

A Debt of Gratitude to Daniel C. Sullivan, MD, Founding Chair of QIBA

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As many members of QIBA know, Dan Sullivan recently retired from the Duke University School of Medicine, and also stepped down as chair of QIBA. The positive impact directly related to Dr. Sullivan's dedication to initiate and develop QIBA cannot be overstated. Working with RSNA leadership and senior administration, he instigated the creation of QIBA in 2007 and provided remarkably effective leadership since that time.

The data in Table 1 clearly indicates the rapid growth of QIBA under Dr. Sullivan's leadership. At this time, there are nearly 900 QIBA members, including many international members, representing radiology, medical oncology, and other clinical specialties, imaging science, computer science, statistics, imaging core labs, regulatory agencies, imaging system vendors, imaging software companies, and the pharmaceutical industry. The work of QIBA is accomplished by these members, the vast majority of which is voluntary, supported by dedicated RSNA staff members. RSNA staff schedule and support over 350 teleconferences per year for 5 Coordinating Committees, 9 Biomarker Committees, 10 Task Forces, the Quantitative Imaging Data Warehouse (QIDW) Oversight Committee, and the QIBA Steering Committee. Remarkably, Dr. Sullivan personally participated on the majority of the teleconferences since the beginning of the QIBA efforts in 2007!

The objectives and processes established by QIBA have expanded internationally, as demonstrated by the recent creation of the European Imaging Biomarkers Alliance (EIBALL) and its "QIBA Collaboration" task group, recent collaborations with the EORTC and the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), and developing collaborations with groups in Brazil, Japan, and Korea. These international efforts were also established under the leadership of Dr. Sullivan, with the support of RSNA leadership.

Finally, while the efforts of QIBA are primarily accomplished by *voluntary* efforts of its members, Dr. Sullivan was remarkably successful in leading efforts to obtain financial support from the NIBIB, in the form of two consecutive two-year contracts thus far, and from the RSNA. These enabling financial mechanisms were, and continue to be, critical to the successes of QIBA initiatives.

All of us who are associated with QIBA clearly owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Sullivan for his vision, commitment, and leadership since 2007, and we all wish him the very best in his retirement from Duke University. Fortunately, however, he has *not* retired from QIBA. We are very pleased to report Dr. Sullivan will remain actively involved with QIBA as the vice chair of the Process Committee, as a member of the QIDW Oversight Committee, and in a new role of External Relations Liaison.

Table 1: Data demonstrating the growth in QIBA efforts since its initiation in 2007

| Year | # QIBA Members | # Teleconferences | # Attending Annual Meeting | # Biomarker Committees |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2008 | No Data | 89 | 52 | 3 |
| 2009 | <300 | 151 | 71 | 4 |
| 2010 | 633 | 175 | 58 | 5 |
| 2011 | 537 | 270 | 87 | 5 |
| 2012 | 678 | 370* | 77 | 6 |
| 2013 | 777 | 280 | 103 | 6 |
| 2014 | 827 | 331 | 84 | 7 |
| 2015* | 883? | ? | 90? | 9 |

As of July 31, 2015

*Metrology Working Group impact