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Gary J. Becker, M.D., Named RSNA Chairman of the Board

CHICAGO – Gary J. Becker, M.D., became Chairman of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) Board of Directors today at the Society’s annual meeting in Chicago.

Dr. Becker is a professor of vascular and interventional radiology at the University of Arizona College of Medicine, as well as associate executive director for diagnostic radiology and subspecialties at the American Board of Radiology, in Tucson. His hopes for the upcoming year include crystallizing RSNA’s role in the arena of quantitative imaging.

“RSNA has the capability, leadership, staff and resources to play a central role in marshalling the forces that will break down current barriers and harness the full potential of quantitative imaging,” he said. “It’s a great organization.”

Dr. Becker earned his medical degree in 1977 from the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis. He also completed an internship in internal medicine and his residency there. Soon after, he was appointed assistant professor, associate professor and finally professor and chief of the vascular section in the Department of Radiology.

In 1990 he accepted a position as director of interventional radiology at the Miami Cardiac & Vascular Institute at Baptist Hospital in Florida, where in 1998 he became assistant medical director, as well as medical director of research and outcomes. In June 2004, Dr. Becker went on to become the branch chief of image-guided intervention for the Cancer Imaging Program at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). He remained with the NCI for the next year and a half, before finding a new home in Arizona.

Over the past two decades, Dr. Becker has contributed greatly to the field of minimally invasive therapies for vascular disease, which he continues to focus on at the University of Arizona. He has published nearly 200 journal articles and three dozen books and book chapters.

Dr. Becker has served on the editorial boards of many medical publications and contributed as a manuscript reviewer for many more. He was the founding editor of the *Journal of Vascular & Interventional Radiology* and was its editor-in-chief from 1990 to 1995. He has also been an active member of approximately two dozen professional medical organizations.

Dr. Becker's leadership at RSNA began with an appointment to the Refresher Course Committee, followed by the Society's Public Information Advisory Board and Planning Committee for the Office of Research Development. He participated in various research development committees and between 1994 and 1998 was on the RSNA Research & Education Foundation's Distinguished Roster of Grant Reviewers.

In the coming year, Dr. Becker foresees molecular imaging playing a large role in RSNA's endeavors.

"We will continue to expand the presence of molecular imaging at the RSNA Annual Meeting and offer molecular imaging science and educational content with particular emphasis on areas that have translated to humans or are poised to do so in the near future," he said.

Dr. Becker will become President of RSNA in 2009.

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Note: Copies of RSNA 2006 news releases and electronic images will be available online at RSNA.org/press06 beginning Monday, Nov. 27.

RSNA is an association of more than 40,000 radiologists, radiation oncologists, medical physicists and related scientists committed to promoting excellence in radiology through education and by fostering research, with the ultimate goal of improving patient care. The Society is based in Oak Brook, Ill.