

# F O C U S

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# AAWR

The Official Newsletter of the American Association for Women in Radiology

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American Association for Women in Radiology

## AAWR Events

### AAWR Virtual Year-End Membership Meeting

December 8, 2025, 8:00pm (ET)

For more information on upcoming events, visit [aawr.org/AAWR-Events](https://aawr.org/AAWR-Events)

## CALL FOR ARTICLES

Have an article or research publication you would like featured in our next Focus Newsletter? Let us know!

Submit your article at <https://form.jotform.com/252265912371052>

# President's Address



**Meredith J. Englander**  
**MD, FSIR, FACR**

President, AAWR

Over the years, I have attended many sessions for women in medicine. Twenty years ago, I could not have imagined that a luncheon organized for women interventional radiologists at the SIR annual meeting would change the trajectory of my career. At this lunch, my eyes were opened to the reality that women were grossly underrepresented in IR, not just in numbers but in opportunities as well. I was in a room full of women who had also entered this male-dominated specialty, and most were also working as the only woman in their practice. At that moment, we were connected by our profession, our gender and our shared experience. There was a recognition that we were each a trailblazer, finding our way where there were no guides, acknowledging that the road we were traveling was difficult, but that we were, in a way, traveling it together. At that moment, I realized that I needed a community of women to have my back as I navigated forward professionally.

I assume these were the same feelings that Helen Redman, Ann Lewicki, Carol Rumack, Linda Fahr, Katherine Shaffer, Nancy Whitley, and others felt when they helped to found AAWR 1981. If you haven't had a chance, I encourage you to read the great [article on the founding of AAWR](#) that Dr. Rumack prepared for the 25th anniversary in 2006.

When we think of where we were and where we are now, we've certainly come a long way. Women entering radiology and related fields today can look around and see many other women in their training programs and in practice. In fact, with women now serving as deans, chairs, editors of major journals, and leaders of specialty societies, some wonder if there is still a need for organizations like AAWR. To that, I would answer that they absolutely are still needed. AAWR is here to support women, to be a place to learn leadership skills, and to help us develop our strong professional

networks. It is still important, if not essential, to lean into the opportunities created for us at AAWR.

Women have made progress because we have believed in ourselves and could imagine what was possible. But it also takes opportunity. When doors are open, we need to walk in. And when doors are closed, we need to know we have the village behind us, helping to push the doors open.

Although I would not have had the career that I do without the help of many people, a strong network of women has been essential to my success. Women are great at making connections and eager to reach out to one another. I have enjoyed collaborating with other women on research and advocacy projects and I have benefitted from the advice and mentorship of many women in radiology. Some professional connections have evolved into amazing friendships. I mention this because building a network of women is easy when you're a member of AAWR. The wonderful thing about AAWR is that you will meet women from around the country who are walking the same road as you, and they are open to sharing their experiences; there is a trust and warmth that fosters developing relationships.

We all know the African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." I can think of no better place to apply this than to the AAWR. AAWR is a vibrant community of women and men who want to help women in radiology achieve the best careers they can. While each of us defines this differently, there is no doubt that you will find connection among the members of AAWR.

It has been an amazing journey for me, from women in IR luncheon attendee to president of the AAWR. I steadfastly support AAWR and believe in its mission. AAWR is our organization to nurture and with appropriate care, it will grow and evolve. Getting involved, participating in programming, and coming to our events are the steps it takes to fully benefit from membership and, it is how to meet other remarkable AAWR members. For me, this has made all the difference. 

# Photos from the UC San Diego AAWR Chapter 2025 Summer Social



Photos submitted by Niky Farid, MD

## Survey on Cultural Factors Affecting Representation in Radiology



**Sabah Servaes, MD**

West Virginia University

We know that there is an ongoing discrepancy between US demographics and representation in Radiology. I am working with an undergraduate student to try to understand some cultural factors that may be contributing and we have an IRB approved REDCap survey. We would like students to complete (it is quick) but we are also interested in obtaining non-student responses. Please answer if you are a student, please share with a student you know, and/or complete even if you are beyond the student phase.

Link to the Survey: <https://redcap.wvctsi.org/redcap/surveys/?s=W3C7DPFTRDPDWT4M>.



# Welcome, New Members!

Noemi Acevedo Rodriguez  
Nnenna Achebe  
Evien Albazi  
Tailer Artis  
Sarah Attia  
Amy Avakian  
Ella Baghdasaryan  
Elizabeth Barker  
Ayelet Beilin  
Jenny Bencardino  
Houda Bouhman  
Tian Brown  
Maia Brown  
Yuying Cao  
Shany Cardenas  
Glennon Carevic  
Kristin Champagne  
Pallavi Chandrasekhar  
Alice Chen  
Shahajahan Chowdhury  
Stephanie Cruz Del Valle  
Mona Dabiri  
Danielle Dargis  
Varalaxmi Dasari  
Ria Dave  
Fatemeh Dehaghni Firouzabadi  
Oluchukwu Dele-Oni  
Stamatia Destounis  
Irene Dixe de Oliveira Santo  
Ifeanyi Ekpunobi  
Rokaya Elamrati  
Shadi Esfahani  
Dariana Gil Hernandez

Ava Gordon  
Britney Halbur  
Latifah Henry  
Aydee Hinojosa  
Eleanor Hollers  
Mishka Hoo Kim  
Angela Hussain  
Neelu Jain  
Caroline Kelly  
Tara Korbal  
Alexis Kralovich  
Sunskruthi Krishna  
Diana Lee  
Stephanie Lewis  
Nina Li  
Michelle Li  
Josie Long  
Christopher Magloire  
Mariam Mansour  
Vanessa Marino  
Mika Matteo  
Christopher McAdams  
Amanda McCarty- Scalmanini  
Olivia Michaels  
Afza Mohammed  
Erica Monroe  
Marie Moore  
Midhath Afza Munavar Ali  
Elisheba Odei  
Jane Ogagan  
Christiana Ogunlana  
Laura Okechukwu  
Kara Patrick

Lauren Pawlowski  
Abneris Perez Ramos  
Tzvia Pinkhasov  
Mahla Radmard  
Sidra Rafi  
Ria Raja  
Daniela Renedo  
Janay Rocha  
Kaya Russell  
Sara Salehi  
Negin Samandari  
Valerie Sanchez  
Elise Santacruz  
Kyriaki Schooley  
Rebecca Seidel  
Zahra Shokri Varniab  
Annelise Silva-Chong  
Claire Soucier  
McKenzie Suarez-Stankiewicz  
Qihua Sun  
Felicia Tang  
Roma Tarar  
Kathy Truong  
Jessica Vankawala  
Sara Volk Vera  
Elizabeth Vorhis  
Charu Vyas  
Michelle Wang  
Juana Xiong  
Marcia Yoshikawa  
Mina Zilaie

