

FALL 2026 NEWSLETTER

News, updates, opportunities, and resources for the APDR community



As we begin another academic year, I am grateful for the energy, expertise, and commitment our members continue to bring to APDR. So much of what we accomplish is possible because members generously share their ideas, time, and experience in support of radiology education and one another.

This year, we are continuing several important initiatives. Our collaboration with RSNA, the APDR Resident Channel in RSNA's EdCentral, developed under the leadership of Dr. Ernie Wiggins, Dr. Hillary Garner, and the APDR Education Committee, is nearing completion and will be introduced to members at the annual RSNA meeting. This new resource will support residents and programs with organized, high-quality educational content aligned with APDR's Resident Rotation Guides.

We are also advancing two major task force efforts. Dr. Ryan Peterson is leading the Residency Restructuring Task Force as it examines best practices for ESIR and broader considerations for residency training in light of upcoming changes to the boards. Dr. Carol Geer is leading development of the new APDR Program Director Manual, which will bring together the experience and practical wisdom of our members to create a valuable resource for current and future program directors.

Supporting one another also remains central to our mission. Wellness Works, led by Dr. Erin Cooke, continues to provide mentorship, connection, strategy sharing, and peer support for program directors. We are also grateful to Dr. Anna Rozenshtein for leading another year of the APDR/RLI Program Director Bootcamp and helping provide practical guidance for new and experienced program leaders.

We are also working to expand our membership through the #BringYourAPD initiative, led by Dr. Charlotte Taylor and the Membership Committee. We encourage program directors to invite their associate and assistant program directors to join APDR and become more involved in our community.

Thank you to everyone who serves on a committee, contributes to a task force, participates in our educational programs, mentors a colleague, or supports a fellow program director. Your contributions make APDR stronger and help advance radiology education.

I look forward to continuing this work together.

Brent Griffith, MD
APDR President



**IN
THIS
ISSUE**



**Committee &
Task Force
Updates**

News from APDR committees and task forces advancing our mission and priorities.



**Community
Highlights**

Celebrating member achievements, events, and initiatives across our community.



**Important Dates &
Announcements**

Key dates, deadlines, and announcements to keep you informed and engaged.



**Resources for
Program
Directors**

Tools, guides, and resources to support program leadership and education.

Committee & Task Force Updates



Call for Author Volunteers: APDR Program Director Manual Task Force

APDR is seeking volunteers to author sections for the upcoming APDR Program Director Manual, planned as an Academic Radiology supplement. Topics will include:

Preface & Chair Perspective

Operational Support for PDs

ACGME Requirements

Milestones & Procedural Competency

Didactic Curriculum

Faculty as Educators

Effective Feedback

Struggling Resident I & II

ABR Exam Preparation

Alternative & Dual Pathways

Recruitment & Branding

AI in Education & Program Management

Labor Issues & Unionization

Anyone interested in potentially co-authoring a topic is encouraged to reach out to Dr. Carol Geer (carol.geer@advocatehealth.org).

Education Committee

The Education Committee continues to work in support of two strategic goals: developing best practices and flexible pathways for competency-based medical education (CBME), and expanding access to free, case-based learning resources for residents.

RSNA-APDR Collaboration Update

APDR and RSNA have partnered to build a dedicated APDR section within RSNA's EdCentral platform. Special thanks to Dr. Ernie Wiggins, Dr. Hillary Garner, and the APDR Education Committee for leading this collaboration. The tool integrates APDR Resident Rotation Guides with RSNA's digital education assets: video presentations, RadioGraphics articles, Course Catalog modules, Case Collection entries, and Annual Meeting materials.

Each subspecialty rotation guide contains approximately 45 curated learning pieces and 30 key diagnosis cases, mapped across resident training levels.

The collaboration will be presented at the RSNA Discovery Theater on December 1, 2026, accompanied by hands-on EdCentral demonstrations, test user access, and on-site promotion.

CBME Task Force

The CBME Task Force, chaired by Dr. Scott Simpson, has developed four workplace-based assessments (WPBAs) for diagnostic radiology, covering report construction, direct observation, medical knowledge and clinical reasoning, and efficiency. The WPBAs and their companion dashboards will be free to download for all APDR members, along with a resource webpage that includes an FAQ, instructions, and example videos on how to use them. The forms are built in Microsoft Forms, allowing for easy data collection and aggregation, and both the forms and dashboards can be customized to fit the needs of individual programs.

