Theresa C. McLoud, MD

*Introduction by James A. Brink, MD*

Theresa C. McLoud, MD, is a pioneer in thoracic radiology. She has educated countless students and physicians in the nuances of thoracic imaging and has launched innumerable innovations in radiologic education worldwide.

A Boston native, Dr McLoud received her bachelor’s degree from Boston College in 1964. After obtaining her medical degree from the McGill University Faculty of Medicine in Montreal, she completed a thoracic imaging fellowship at Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut, and soon became an assistant professor of diagnostic radiology at Yale. In 1976, she returned to Boston and joined Harvard Medical School, where she has been professor of radiology since 1993. Dr McLoud is the first woman in the department of radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston to hold the rank of professor at Harvard.

Dr McLoud served as the division head of thoracic radiology from 1982 to 2001, and she is currently residency program director and vice chair for education in the Department of Radiology at MGH, positions she has held since 1997.

A world-renowned expert in thoracic imaging, Dr McLoud has conducted more than 150 postgraduate courses and authored more than 200 scientific papers, reviews, and book chapters. Her 1998 text *Thoracic Radiology: The Requisites*, now in its second edition, is a popular and comprehensive introductory work.

In 2003, Dr McLoud received the Marie Curie Award, the highest honor bestowed by the American Association for Women Radiologists. She has since been awarded the American Roentgen Ray Society (ARRS) Gold Medal, the Society of Thoracic Radiology Gold Medal, the International Cancer Imaging Society Gold Medal, and the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) Gold Medal.

Dr McLoud has had a highly distinguished career in professional service. She has served as president of numerous professional organizations, including the New England Roentgen Ray Society, the Fleischner Society, the Society of Thoracic Radiology, the ARRS, and the RSNA. Dr McLoud has also been granted honorary membership in numerous international organizations, including the European Society of Radiology as well as the Spanish, Argentinian, Italian, Mexican, Australia–New Zealand, and French societies of radiology. She was also awarded honorary membership in the Faculty of Medicine in Radiology of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland.

Dr McLoud has dedicated much of her professional life to the advancement of education in radiology. For the RSNA Board of Directors, she served as the Liaison for Education before ascending to Board Chair. For the American Board of Radiology (ABR), Dr McLoud served as a board examiner for more than 2 decades and received the ABR Distinguished Service Award on multiple occasions. For the Association of University Radiologists, Dr McLoud served on the executive committee from 1993 to 2000; and for the Association of Program Directors in Radiology, she served on the education committee from 2010 to 2014. For the Alliance of Clinician–Educators in Radiology, Dr McLoud has served on the executive committee since its inception in 2009.

As a resident at MGH, I was fortunate to have studied thoracic radiology under Dr McLoud’s tutelage. When I ventured out into the world beyond MGH, I presumed that everyone practiced thoracic radiology at the same level as Dr McLoud. I remember being shocked the first time I saw reports for thoracic imaging studies that failed to use the precise descriptors that Dr McLoud instilled in us or—worse—reports that failed to synthesize important findings with clinical history for meaningful conclusions and recommendations.

Dr McLoud always reminded us that there is a patient at the other end of the image whose care hinges on how well we do our jobs and leverage our expertise. When I returned to MGH a few years ago, I was pleased to learn that Dr McLoud has never wavered in her commitment to excellence in patient care, a commitment that is infectious among the hundreds of trainees whose lives she has touched.

Dr McLoud’s hobbies include opera and international travel. When faced with a challenging travel question, I highly recommend bringing it to Theresa. There are few places in the world where she cannot offer valuable advice based on personal experience. Dr McLoud is an avid reader of history and current events. I can attest personally that her synthesis of the two makes for wonderful conversations over the coffeepot or lunch table!

Few in our profession achieve the remarkable accomplishments of Dr Theresa McLoud, and the APDR is fortunate to have her among the distinguished recipients of the APDR Achievement Award.