical schedule. *Boston* magazine has listed Mike as one of the best diagnostic radiologists in Boston, which is a rare occurrence for a physician with such educational and administrative responsibilities.

In closing, Michael J. Shortsleeve, MD, FACR, has been a strong advocate for radiology residency education and for radiology in general. Mike has been a wonderful friend to many of us in the APDR/AUR family. It is a genuine pleasure for me to present him to the APDR as its 2013 Achievement Award winner.