A Bachelor in the Annex

The Medical Imaging Program, previously known as the Radiologic Technology Program, has graduated its first two Baccalaureate students, since converting to a bachelors degree program in the fall of 2005.

The original Radiologic Technology Program was first accredited in the 1940's and continued its growth when it became an Associates Program in the 1970's. With the latest accreditation of the Baccalaureate degree, the title has evolved to the Medical Imaging Program. Since this conversion in 2005, the program has been phasing in the new curriculum with each passing year, to be completed in its entirety in the Spring of 2008.

The Medical Imaging Program currently has approximately 30 traditional BMSc students and 15 RTs to BMSc students. When the program is completely phased in this fall, the program will be able to enroll 60 traditional students. The success of those involved with the Emory BMSc program is already evident. Graduate, Koy Wellons had a promotion waiting for him upon graduation and has become a member of the management team at his Florida hospital since his graduation in May. Another success story is that of current student Selena Banks, who has recently been promoted to Diagnostic Radiology Supervisor at Crawford Long Hospital.

Located in the Annex building of Emory University Hospital, The Medical Imaging Program presents a great opportunity for the Atlanta area and those current RTs interested in distance learning.

For more information contact Dawn Moore at 404.712.5005 or visit http://www.radiology.emory.edu/medimag/index.cfm

- Monica Salama
  Communications Specialist
Letter from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you are all taking a bit of time this summer to enjoy family and friends. As we begin a new academic year, our department has become home to many new residents and fellows who inspire and challenge us to both teach and become better at all that we do as professionals. They are also quite an interesting and talented group of individuals, with expertise in everything from other fields of medicine to playing the harpsichord! We will enjoy getting to know them and contributing to their further career growth at Emory.

At the greater campus level, the new Medical Education Building is ready for the imminent arrival of a larger-than-ever class of medical students. These students will have the opportunity to learn in state-of-the-art facilities through simulation laboratories, small group sessions, and with imaging integrated more fully and earlier into a progressive curriculum.

Our faculty and staff continue to make us proud, as they reach higher and attain greater accomplishments and opportunities. Congratulations to Dr. D’Orsi for bringing mammographic techniques front and center in the New England Journal of Medicine, to our Nuclear Medicine team for their Outstanding Service Award, to our four Atlanta Magazine Top Docs, to Dr. Mullins for selection for the American College of Radiology’s Valerie P. Jackson Fellowship for educators, and to Dr. Small for inclusion among only 5 successful School of Medicine candidates to join in the prestigious Emory University Excellence through Leadership (ETL) program.

As many of you know, President Wagner recently announced that Fred Sanfilippo, MD PhD, a pathologist and highly successful clinician-investigator in the area of transplant immunology, will succeed Michael E. Johns, MD as Executive Vice President for Health Affairs, CEO of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center, and Chairman of the Board of Emory Healthcare. Dr. Sanfilippo, currently in a similar position at Ohio State University Medical Center, will transition to Emory on October 1 as Dr. Johns assumes the position of University Chancellor. Dr. Sanfilippo has a special interest in Emory’s Predictive Health Initiative in which imaging plays a strong role.

Best to all,

Carolyn Cidis Meltzer, MD, FACR
Chair of Radiology

Awards & Recognition

Pediatric Radiology

American College of Radiology (ACR) Accreditation

Children’s Health Care of Atlanta (CHOA) has recently received accreditation from the ACR for CT. This modality joins the list with MR, Nuclear Medicine, Ultrasound of ACR accredited modalities at Egleston.

Carl D’Orsi, MD, FACR
Director of Breast Imaging

Dr. D’Orsi was recently appointed as committee member to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection and Control Advisory Committee (National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion).

William C. Small, MD, PhD
Director, Division of Abdominal Imaging

Excellence Through Leadership (ETL)

Dr. Small is one of five SOM participants to be selected for the university leadership program, ETL. This opportunity is reserved for those in the position of director or higher who stand out as a professional leader.

