



Darla Matthew, BAS, RDMS, RT(R)(S) **Director, SDMS Board of Directors**

Darla is an Associate Professor and Program Director, Diagnostic Medical Sonography at Doña Ana Community College in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Her mammography and CT experience led Darla to a career in sonography. "Unlike many, I did not actually choose sonography as a career," said Darla. "Instead my radiologist asked me if I would be willing to cross-train in sonography while working for a private imaging practice. After a couple

of years, the office closed, and our local hospital was looking to hire a full-time sonographer. I accepted the offer on condition that they would support my efforts to learn more about sonography and become a registered sonographer. They agreed, and I set about studying ultrasound physics. I passed the exam on my first attempt, and then challenged the Abdomen and OB/GYN exam the next year. Once I became a registered sonographer, I was hooked and discovered the excitement of a life-long learning journey that continues today as an educator and program director."

Darla was instrumental in initiating licensure for sonographers in New Mexico and has also participated in two medical mission trips to Vietnam where she taught didactic and hands-on scanning in both OB/GYN and physics.

Darla holds an Associate in Radiologic Technology from Doña Ana Community College and a Bachelor of Applied Sciences from New Mexico State University.

