

# RAYOS CONTRA CANCER

*Biannual Newsletter*



**OUR GLOBAL IMPACT**

**1**

**NEW TEAM...NEW IDEAS...  
EXPONENTIAL GROWTH**

**2**

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!**

**3**

## EXTENDING OUR GLOBAL IMPACT



To everyone who has been a part of RCC's journey: we are reaching our dream! We are so blessed to work with people around the world who share a passion and commitment to serving cancer patients. From hospital leaders who collaborate with RCC, to each and every participating clinician who takes time out of their day to learn and improve their knowledge, and to our amazing network of RCC educators, moderators, and rising professionals, you have taught us how every individual is an essential component of this global effort. We hope this letter finds you well as we share how we have taken this message to heart through RCC's work.

-Dr. Benjamin Li, RCC President and Founder

# REACHING RADIATION THERAPISTS

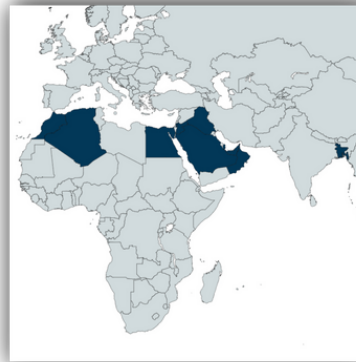
"In my country, we are rarely or almost never taken into account. The trainings are always directed for doctors or medical physicists but never towards the technical or technological personnel." -Adriana Ramos, RTT in Colombia (translated)

We are thrilled to be reaching an important audience through our IMRT courses specifically designed for Radiation Therapists. RTTs are often overlooked when training radiotherapy professionals. This RTT course attempts to bridge the training gaps for RTTs working or preparing to work with new IMRT technology. As one participant noted, "the course focuses not only on the professional and technical aspects of radiation therapy but also on the humanization of our roles as radiation therapists." This year, we are pleased to have offered the IMRT course in 3 different languages (Spanish, English, and French) to over 300 RTTs in Latin America and over 100 RTTs in Africa. Thank you to all of the educators who helped carry out this far-reaching project!



## Curriculums Currently Underway

RCC's HDR Brachytherapy course for Medical Physicists is currently being offered in Latin America with the help of our amazing Lead Educator, Jose Garcia-Ramirez, and educators from Spain, Perú, México, and the U.S.!



The Middle East & North Africa regions are currently participating in an SBRT/SRS course lead by Lead Educator Shada Wadi-Ramahi, PhD, DABR.

We are also offering a 2D to 3D EBRT course in the Philippines, Myanmar, Indonesia, Laos, Cambodia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, & Papua New Guinea. The participants span ROs, MPs, and RTTs.



Through a collaboration with ACRO (Asociación Colombiana de Radioterapia Oncológica), we are happy to be offering an advanced Hypofractionation curriculum in Colombia. Thank you to Maria Caicedo, Alejandro González, David Martínez, and, of course, ACRO!

## Curriculums Launching in early 2022...

- HDR Brachytherapy for Medical Physicists in Africa, January 2022
- IMRT for Radiation Oncologists and Medical Physicists in Latin America, February 2022
- 2D to 3D EBRT for Radiation Oncologists, Medical Physicists, & Radiation Therapists in Latin America, March 2022

# OUR TEAM IS GROWING!

We want to extend a special welcome to our 2021 Board of Directors! New Board members include David Martínez, Soha Ahmed, Tomi Nano, and Richel Baclay! Welcome everyone!

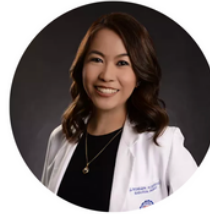
## Board of Directors



Benjamin Li, MD, MBA  
President and Founder



David Martínez, MD  
Vice President



Richel Baclay, MD



Soha Ahmed, MD



Tomi Nano, PhD



Oluwadamilola Oladeru,  
MD, MA, MBA



Gustavo R. Sarria, MD

*“The people at the table have to be the stakeholders that will in fact create change from the grassroots”*

Dr. Adré Ilbawi, W.H.O.

## INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

In the summer of 2021, we officially launched our new RCC Internship Program! During the 2021 cycle, we onboarded two outstanding interns: Athiyya Umar and Tory Harwin. Athiyya is a Global Health student at UCLA and Tory is a recent Molecular & Cellular Biology graduate of UC Berkeley. We are thrilled to be working with such dedicated and talented young leaders!

## RCC Staff

Rayos Contra Cancer is reaching new milestones with the implementation of our first full-time employees: Hong Zhu and Caroline Carlson! Hong, RCC's Executive Director, comes to RCC with a background in business, technology, and public health. She previously worked for the WHO and USAID as a strategy & operations consultant. She also held management roles at Facebook and a mental wellness technology startup. Caroline is RCC's first full-time Program Manager and a recent graduate of Vanderbilt University with degrees in Medicine, Health & Society and Spanish. President & Founder, Dr. Ben Li, continues to oversee the organization as he works towards a career in Radiation Oncology.







Africa+ (English)  
Africa (Francophone)  
Latin America

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## *Elaine Herbert*

We would like to dedicate this newsletter's "Volunteer Spotlight" to our incredible volunteer, Elaine Herbert! Elaine is a retired Radiation Therapist from Stanford University who played a fundamental role in all 3 of this year's IMRT for Radiation Therapist courses. As a "Lead educator," Elaine went above and beyond to make sure that every session included carefully thought-out, cohesive, and informational material. In many instances, Elaine would build materials from scratch and would often meet with volunteer educators before their sessions to help them prepare to give high quality presentations.

Elaine is a true example of someone who is dedicated to helping professionals around the world access the necessary and life-saving training to treat cancer patients safely and effectively. Thank you, Elaine! You truly helped so many patients and are a great role model for our team.



## INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING WITH RCC?

*First time as an educator with RCC?*

Click on your respective role's link and we will notify you of any future opportunities!


[Radiation Oncologist](#) | [Radiation Therapist](#) | [Medical Physicist](#)

*Would you like to help with an upcoming curriculum?*

Let us know by emailing [info@rayoscontracancer.org](mailto:info@rayoscontracancer.org)

*Interested in helping in another way?*

Visit our [Donation Page](#)!

Don't forget to check out the clinic resources on our [website](#) and to Subscribe to our [YouTube Channel](#)!  YouTube