Cesar Santana, MD
Nuclear Medicine Fellow

Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM)

In May, Dr. Santana was one of only 6 selected to participate in the press conference held during the SNM annual meeting. Dr. Santana presented a study to develop advanced a three-dimensional imaging of the heart. This cutting-edge technique inspired the interest of the Washington Post and was recognized in its June 7 issue. http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/07/AR2007060701678.html

Breast Imaging Center

FDA Compliance

The Breast Imaging Center, both at the 1525 building (screening site) and at Winship Cancer Institute (diagnostic site), were recently inspected by the FDA. Both facilities were in total compliance, therefore passing the inspection. This was made possible because of the hard work by Ruby Alexander (lead tech at the 1525 location), Debra Carter (Supervisor), and Diana Pless (Manager), both at the WCI location. A sincere thanks to these employees for making it possible to have yet another successful inspection!
Awards & Recognition

Mark Mullins, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor of Radiology, Neurology and Neurological Surgery
Director of Medical Student Radiology Education
Associate Director of Radiology Residency Training Program

ACR Valerie P. Jackson Fellowship

Dr. Mullins has been selected to participate in the ACR Valerie P. Jackson Fellowship. This opportunity will allow him to have direct exposure to the functions of the Education Department of the ACR. During this fellowship, Dr. Mullins will be exposed to the development processes for a wide range of educational products providing lifelong learning opportunities for practicing radiologists and radiology residents and various venues through which educational information in radiology is delivered to the learner, as well as all aspects of compliance with ACCME accreditation processes.

Top Doctors in Atlanta

Four members of Emory Radiology have been selected as a Top Doctor in Atlanta area by Atlanta Magazine. In the July issue the following doctors were recognized:

Diagnostic Radiology
Carl D’Orsi, M.D.
Breast Imaging Center
Stephan Simoneaux, M.D.
Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta Egleston

Neuroradiology
Jacques Dion, M.D.
Emory University Hospital

Vascular & Interventional Radiology
Curtis Lewis, M.D.
Grady Memorial Hospital

The Atlanta Magazine consulted the data gathered by the New York-based research firm Castle Connolly Medical, Ltd. The unique selection process allows physicians to nominate other physicians that they feel are clinically outstanding, both regionally and nationally. As reported by Atlanta magazine, “Castle Connolly seeks nominations not only of those who excel in academic medicine and research, but most importantly, those physicians who exhibit excellence in patient care—physicians to whom nominating physicians would send members of their own families.”

Nuclear Medicine

Excellence in Service Award

The team of Nuclear Medicine technologists celebrated after receiving a Service Award for outstanding execution responding to patient complaints and working as a team. This group not only met the goals set by Press Gainey, but exceeded those goals securing them one of four awards given throughout the Emory Healthcare System. This exemplary team is composed of the following members: Supervisor, Rufus Poole, Hanna Teferra, Ken Gray, Valerie Harris, Anzhella Akbasheva, Saundra Jackson, Pamela Schell and Jaganmohan Rao.

Research Training Session

NIH Grants.Gov and SF424 Training Session
August 15
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Yerkes, Neuroscience Building

If you’re submitting via Grants.Gov for any NIH programs in the next few months, especially R01s in October and November, you need to know about Grants.Gov, electronic submission processes and the SF424 forms. To participate:

1. RSVP by 5 p.m. on Aug. 10th to Yoko Hammond, yoko.hammond@emory.edu
3. Mark your calendar!

For the complete article, you may order a July issue of the Atlanta Magazine or visit the office of Monica Johnson, Communications Specialist.
STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

Employee Engagement

Our most valuable asset is our people. It is therefore no coincidence that the first of Emory Healthcare’s “Core 4” is People, followed by: Quality, Innovation and Growth.

The 2005 implementation of the Gallup Employee Engagement Survey has given the opportunity for each person to have a voice and influence their work environment. As a result, we have communicated with you using different forums. For example, we have established quarterly staff meetings in some facilities and monthly staff meetings in others, daily huddles, focus on us luncheons, and other activities. Using the information contributed by those who participated in the 2005 Gallup Survey, we have developed action plans based on your feedback, and executed a number of changes. The full spectrum of what has been accomplished will be communicated to you in the next two weeks.

