ABR Volunteer Spotlight: Jessica B. Clements, MS, Medical Physicist

Today we shine our Volunteer Spotlight on Jessica B. Clements, MS, DABR, who is certified in both diagnostic and nuclear medical physics and has volunteered for the ABR since 2011. Ms. Clements first joined the Part 2 Diagnostic Medical Physics Exam Writing Committee, and in 2012, the MOC Exam Writing Committee for Nuclear Medical Physics. This month [May 2014], she will be serving for the first time as an oral examiner for diagnostic medical physics.

Ms. Clements has enjoyed a wide range of teaching opportunities in her career. Since her current position has limited teaching activities, she satisfies her professional desire to teach through exam creation. She feels that the best part about volunteering for the ABR is being able to bring current clinical content to exams, even if it is only a question or two per year. She also thinks that being an oral examiner will be a great learning opportunity and while probably exhausting, extremely fun!

We asked Ms. Clements how the actual practice of her specialties meets or differs from her expectations, and she told us, “Practicing my specialties has been as I expected. While basic principles stay the same, the technology and procedures are evolving and becoming more complex. There’s always something new and challenging to figure out and many ways to help hospital patients, staff, and physicians, as well as medical physics colleagues.”

When asked what board certification means to her, Ms. Clements replied, “I’ve adopted the ABR definition of the meaning of board certification. But in my own words, I think of it as a peer review of your ability to practice your subspecialty, a validation that you know how to practice in the clinic or are competent enough to figure out new problems.”

Early in her career, Ms. Clements recognized the importance of volunteer service with professional organizations, and she is proud of the volunteer work she has accomplished in the last 10 years with the ABR, American Association for Physicians in Medicine (AAPM), American College of Radiology (ACR), and Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD). “I’ve volunteered in a wide range of positions, from subcommittees to the AAPM Board of Directors. Regardless of the volunteer activity, I remain engaged and passionate!”
In her spare time, Ms. Clements likes to travel with her husband and two sons, ages 10 and 15. “While traveling, I especially like to visit art museums and public gardens. I also like to grow my own gardens - I've been growing water lilies and lotuses since about 2001 in various settings, from ceramic pots all the way up to a do-it-yourself pond about the size of a swimming pool. I also enjoy decorating cakes and baking, and I usually make medical imaging-themed cakes during radiologic technology week!”

_Shown below: Cardiac CT cake; MRI cake._