Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Philadelphia for the 68th annual meeting of the Association of University Radiologists (AUR). During the American Revolution, Philadelphia served as a meeting place—hosting both the Second Continental Congress which produced the Declaration of Independence and the Philadelphia Convention resulting in the U.S. Constitution. In addition, Philadelphia has had many firsts including the first library (1731), the first hospital (1751) and the first medical school (1765).

The theme for the 2020 AUR meeting is Systems Thinking and Population Health. I look forward to a week in Philadelphia to discuss the roles that radiology plays now and as well as possible future roles that radiology could play in improving the health of the populations that we serve. As academic radiologists we improve health in many ways. We provide patient care—prevention, diagnosis and treatment. However, a bigger impact than the direct care that we personally provide is our trainees. Those we teach and train will practice for decades and ultimately replace us creating a huge multiplier on health. The research tools we develop give those who follow us better tools than we had. We are able to achieve these things by developing and cultivating leaders in radiology.

On Tuesday at 8 AM we will open with the plenary session and welcome our speaker Gary Guller. Gary is an internationally renowned motivational speaker and an Everest mountaineer. He will show us what is possible with teamwork and challenge us to work together. The speaker at the AMSER Lucy Squire and APDR-ACR Keynote Lecture is David B. Nash, MD, MBA, who is the founding dean of Jefferson College of Population Health.

Take advantage of the evening social events. Join us at the Welcome Reception Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 PM at the Reading Terminal Market—one of America’s oldest public markets. Each year AUR provides a unique opportunity for networking and mentoring. The gathering of colleagues from medical students to senior faculty in a nurturing environment provides an opportunity for new collaborations. I encourage you to renew existing friendships but to also reach out and introduce yourselves to meet new friends.

My thanks and appreciation to the amazing AUR staff and the Program Planning Committee for putting together such a thought-provoking program. I am especially grateful to Dr. Petra Lewis for her leadership and willingness to tackle such a challenging topic at our annual meeting.

You need to be part of the conversations that will occur at AUR 2020. If you are unable to join us in person, please interact though social media using #AUR20 on Twitter.

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