The Task Force expects to complete this work by November and plans to present it at the 2027 AAR/APDR Annual Meeting, with a white paper to follow.

APDR Residency Restructuring Task Force

The APDR Residency Restructuring Task Force, led by Dr. Ryan Peterson, is currently working on a white paper identifying best practices for ESIR in light of upcoming board changes. A white paper suggesting broader residency restructuring considerations for radiology residency programs will follow with a completion goal of AAR 2027.

Small Program Non-University (SPNU) Committee

Chaired by Dr. David Bader, the SPNU Committee, which represents non-university-based radiology residency programs with 20 or fewer residents, recently updated its membership roster and launched a dedicated listserv. Regular meetings began in September and will focus on sharing ideas, addressing common challenges, and advocating for the needs of smaller training programs. APDR members from small programs who are interested in being involved are welcome to join.

Committee & Task Force Updates

Electronic Communications

The ECC welcomes ideas for APDR website updates and social media posts throughout the academic year.

Help us highlight the great work APDR members are doing for our community and training programs. Please send suggestions to ECC Chair Erin Cooke, MD (erin.cooke@cuanschutz.edu).

Follow, like, and amplify APDR posts:

 LinkedIn: Association of Program Directors in Radiology (APDR)
 X/Twitter: @theapdr
 Instagram: @apdradiology

Membership – #BringYourAPD

Led by Dr. Charlotte Taylor, the Membership Committee has launched a new outreach initiative aimed at increasing assistant/associate program director (APD) representation within our organization.

We encourage all Program Directors to invite their APDs to join APDR and take advantage of the outstanding faculty development, scholarly collaboration, and leadership opportunities that membership provides. Let's continue to invest in and grow our teams!

We look forward to seeing you at the 2027 AAR Annual Meeting. Don't forget to bring your APDs along!

Faculty Development Committee:

The Faculty Development Committee, chaired by Dr. Steven Harris, will again be gathering and sharing a list of RSNA presentations that may be of particular interest to APDR members. Please share your presentations with the committee to ensure they are included - and keep an eye out for the list in November!

Wellness Works

Wellness Works (WW), our peer mentorship community, is intended to create program director support communities designed to positively impact program director wellness through community, mentorship, strategy sharing, and coaching.

The program is currently over 35 members strong. We invite any additional interested APDR members to join by October 15th.

If any questions or wishing to join, contact Erin Cooke, MD (erin.cooke@cuanschutz.edu), APDR Wellness Works Director.

Wellness Works offers:

- Monthly 60-minute virtual small group sessions to provide a forum to share strategies and discuss timely topics, challenges, and advocacy techniques.
- Large group virtual session(s) for all WW members to provide a venue for group discussion on key topics.
- Optional in-person check-ins at RSNA and AAR annual meetings.
- Opt-in chat group for asynchronous discussion of topics across the WW community.
- Opportunities to participate in member-run ad hoc initiatives to support your programs for inter-institutional sharing of resources, speakers, etc.

Roundtables

Our first two virtual roundtables, "Rethinking the Radiology Residency Curriculum," hosted by Drs. Carol Geer and Ryan Peterson, and "Women in Radiology: Supporting trainee career success while navigating parenthood," hosted by Drs. Kate Lampen-Sachar and Shanna Matalon in collaboration with AAWR, drew strong attendance and active participation.

A new collaboration with Wellness Works is planned for early 2027.

Virtual Roundtable Schedule

2026–2027

TOPIC	DATE	COMMITTEE PLANNERS
Remediation & Coaching: How coaching skillsets can help in remediation and help other difficult conversations be more productive Wellness Works/APDR collaboration	1/21/27 (tentative)	Lori Deitte, Erin Cooke, Nicole Brofman, Kate Lampen-Sachar
Resident competency assessment and feedback	2/18/27	Jennifer Huang, Elana Smith
Introducing and utilizing AI tools during residency training	AAR	Nicole Brofman, Kara Gaetke Udager, Kate Lampen-Sachar
Incentivizing educational activities in academic training programs	5/20/27	Fahim Huda, Elena Smith, Nupur Verma

APDR COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



AAMC DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY SPECIALTY SPOTLIGHT

Thank you to Drs. Joe Veniero, Jim Anderson, and Olga Pasternak-Wise for representing APDR during the AAMC Diagnostic Radiology Specialty Spotlight on August 20, 2026.

