

2014 AIUM Award Winners

Distinguished Sonographer Award

Established in 1997, the Distinguished Sonographer Award is a means of recognizing and honoring current or retired AIUM members who have significantly contributed to the growth and development of medical ultrasound. This annual presentation honors an individual whose outstanding contributions to the development of medical ultrasound warrant special merit.

Diana M. Strickland, BS, RDMS, RDCS



Born in the southeast (Japan), Diana M. Strickland, BS, RDMS, RDCS, has remained in the southeast, albeit in the United States (North Carolina), and has set the bar high for sonographers who want to follow in her footsteps. She began her professional career in the Radiology Department of the Pitt County Memorial Hospital and after 10 years moved to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the East Carolina University School of Medicine, where she served as the ultrasound supervisor. She went on to become senior

sonographer in the Greenville Hospital Systems and an ultrasound clinical instructor at Greenville Technical College. After a short stint as chief sonographer at Carolina Perinatal Obstetrics, she found herself back at East Carolina University, which she has called home for the past 16 years. Ms Strickland is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Brody School of Medicine and codirector of the Ultrasound Division.

Certified by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) in abdomen, obstetrics, neurosonology, pediatric echocardiography, and fetal echocardiography, Ms Strickland also holds a bachelor's degree in decision sciences. Her knowledge and experience in ultrasound would make any sonographer envious, but it is her willingness to share her abilities and promote the imaging field to her colleagues through active leadership in multiple ultrasound associations that makes her so exceptional.

Ms Strickland has been involved in the North Carolina Ultrasound Society (NCUS) for more than 3 decades. She has been a member of almost every NCUS committee and chair of most. She began serving on the Board of Directors in 1996 as a member at large, becoming president in 2000 and again in 2012. It's not uncommon for presidents of associations to become less active after their terms have expired, but Ms Strickland is still chair of 3 committees and a member of 2 others.

She has been just as dedicated in her commitment to the AIUM, where she began serving as an accreditation reviewer back in 1997. Her concern with excellence in ultrasound practice is evidenced by her multiple terms on the Ultrasound Practice Accreditation Council. Elected to the Board of Governors in 2003, she was chosen as second vice president in 2005. Ms Strickland has served on multiple AIUM committees as well as chair of the Sonography Community, in addition to being a moderator or speaker at the Annual Convention year after year.

She has also been actively engaged in service to the ARDMS, the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography, and the Joint Review Commission for Diagnostic Medical Sonography as a committee member, task force member, or representative.

With 6 peer-reviewed articles and a book chapter to her credit, Ms Strickland has been invited to give more than 50 presentations on top of her extensive teaching responsibilities. Her research interests have been broad, but she is currently working with R. Dennis Steed, MD, on fetal asymmetry and resultant volume flow characteristics.

It won't surprise anyone to learn that Ms Strickland has received multiple awards during her career, ranging from Outstanding Ultrasound Clinical Instructor (twice) from Pitt Community College to the Sonographer Excellence Award from the NCUS.

Ms Strickland is truly deserving of being this year's recipient of the Distinguished Sonographer Award, and that's "Distinguished" with a capital D.