The URM Section is proud to announce our two new co-chairs, William Alago Jr., MD, FSIR and Juan Carlos L. Perez Lozada, MD, who will start their terms on April 1.

“After 25 years of SIR membership, I am pleased to see an increased URM presence unlike any I have witnessed previously. People are rallying together towards educating the SIR membership about increasing URM representation in our ranks, the impact of the equitable provision of care to underserved minority communities and the positive results of having a diverse IR physician workforce,” said Dr. Alago. “The mission of the SIR URM Section has never been more important and is, as one my esteemed colleagues has mentioned previously, ‘a matter of life and death,’ as we strive toward availing our communities of our life-saving procedures.”

“The URM section of the SIR is our youngest section and I have the honor of serving as co-chair for the forthcoming year. This section is what it is now owing to the efforts of the volunteers, members and chairs who came before me, and I am grateful for what they accomplished and greatly facilitated,” said Dr. Perez Lozada. “I am optimistic and encouraged by what can be achieved in the future; however, we must take intentional action and our subsequent efforts will lead us to a day when underrepresented minorities serve and care for patients who resemble them and, most importantly, that our next generation will have a familiar path to radiology and interventional radiology.”

SIR thanks our current co-chairs, Keith M. Horton, MD, FSIR, and Derek L. West, MD, MS, for their leadership, guidance and support during the launch and first operating years of the section!

The inaugural URM Luncheon

The URM Section held it’s first luncheon on June 12 at the SIR 2022 Annual Meeting in Boston. Hirschel D. McGinnis, MD, gave a dynamic talk about impostor syndrome and provided the attendees with tips on how to combat it.

“I was deeply honored to deliver the inaugural address at the SIR URM in IR Luncheon. Imposter phenomenon is an insidious dynamic robbing those affected of professional potential and career satisfaction. Impostorism thrives in competitive spaces and exists broadly in people who are high achievers. Women, underrepresented minorities, as well as sexual and gender minorities are particularly susceptible. Elevating our awareness of impostorism and crafting strategies to dismantle it are essential to cultivating a resilient, confident IR workforce that is prepared to meet the needs of the communities we serve,” said Dr. McGinnis.

Thank you to Dr. McGinnis and the URM Annual Meeting Workgroup for making this happen!