This year, we will be taking this survey again in August to check up on our progress. We think of the survey as a person would think of an annual physician visit. It is critical for one to go through an annual check up to make sure that one is doing well. However, managing one’s health is an all-year-round process. One makes sure that one stays in an over all good health and fitness. The doctor’s annual visit then becomes something to look forward to as a validation of the year long efforts and an opportunity to focus on something in particular if it is not up to par. In the same way, we look at this survey as a point of make sure that we, as an organization, are doing the right things and an opportunity to diagnose problems that we should focus on. I therefore urge each one of us to participate in the survey so that we can be engaged in determining the strengths and opportunities of our organization and take part in improving its health.

- Habib Tannir, M.S. Administrative Director of Imaging Services

HIPAA Question of the Month

“What information can we disclose to family members or other relatives/friends who are involved in the care of the patient”? “When someone calls me, how do I know the person is related to the patient”? 

EHC/EMCF has three policies that come into play in these situations.

1. Disclosure of Protected Health Information (PHI) to Family and Friends
2. Verification Requirements for Disclosing PHI
3. Minimum Necessary Standards

If you follow certain procedures, HIPAA regulations allow providers to discuss PHI and answer questions with family and/or friends that are involved in the patients care. If the individual is involved in the patients care, only use or disclose the minimum amount of information that is needed to answer the questions at hand.

To see these policies, go to: http://euhnotes.eushc.org/ehc%5Ccompolic.nsf

--Office of Compliance Programs Newsletter, June 2007

CHECK IT OUT

Dr. Naomi Alazraki, Professor of Radiology and Chief of Nuclear Medicine at the VA Medical Center, held a book signing for her co-authorship of the recently released A Clinician’s Guide to Nuclear Oncology: Practical Molecular Imaging and Radionuclide Therapies.

Recently Released Publications


Gallup Poll Kick-off

The Radiology Management Team and staff kicked off the upcoming Gallup Poll with a cookout on Friday, July 20, 2007 from 12 noon until 3:00 pm. The cookout was used as an avenue to keep employees aware and engaged in the impending Gallup Poll, where they are informed but not pressured.

Dr. Carolyn Meltzer, Habib Tannir, the Radiology Pre-cert Team and the Radiology Billing Team attended. Dr. Meltzer expressed her appreciation for the Billing team’s interaction and team work exhibited. She also thanked the staff for their hard work in the department.

Mr. Tannir also spoke, comparing the Gallup Poll to a doctor’s visit. He said that you go to the doctor’s office to maintain and to keep you healthy. Gallup is used in the same way, as maintenance. He wanted us not to be afraid of things going downhill once the Gallup is over, rather use it as an opportunity to make things better for the department.

The Radiology Billing Department is comprised of 38+ employees managed by Marcus Foster, whose goal is to “Make every dollar count”. The staff has come together to create a cohesive production unit in which uniformity has increased production, reduced charge lag, denials and TES edits. Since their efforts have proven fruitful, the Billing Department continues to excel and grow.

In the future, the Billing Departments goals are to create a continuous teaching environment related to coding and collection activities. They are also striving to streamline internal processes and become more efficient. With the departments joint effort and hard work, anything is possible!

- Talika Joseph
  Process Improvement Analyst

2007 EHC Employee Survey
August 7 - 21

Give your feedback to improve your work environment at EMORY HEALTHCARE.

Three easy steps:

1. Look for a message from Gallup to obtain your randomly assigned access code.

2. Use the phone or internet to access the survey.

3. Spend five minutes sharing your thoughts.

Remember, you can make a difference!
Radiology Residents Introductions

This is an exciting time of the year when the radiology department has a chance to welcome the new residents. This group offers new energy and talent as they begin the process to become radiologists.

Megan Bell, MD  
*Medical School:* Emory University  
*Interesting fact:* Megan spent one year in Hollywood as a production assistant for TV and movies. She also played golf on her college team.

Michael Collins, MD  
*Medical School:* Medical College of Georgia  
*Interesting fact:* After completing a family practice residency Kevin has worked as an emergency room physician for the past 2 years. He plays guitar and piano.

