

## The Society for Computer Applications in Radiology

**T**HE SUMMER MONTHS find the Society for Computer Applications in Radiology (SCAR) in a brief hiatus after the very successful S/CAR '92 meeting in Baltimore, and assisting in the planning of the American College of Radiology/National Electrical Manufacturers Association (ACR/NEMA) demonstration at *infoRAD* during the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) '92 annual meeting.

S/CAR '92 was very well attended, with over 425 registrants, an increase of nearly 50% from our meeting 2 years ago. The tutorials were well attended, and the keynote speaker, Abraham Peled, Research Division Vice President of Systems and Software for IBM, gave an inspiring presentation that set the stage for the following sessions. The papers presented were outstanding, and the poster session included many excellent posters. The exhibit hall was filled with commercial exhibitors, and there was ample time for interaction.

The S/CAR '92 meeting was also an excellent opportunity to recruit new members, and many have joined the organization in conjunction with the meeting. We believe that many of the outreach activities in which SCAR is participating will lead to even more rapid growth of membership in the future.

Your SCAR Executive Committee has been busy with plans in a variety of areas, and expects to be a major participant in presentations during the demo of the ACR/NEMA standard at *infoRAD*.

The RSNA awarded a contract to the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology to provide a Central Test Node to which manufacturers could connect and exchange images in ACR/NEMA format. Both the planning and the execution of this demonstration of the interfacing capability will be challenging, and the partic-

ipation of many SCAR members will be required.

SCAR is working with RSNA in setting up a group of speakers to make presentations in the *infoRAD* theaters. These individuals will all be recognized authorities their fields, and many of them will be chairmen of major radiology departments. They will discuss the current status of picture archiving and communication systems (PACS) at their institutions, their plans for the future, and the clinical needs that they believe PACS will satisfy.

In the past year the SCAR Executive Committee has approved the establishment of an Honorary Membership category. Four such memberships have been awarded to the following people: Robert N. Berk, MD, University of California, San Diego, CA; Bruce J. Hillman, MD, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA; William W. Olmsted, MD, The George Washington University Medical Center, Washington, DC; and Stanley S. Siegelman, MD, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD.

Sales of the PACS handbook, "Understanding PACS," have been larger than expected, and we have now distributed a total of 3,000 copies. We believe that the Handbook will be extremely useful in educating the user community about the benefits and costs of electronic image communication.

Copies of this Handbook may be obtained by contacting the administrative office of SCAR, at 4750 Lindle Rd, PO Box 8800, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8800; telephone (717) 561-5266.

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