

Volume 7 - Issue 3, 2007 - Association News

Letter from MIR Chairperson, Dr Nicola Strickland

Dear readers,

It is my pleasure to introduce you to the annual Management in Radiology (MIR) 2007 conference, which will be held in the beautiful university town of Oxford, England this year from the afternoon of Wednesday 10th October until 13:30 on Saturday 13th October. We look forward to seeing as many radiologists, other clinical imagers, managers, radiographers, IT specialists, engineers and other interested parties as possible. Many exciting and controversial management issues in imaging will be covered. There will be plenty of time for discussion, and possibly heated debate!

Please let me briefly provide you with some highlights of the planned sessions. Wednesday afternoon will be combined with the Special Interest Group (SIG) for PACS and Teleradiology of the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) and will concentrate on management issues pertinent to the ambitious English national programme for introducing PACS and associated IT into every hospital in the country by the end of 2007. This will be followed by a session on radiological coding, and dilemmas arising from this.

On Thursday a whole variety of topics will be covered, including a hopefully amusing session entitled " **The 10 Commandments of Imaging Management**" where various international speakers will briefly present their top ten priorities in imaging management. These will be "scored" and a summary session will explore the priorities in more detail. Further presentations include quality assurance and productivity, and ancillary IT technologies including speech recognition.

Friday will be devoted to the emotive topic of teleradiology and outsourcing in all its various guises. Real life experiences of the threats and gains from teleradiology services will be presented from "both sides of the fence": the outsourcers and the providers.

Saturday morning will be devoted to the importance of best practice in the management of imaging research and teaching, and consideration of the evolution or extinction of imaging as an independent discipline!

See you there!

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Published on : Wed, 1 Aug 2007