Lisa A. Kachnic, MD, assumes presidency of the American Board of Radiology

Lisa A. Kachnic, MD, succeeded Milton J. Guiberteau, MD, as president of the American Board of Radiology (ABR) on October 28, 2016. As a radiation oncologist, Dr. Kachnic previously chaired ABR item-writing committees in gastrointestinal (GI) oncology for both the Initial Certification and Maintenance of Certification exams. She continued her volunteer service as an ABR trustee in 2010 and president-elect in 2014, and has served on numerous Board committees.

Formerly professor and chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology and associate director of multidisciplinary cancer research at Boston University School of Medicine, Dr. Kachnic is currently professor and Cornelius Vanderbilt Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. She earned her undergraduate degree from Boston College and her medical degree from Tufts University. She then completed her residency in radiation oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University, serving in her last year as chief resident.

Dr. Kachnic belongs to numerous professional organizations, including the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). She serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute and Gastrointestinal Cancer Research. Her primary areas of interest include rectal and anal malignancies, image-guided radiation delivery, and outcomes/symptoms management research.

In addition, Dr. Kachnic is actively involved in the National Cancer Institute’s (NCI’s) adult oncology research cooperative groups, including NRG Oncology’s (National Surgical Adjuvant Breast & Bowel Project, Radiation Therapy Oncology Group and the Gynecological Oncology Group) Gastrointestinal (GI) strategic committee and co-chair of their NCI Community Oncology Research Program’s (NCORP’s) Cancer Control and Prevention Division. She serves as GI Radiation Oncology chairperson and Anorectal co-chairperson for the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG), where she is also the multi-modality executive officer. Importantly, her NCI clinical trials have changed the standard of care in several GI malignancies, most notably anal cancer. As a tribute to these leadership efforts, Dr. Kachnic has been awarded NCI funding from the NRG and SWOG and was the 2008 recipient of the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group’s first “Next Generation Investigator” award.

Dr. Kachnic has other national leadership positions that are worthy of mention. She became a fellow of ASTRO after many years of service, most recently as Scientific Committee vice-chair and editor of their newsletter. She has also been the principal investigator on several Boston University Medical Center-funded clinical research efforts, including a prior NCI Minority-based Community Clinical Oncology
Program (CCOP) Award. Dr. Kachnic’s research has resulted in numerous peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters, and reviews.

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Established in 1934, the mission of the American Board of Radiology (ABR) is to certify that our diplomates demonstrate the requisite knowledge, skill, and understanding of their disciplines to the benefit of patients. The ABR offers primary certification in diagnostic radiology, interventional radiology, radiation oncology, and medical physics, as well as several subspecialty certifications. The ABR is one of 24 Member Boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties. For more information, see www.theabr.org.