Tarek Hanna, MD  
*Medical School:* Emory University  
*Interesting fact:* Tarek is the nephew of Soheil Hanna a former Emory Radiology faculty. He is fluent in Arabic and is an avid painter and photographer.

Jeremy Hill, MD  
*Medical School:* Mercer University  
*Interesting fact:* Jeremy was valedictorian of his college class and has been a little league coach and umpire. He is fluent in Spanish.

Mo Khan, MD  
*Medical School:* University of Arizona  
*Interesting fact:* Mo enjoys exercising at the gym and playing various sports. He is fluent in Spanish and Hindi and enjoys Indian dancing.

Marianne Mullin, MD  
*Medical School:* Louisiana State University  
*Interesting fact:* Marianne was social chairman for her medical school class. She enjoys exercise and cooking and decoupage.

Jay Patel, MD  
*Medical School:* University of Miami  
*Interesting fact:* Jay has been an MCAT instructor. He also collects sports cards, and plays darts and flag football.

Nimesh Patel, MD  
*Medical School:* Rush Medical College of Rush University Medical Center  
*Interesting fact:* Nimesh also has been an MCAT instructor. In addition, he speaks French, and has been playing table tennis since he was 14 years old.

Ryan Polselli, MD  
*Medical School:* University of South Florida College of Medicine  
*Interesting fact:* Ryan enjoys running and golf. He attended US Naval Nuclear Power School for one year, is an FAA certified private pilot and an experienced bartender.

Hamilton Reavey, MD  
*Medical School:* Emory University  
*Interesting fact:* Hamilton has run several half marathons and plays soccer and softball. She is fluent in French, and has an impressive collection of shark's teeth.

Edward Richer MD  
*Medical School:* University of Cincinnati College of Medicine  
*Interesting fact:* Ed has run marathons, and enjoys fantasy sports. He also has worked as a high school math and reading tutor.

Eva Ricker, MD  
*Medical School:* University of South Florida College of Medicine  
*Interesting fact:* Eva enjoys photography, ceramics, sculpture as well as Latin dancing.

Narayan Sundaram, MD  
*Medical School:* Vanderbilt University  
*Interesting fact:* Narayan received his MBA while at Vanderbilt. He plays guitar and is a song writer.

Keith Tomich, MD  
*Medical School:* University of Alabama  
*Interesting fact:* Keith is an accomplished musician having played piano since the age of 3. He also plays harpsichord, saxophone and clarinet and is an avid roller coaster rider.

S. Ramisa Ehsan, MD  
*Medical School:* Sheri-Kahmir Institute of Medical Science (India)  
*Subspecialty:* Nuclear Medicine  
*Interesting fact:* Ramisa is fluent in many different languages including Kashmiri, Hindu and Urdu.

Jeranfel Hernandez, MD  
*Medical School:* Universidad Iberoamericana (Dominican Republic)  
*Subspecialty:* Nuclear Medicine  
*Interesting fact:* Jeranfel is passionate about cycling, loves to play the guitar and is proud to be the father of a two-year-old daughter.

Cesar Santana, MD, PhD  
*Medical School:* Havana Institute of Medicine  
*Subspecialty:* Nuclear Medicine  
*Interesting fact:* Cesar has entered the residency program after a successful research career at Emory University.
Welcome Radiology Fellows

