

## Academic Achievement Award Association of Program Directors in Radiology

### Jerome Harrison Arndt, MD

#### *Introduction by William M. Thompson, MD*

In the late 1980s, a number of department chairmen, AUR members, and program directors began to listen to a tall Texan from Dallas who was concerned about the fact that the radiology residency program directors from institutions that were not affiliated with medical schools did not have a forum at any of our national meetings.

Out of these initial discussions a plan was developed and presented to the AUR Executive Committee in 1991 for the founding of a new organization that would meet annually during the AUR meeting. The Executive Committee—then led by President Albert A. Moss, MD; Past-President William M. Thompson, MD; and Kay H. Vydareny, MD—supported the concept and the new organization. The Association of Program Directors in Radiology (APDR) was founded in 1991.

However, the APDR would not have gotten off the ground if it had not been for the unbelievable dedication and hard work over the next 3 years performed by the individual with the idea, Jerome (Jerry) Harrison Arndt, MD, and his dedicated wife, Sheila. Jerry recruited all of the initial APDR members, wrote the bylaws, and persuaded a number of his friends to join the Executive Committee. From 1992 to 1994, Jerry, as the first APDR president, used his unbelievable organizational skills and computer wizardry to propel APDR from a small group of interested program directors to a society with over 250 members.

APDR's first meeting was held at the AUR annual meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1992. Each meeting since then has improved with significant participation from more and more APDR members. At last count, we have over 50 individuals serving on 11 committees. APDR now has become a major part of each annual AUR meeting with full participation in the plenary sessions. Our interaction with the RRC and the ABR has helped influence many positive changes in our training programs. Most of the credit for APDR's success is directly related to Jerry's contributions and leadership.

Jerry was born in Duluth, Minnesota, the son of a family practitioner. He attended Detroit Lakes High School and received a BA in chemistry from the University of Minnesota in 1952. Following 2 years working in the oil fields of Oklahoma, he entered medical school and received his MD from the University of Oklahoma in 1958. After completing a rotating internship and 1 year of general surgery residency in Oakland, California, Jerry moved to his current home in Dallas, Texas, where after a brief time in an Ob-Gyn residency and general practice, he completed a radiology residency in 1964 at the Baylor University Medical Center. Jerry joined the faculty on completion of his residency and remained on the staff at Baylor for 32 years prior to retirement in 1996. It will come as no surprise to anyone that Jerry was the director of the radiology residency at Baylor from 1966 to 1986. He served as director of the department at Baylor University Medical Center from 1986 to 1995. During his 32 years in practice, Jerry served as president of the Dallas-Fort Worth Radiology Society, the medical staff at Baylor, and APDR. He was involved in the training of residents throughout his 30 years at Baylor. His interest in teaching brought him into the APDR in 1984, and he served on the AUR Executive Committee from 1989 to 1995.

Jerry has been blessed for 47 years with the company of his lovely wife, the former Sheila Balph. They have two sons, Steven Charles and James Harrison. Those who are fortunate to have Jerry for a friend know that he will do anything for you. Although he has been retired for this past year, he still spends time teaching the residents and has continued to provide advice to the APDR Executive Committee.

All of us in the APDR and the AUR who know Jerry are aware of his wonderful sense of humor, his integrity, his dedication to radiology and education, and his inspiring drive to do his best. The APDR is extremely fortunate that we can honor Dr. Jerome Harrison Arndt in giving our founding member this well-deserved Academic Achievement Award.