

# APDR Achievement Award

## William Herring, MD, FACR

Introduction by Mindy M. Horrow, MD, FACR

If the goal of the APDR Achievement Award is to recognize one of the members for excellence in radiology education, the 2011 awardee, William Herring, MD, FACR, or “Dr Learning Radiology,” is the perfect choice.

Dr Herring has spent his entire professional career, including internship and residency, at the Albert Einstein Medical Center (AEMC) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. During this time, he has developed a reputation for clinical, administrative, and, most importantly, educational excellence. He has served on almost every radiology departmental committee, becoming the vice chair in 1993 and acting chair in 2002. Dr Herring has also contributed his time and expertise to the AEMC as an elected member of the Medical Staff Board for many years, including the positions of secretary, treasurer, and president and several network board committees.

A variety of radiology organizations have benefited from Bill Herring’s time and expertise. He is a fellow of the American College of Radiology (ACR) and has served as an ACR councilor from Pennsylvania and worked on the Expert Panel on Chest Radiology and as an item writer in the Continuous Professional Improvement (CPI) Program. In the Pennsylvania Radiological Society, he has served as a member of the Board of Directors and the Exhibits Committee for the annual meeting of the society. In our local Philadelphia Roentgen Ray Society (PRRS), Dr Herring has served as president and a member of the Board of Directors and as chair of the Annual College Bowl competition. In this latter capacity, he has developed a reputation for presenting excellent cases in a witty, appealing format. He is the webmaster of the PRRS Web site, which received a commendation in 2003 as a Pennsylvania Destination of the Day.

As a member of the APDR, Bill has served on the Board of Directors and a variety of other committees. He is the originator of the APDR annual survey that gathers information on a variety of residency-related activities. He is the vice president of the board of the Alliance of Medical Student Educators in Radiology.

Bill Herring’s greatest legacy to the radiology community is as an educator. He has been program director of the AEMC diagnostic radiology residency since 1979 and director of medical student education from

1975 to 2001. He is a marvelous teacher, whether at the viewing station or in conference, receiving two AEMC Outstanding Clinical Teacher Awards and the PRRS Outstanding Teacher Award in 2004. This year, the PRRS annual oration was given in his honor.

In 2001, Dr Herring created an educational Web site called [www.learningradiology.com](http://www.learningradiology.com). This nonprofit non-commercial Web site was designed and developed and is produced and continuously maintained by him. It is a multifaceted resource aimed primarily at medical students and radiology residents, containing PowerPoint lectures, handouts, images, cases of the week, archives of case quizzes, flash cards of differential diagnoses, and “most common” lists. The site was recently designated “Site of the Month” by an affiliate of *Amazon.com* dedicated to U.S. Medical Licensing Examination and medical residency books and information and was cited for its excellence in the August 2010 *RSNA News*. The site receives over 10,000 unique visitors daily and has more than 8000 Facebook fans and over 1000 Twitter followers.

In 2007, Dr Herring published *Learning Radiology: Recognizing the Basics*, a paperback text aimed at medical students and beginning radiology residents. The book has become a standard radiology clerkship text, and the second revised edition is scheduled for release this month.

More recently, Dr Herring has expanded his teaching activities to the creation of almost 60 free downloadable podcasts available at the iTunes Web site. Over a thousand of these podcasts are downloaded each day and have consistently been the “most popular” medicine video podcasts on iTunes.

William Herring, MD, FACR, has had an exemplary career as a distinguished radiology residency program director, educator, and clinical radiologist. In addition to his extended family of current and former residents, Bill and his wife, Pat, are very proud of daughters Sharon (and her husband, Dave) and Debbie (and her husband, Alex) and grandsons Sam and Josh. In 2004, over 100 residents and resident alumni attended a surprise dinner to celebrate Bill’s 25th anniversary as program director. This year we could hold a 32nd year anniversary, and there is no end in sight.



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