The fellows listed below have begun to contribute throughout the department. We are happy to recognize those that have continued to grow here at Emory following their residency program and welcome those that are bringing fresh initiative as they join the Radiology Department.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Medical School</th>
<th>Residency</th>
<th>Subspecialty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adina Alazraki, MD</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Pediatric Imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Altman, MD</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Neuroradiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Anderson, MD</td>
<td>University of South Carolina</td>
<td>University of Hawaii</td>
<td>Neuroradiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Arnett, MD</td>
<td>New York University SOM</td>
<td>Beth Israel Medical Center</td>
<td>Neuroradiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Beltz, MD</td>
<td>Indiana University SOM</td>
<td>University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey</td>
<td>Neuroradiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Berenson, MD</td>
<td>The Medical College of Georgia</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Abdominal Imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samir Chande, MD</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Abdominal Imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karekin Cunningham, MD</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Ohio State University Medical Center</td>
<td>Interventional Vascular Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darren Cutter, MD</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Tulane University</td>
<td>Neuroradiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sree Lalitha Degala, MD</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Wake Forest University</td>
<td>Neuroradiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Dariushnia, MD</td>
<td>Ohio State University Medical Center</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Interventional Vascular Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Hartman, MD</td>
<td>University of Pittsburgh</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Abdominal Imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobby Kalb, MD</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Body MR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alejandra Mayorga, MD</td>
<td>University of Miami</td>
<td>St. Vincent Medical Center</td>
<td>Neuroradiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Pearlman, MD</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Breast Imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Rheau, MD</td>
<td>University of Tennessee Medical School</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>Interventional Vascular Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shadi Saleem, MD</td>
<td>Damascus University Hospital</td>
<td>Damascus University Hospital</td>
<td>Interventional Vascular Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julio Sepulveda, MD</td>
<td>University of Puerto Rico</td>
<td>Yale New Haven Hospital</td>
<td>PET/CT Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gopi Sirineni, MD</td>
<td>Osmania Medical College, India</td>
<td>Gandhi Medical College, India</td>
<td>Abdominal Imaging</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rui Song, MD</td>
<td>Case Western Reserve University</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unni Udayasankar, MD</td>
<td>T.D. Medical College, India</td>
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<td>Abdominal Imaging</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NEW FACES & APPOINTMENTS

Selena Banks
Diagnostic Radiology Supervisor at CLH
Selena Banks gained over 5 years of experience at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany, GA and has continued her career at CLH for the past four years. She is enrolled in the Emory Medical Imaging program pursuing her BMSc. Selena is also an active member of the Young Adult Organization, helping young women gain direction with their lives.

Ebony Steele
Patient Services Associate
Ebony Steele has recently relocated from Washington D.C., where she was the Medical Office Assistant at the Washington Hospital Center. She will be using her skill set and friendly disposition to assist guests at the front desk of Cardiac Imaging.

Porchia Coleman
Patient Service Coordinator
Porchia Coleman is the newest addition to the Emory scheduling staff. Porchia gained experience with Wellpoint Blue Cross Shield of Georgia, as well as Sparlin Healthcare. She is working towards a Nursing Administration degree at Georgia Perimeter College.

Eric Jablonowski
Director of Media Services
Eric Jablonowski joins Emory with almost 18 years of experience in medical illustration. He has formerly worked at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. His work has been published accompanying articles in several medical journals.

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Roz Wickham
Administrative Assistant, Sr.
Roz Wickham recently joined Radiology to assist in the Executive Management’s office. She brings years of varied experience in an executive capacity, the legal field, HR and to a lesser degree hospital billing. Roz has had the opportunity to work with children hosting both radio and television broadcasts. Roz will use her multi-experience to fulfill the needs of the department.

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NEW PROCEDURE

Paperless Incidents
The process to file an incident report has become easier and paperless through the implementation of the Emory Incident Reporting System (EIRS). The EIRS can be accessed through a computer work station to report incidents, near-misses, concerns that might lead to an occurrence and concerns about physician or staff behavior.

If you would like to access the EIRS, visit the Emory Healthcare intranet home page www.eushc.org and click on the blue triangle icon near the top right of the screen.

In the event that you experience any difficulties, contact Sandi Borjas, Information Analyst at 404.778.7931 or sandi.borjas@emoryhealthcare.org.

FAREWELL

Rajesh Gogia, MD
Director, Division of Emergency Radiology
Dr. Gogia, the Director of Emergency Radiology, will continue his career pursuing an opportunity in Texas. His commitment to providing radiology services through the night has contributed to the growth of the Emory Radiology Department.

Carol Corhern
Administrative Assistant
The Emory Clinic
Thank you for your dedication and years of service. Good Luck in your future endeavors!

Look for a new issue of the Rad Report the first full week of September.