

## Morocco Trip November 20-27, 2016

To evaluate the needs of the country of Morocco in the field of Radiology, I spent a week in Rabat. The Moroccan capital, Rabat, is also the administrative headquarters of the University Hospitals and their Schools of Medicine. I met with representatives of the Moroccan Medical Education, the Moroccan Society of Radiology as well as radiologists from the public and private sectors.

The following are the summary of discussions that followed with the different individuals below:

Pr El Adnaoui, Dean of the University Mohamed V School of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy (6000 students)

- Pr Dakka, Vice Dean,
- Pr Nouini, President of the "Commission of Coordination et Partenariat" and President of the Ibn Sina Hospital, the main University Hospital in Rabat,
- Pr Ibrahimi, Head of the Biotechnology Lab at the University, and
- Pr Rahali, "Coordinator of the Cooperation Committee" (Coordinateur de la Commission de Cooperation)

An overview of the situation was given by Pr El Adnaoui.

Despite the implementation of a new reform of medical education, important challenges persist. To combat these challenges, Pr. El Adnaoui suggested the following measures:

- Online learning techniques
- DUs (Diplomes d'Universite). (Already implemented in General Ultrasound, Rhumatology, MSK Ortho, OB/Gyn Ultrasound)
- Educational tools
- Exchange of Students and Professor Assistants.
- Language Proficiency (Medical English)
- Phantoms for the brand new Simulation Lab.

Pr El Adnaoui and his team hope that a "Cooperation Agreement" (convention de cooperation) between our universities would allow an exchange of academic and technical knowledge which would improve the quality of the Moroccan Medical Education. He provided me with a sample of a "Cooperation Agreement" document.



University Mohamed V Medical School

Pr El Hassani is a neuroradiologist in the Radiology Department in the Specialty University Hospital of Rabat, honorary member of the Societe Française de Radiologie (French Society of Radiology). He is also the Program Director for the Radiology Residency.

His concerns about the quality of education and training of the residents are attributed to a lack of formal teaching or evaluation of the residents. This is the consequence of the resign of a large number of radiologists from the academic setting. The remaining faculty team is not large enough to ensure adequate teaching. Currently, topics to be studied are given to residents and a final exam is administered in the fourth year to evaluate their competency.

Suggestions that Pr. El Hassani offered, (recently expressed this need at the recent SFR Conference)

- Help in providing teaching modules
- E- learning solutions, and/ or a form of radiology education and evaluation administered remotely or on-site.
- Improving the workstations and PACS they currently utilize.



NeuroRadiology Reading Rooms

Pr El Hassani is also a philanthropist and the president of an NGO that provides regular mobile medical services, which include digital radiography and ultrasound, to remote areas.

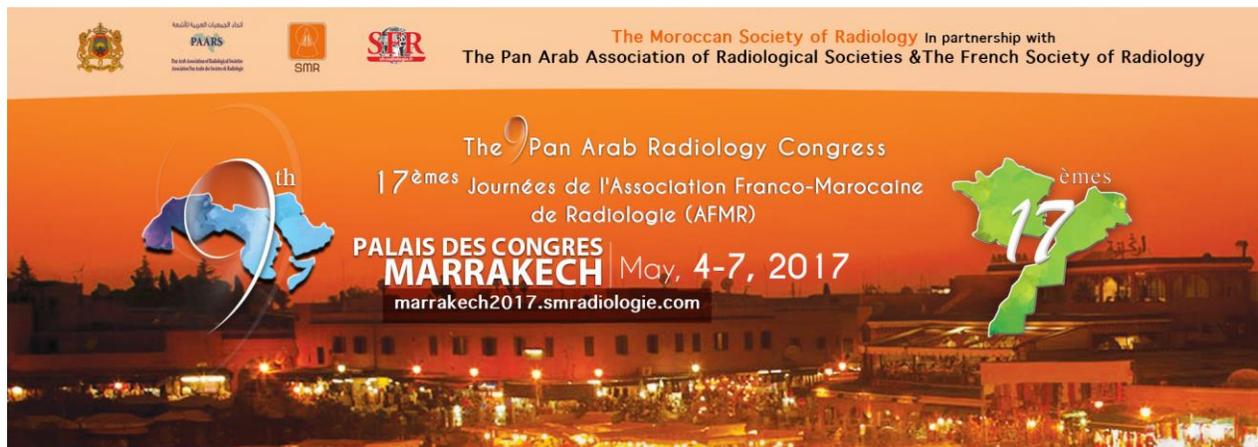
He would appreciate any help in some or all of the fields of concern.

Pr. El Fakir is the president of the "Societe Marocaine de Radiologie" (Moroccan Society of Radiology) and has worked hard to organize conferences, seminars, meetings and workshops. He has invited many experts from Europe and USA to speak on different occasions. He is concerned about the differences in knowledge and competency between practicing radiologists. He is interested in our scholar experience, would like to introduce e-learning to practicing radiologists through the SMR platform and possibly have an access to a data base of teaching modules.



Pr El Fakir, President of SMR

Pr. El Fakir, author of a 4-volume book on Radiology of Cancers, is interested in academic collaboration and would like to develop a scholar partnership with our department in Houston.



I also met with the partners of two private Radiology groups, who were former academic radiologists. Their concern is mostly a management problem and would also like to have web meetings with us to discuss cases.

In summary, it seems that there is primarily an educational problem:

- At the Medical School: DUs, Online learning techniques, Exchange Students and PAs, Medical English. Solution suggested should go through a Cooperation Agreement to be signed by the representative of both schools.

- At the Radiology Residency Program: Help with curriculum revision, learning modules and web meetings, evaluation techniques.

Solution: work with our Residency Program Director on curriculum and evaluation, with residents and attending for teaching modules and web meetings.

- At the professional level: Teaching modules for SMR, onsite or online conferences.

Solutions as above

- At the academic level: Collaboration for scholar exchange between teaching faculty members and research collaboration.

Solution: Need a facilitator between the 2 departments to match needs and volunteers

- At the clinical service level, the mobile caravan could use extra help for screening for example (breast, lungs), possibly add a portable CT and implement teleradiology capacities.

- At the IT level: Radiology departments need improved workstation and teleradiology ability.

Solution: work with IT for evaluation of feasibility.



Texas Medical Center