



# THE CENTRAL RAY

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A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF MENTORS & STUDENTS IN RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY- A FACEBOOK SUPPORT PAGE

## Congratulations Graduates!

Find us on [Facebook.com](http://Facebook.com)

The California Society of Mentors & Students in Radiologic Technology is a social website aimed to bring together students, mentors, and working radiologic technologist. The goal is to unite and strengthen the RT Community.

Please inform your colleagues, friends, classmates about CSMSRT!

As a member of the graduating class of 2009, I can attest to the amount of dedication, time, and hard work each of us put forth to arrive at this momentous day.

While it is a time to celebrate this hard earned accomplishment, now the real responsibilities begin!

Some of us have been holding on to technologists, clinical instructors and teachers for support and foundation. Now, it is time for us to "fly" from the nest and rely on ourselves!

For many of us, the first thing on our mind is to study hard to pass the ARRT. Passing the ARRT not only means passing the national boards, it also means getting the certificate necessary to secure a job.

After passing the ARRT, then what? Most graduates will not think to join or become involved with a professional association; however, being part of an professional association is imperative to one's success as a clinical practitioner!

Your state and national professional associations act on your behalf to fight for your profession and patient care. Without their assistance, we would have no voice. However, they can't do this alone!

This is why it is imperative that you become active and involved with your professional associations. We chose this profession in part because we wanted to make a difference in patient care.

Don't forget that each patient you are dealing with belongs to someone's family. It is up to you to treat each patient in a professional, sympathetic and empathetic manner. Isn't that how you would want your family members to be treated when they receive healthcare?

As you start out in this profession, you will meet some technologists who won't shield their patients, or treat them with kindness and dignity. You must not succumb to such character-less behavior.

Instead, be one of those technologists who offer a warm extra blanket., or an extra pillow (continue page 2)



The California Delegation that delivered the CARE Letters to Washington DC

## Update on the CARE Bill-

The CSMSRT would like to thank each member that took the time and submit the CARE Bill letters.

The letters were hand delivered to Washington D.C. by Diane R. Garcia, RT, Director at Large for CSRT and Lorenza Clausen, RT, the Vice President of the CSRT.

These two individuals along with students went to Washington D.C. to meet with California Legislatures to fight on behalf for the CARE Bill.

According to Lorenza Clausen, VP of the California Society of Radiologic Technologist, the meetings with the legislatures were positive

and each expressed a desire to support the CARE Bill. Congress and the House is set to meet on the CARE Bill this year. We are confident with everyone's continued support, the CARE Bill will pass! Please be sure to check back for the update!

## Continue– Congratulations Graduates

Do something extra to let the patients know not only do you care for them but also that you are passionate about your profession!

As we will be embarking on this adventure together. Let us not forget what it is like being a student. Remember the first time you greeted a patient? Or had a scary experience with a patient, or were rudely confronted by a technologist?

Take a student under your wing and try to have the patience with them that you wish you had been shown more often when you were first starting out. If the student makes a mistake, show them how to do things the right way - don't

take shortcuts! One day, you may need an x-ray and it may be a student you taught taking it!

Take time to say "Thank-you" to the teachers in your Radiology Program. Though you may think it is their *job* to teach you– it is nice to show some appreciation for their hard efforts and sometimes frustrating moments trying to teach a classroom of students.

Lastly, pat yourself on the back! You did it! This also holds true for students who are progressing on to the next semester- while you didn't graduate yet, you made a big step forward!



Some of the Graduates from City College of San Francisco's Diagnostic Medical Imaging Program– Spring 2009. Right to Left– Kelly Gardner Spencer, Cecelia Lai & David Poon

## Advice for the Graduating Class of 2009

**"TREAT EVERY PATIENT AS IF THEY WERE ONE OF YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS"**

The CSMSRT has gathered top professionals and was asked what advice would you give to the graduating students. Here is what some of them had to

say.

- Love your patients and take pride

in the job that you do

- What ever you do, do it well!
- Spread the knowledge and share best practices to other colleagues and students you will be working with.
- Be helpful to other colleagues and professional allied healthcare workers– Make yourself useful (i.e. -if appropriate, assist surgeons and surgery staff if they need it.

- Don't be lazy and stand in the corner and take an "its not my job" attitude– be proactive
- Treat every patient as if they were one of your family members.
- Get involved with your state & nationally professional society! They need you!
- Finally, be the best listener and offer compassion and comfort to patients you see.

## Participate in the CSMSRT Survey !!

The California Society of Mentors & Students in Radiologic Technology wants you to participate in an online survey to assess and measure the quality of classroom and clinical experience you have received thus far!

The data will be analyzed and the results will be posted in our upcoming Winter, 2009 Newsletter. We need everyone to participate! If you have a

classmate, friend, and/or colleague who is not currently a member of the California Society of Mentors & Students in Radiologic Technology, ask them to join! Its Free!

To access the survey, please click on the survey link, which can be found under "recent news" section on the facebook page of the CSMSRT.

You can also access the survey by

clicking here → [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=A2VYqOE823\\_2fja4NI3DCOg\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=A2VYqOE823_2fja4NI3DCOg_3d_3d)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CSMSRT at [DavidnSF@yahoo.com](mailto:DavidnSF@yahoo.com)

Thank you for your participation !