The session drew 363 registrants, with 94 live participants, and provided residency applicants with practical insight into diagnostic radiology and the application process.

Thank you also to Blythe Jonas, Tarah Sinclair, and AAMC colleagues for organizing and supporting the event.



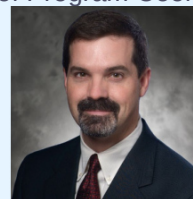
RECOGNITION AT THE 2026 AAR MEETING

Congratulations to APDR's 2026 Achievement Award winners, Mary Scanlon, MD, FACR and James Schnitker, MD.

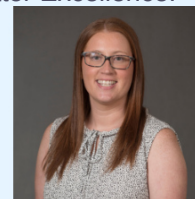
Congratulations also to Bridget Flaherty on receiving the 2026 APDR Award of Program Coordinator Excellence.



Mary Scanlon, MD, FACR



James Schnitker, MD



Bridget Flaherty

Awards were presented at the 2026 AAR Meeting.

IMPORTANT DATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



JANUARY 21, 2027 (TENTATIVE)

Wellness Works/APDR collaboration



OCTOBER 29, 2026, 4–6 PM

APDR/RLI Program Director Bootcamp



FALL 2026

APDR Board of Directors Director-at-Large
& Awards Nominations



JANUARY 2027

Jerome Arndt Grant (JAG) tentative
application deadline



FEBRUARY 18, 2027

APDR Virtual Roundtable



APRIL 5–9, 2027

NIIC Spring Session



APRIL 13–16, 2027

AAR Annual Meeting



MAY 20, 2027

APDR Virtual Roundtable

ABR

AMERICAN
BOARD OF
RADIOLOGY

PLAN AHEAD: 2027 & 2028 ABR EXAMS

For those who like to plan... Core and Oral Board Exam dates are posted.

[View exam dates](#)



SUPPORT APDR: DEVELOPMENT FUND

Helps advance APDR goals, educational resources, programming, and opportunities for the program director community.



MEMBER OPPORTUNITY: JEROME ARNDT GRANT

Provides funding opportunities for APDR members to develop new resources for the membership.

RESOURCES FOR PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Practical resources to support resident education and program administration.



1. National Imaging Informatics Course (NIIC)

A virtual course providing residents with practical education in PACS, DICOM, interoperability, workflow, AI, cybersecurity, and other core imaging informatics topics. The course is offered twice each year, in the fall and spring, with the next sessions scheduled for Sept 28-Oct 2, 2026 and April 5-9, 2027.

NIIC Course Information →



2. RLI Health Care Economics Milestones Program

A collaborative, active-learning program that helps residents understand how radiologists are paid, how payment models are evolving, and how emerging technologies may affect practice. Designed to be turnkey for program directors and workable with busy resident schedules.

Learn more at ACR →



3. APDR Rotation Guides & Must-See Diagnoses

Provides adaptable goals and objectives, recommended case-volume targets, suggested readings and videos, feedback sections, and linked Must-See Diagnosis checklists for common radiology rotations. The guides can be tailored to local needs, and APDR and RSNA are working to align them with relevant RSNA educational content.

Explore the APDR Rotation Guides →



4. APDR Procedural Learning Toolbox

Provides educational and assessment resources for ten procedures identified by APDR and APDIR as important for the general radiologist. Includes brief learning modules, sample assessment tools, and entrustable professional activities. Modules supplement hands-on teaching and generally take about 20 minutes.

Explore the Procedural Toolbox →



5. APDR/RLI Program Director Bootcamp

APDR and the ACR Radiology Leadership Institute (RLI) host Program Director Bootcamps to train and support current and incoming radiology residency and fellowship leaders. This includes a virtual bootcamp in the Fall and an in-person bootcamp at the AAR meeting.

Target Audience: New and experienced radiology program directors and associate program directors.

Focus: Leadership tools, regulatory updates, and strategic guidance for program success.



Next Date:
October 29, 2026, 4-6 pm

Learn more and register here →

ADDITIONAL APDR RESOURCES



APDR Online
Education Resources →



APDR Virtual
Roundtables →



Grants →



Well-Being
Materials →