

Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories

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Press Release

Raymond Stainback, MD, FACC, FASE Appointed President of ICAEL

JANUARY 2011 | The Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL) is pleased to announce the appointment of Raymond Stainback, MD, FACC, FASE as President of the Board of Directors.

Dr. Stainback, Medical Director of Noninvasive Cardiac Imaging and Echocardiography at the Texas Heart Institute at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in Houston, Texas, represents the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) on the ICAEL Board of Directors. Elected to a two-year term as ICAEL President beginning in 2011, Dr. Stainback has been representing the ASE on the ICAEL Board of Directors since 2004.

At St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Texas Heart Institute, Dr. Stainback oversees the educational and quality needs of a large tertiary care teaching hospital Echocardiography laboratory, which was the first ICAEL-accredited laboratory in Texas in 1997. Dr. Stainback also understands the needs of smaller laboratories as a reader in his private cardiology group practice laboratory.

"As the new ICAEL president, I am fortunate to be able to work with a highly experienced ICAEL staff and a superb board of peers. Medical imaging laboratories are increasingly being asking asked to analyze and report on all aspects of quality at a time when resources to do this type of work have diminished. Our commitment at ICAEL is to build upon groundwork already in place for implementing an increasingly straight forward, seamless, objective and efficient data submission and review process. We want to help laboratories demonstrate their quality and to increase the value of their work. This is a time for facing real challenges in cardiac imaging generally, but with optimism in the area of quality where relatively small changes can lead to big improvements."

A nonprofit organization, established in 1996, the ICAEL is dedicated to promoting quality echocardiography testing in the delivery of health care by providing a peer review process of laboratory accreditation. The ICAEL is a member of the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC), a nonprofit organization that provides facility accreditation programs for noninvasive vascular, echocardiography, nuclear cardiology/nuclear medicine/PET, magnetic resonance, computed tomography and carotid stenting. The IAC is comprised of six member divisions, each ensuring quality patient care and promoting health care within a specific medical specialty, all dedicated to one common mission.