EMORY RadReport
It's what's on the inside that counts!
July, 2011

Dr. Garcia's Endowed Professorship

On June 21, 2011 the Ernie V. Garcia, Ph.D. Endowed Professorship in Cardiac Imaging was bestowed upon its namesake during a ceremony in the majestic lobby of the Jimmy B. Williams Medical Education Building. Dean Lawley presided over the festivities, welcoming Dr. Garcia's friends and family. It was a time to pause and celebrate the scientific accomplishments of Ernie Garcia, and their (and his) tremendous positive impact on our field and countless patients worldwide.

Friends and colleagues gathered in the SOM Lobby on Tuesday, June 21 to share in an emotional celebration of Dr. Ernest Garcia's career as he was honored with the Ernest V Garcia, PhD Professorship in Cardiac Imaging.

Dr. Garcia and his team developed (and continue to refine) the imaging software now renowned as the Emory Cardiac Toolbox. This technology revolutionized the diagnosis of heart disease and is used worldwide in almost half of the 10 million cardiac imaging tests performed each year. Dr. Garcia and his colleagues in the department's Nuclear Cardiology Research and Development Lab have received many accolades for this work. Medical Imaging Magazine named Dr. Garcia a Medical Imaging Industry Top-10 Nuclear Medicine Researcher of 2005-2006. In 2007, he was one of four recipients of the Top Innovator award from Emory's Office of Technology Transfer, and the Better World Project designated him for his leadership role in starting a successful company spun off from academic research that has changed the world. Few can say they have received an award for changing the world.

Dr. Garcia graciously accepts his Certificate from Dean Lawley and Dr. Meltzer.

The leveraging effect of Ernie's influence is further amplified by his dedication to mentorship. Indeed, he has nurtured the careers of numerous individuals who have gone on to become outstanding scientists in their own right. Several are on our faculty, including Drs. Tracy Faber and Ji Chen.

But the most memorable part of the evening's event was the human connection. When you ask Ernie's colleagues, mentors, and mentees about him, they universally speak of his humility, and his support and encouragement of others. In working with Ernie for the past six years I am repeatedly struck by his unique capacity to look beyond himself to the bigger picture of what is best for the department, for Emory, and always and most importantly for the patient who is the beneficiary of his work. Dr. John R. Votaw, Vice Chair for Research, shared with all some of the wise tidbits of philosophy and advice he has learned from Ernie over many lunches and many years as colleagues and friends. He shared his favorite aspirational quote of Dr. Garcia's: "'Nothing is impossible, we just don't know how to do it yet'".

Dr. Votaw also summarized what all who interact with Dr. Garcia come to find out: "Ernie is motivated by helping people." When Dr. Garcia spoke, he recalled a poignant "Aha moment" early in his career when he realized that no matter what our role in Medicine, we were in it to help each other.

Achievements such as those of Dr. Garcia are invaluable to Emory's Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences. They attract funding that makes possible our ability to advance innovation, translational research, and clinical applications. They are among the reasons that Emory Radiology Research is ranked in the top-20 for NIH funding. Named professorships like this one help to recruit, retain, and recognize top talent to our department.

Many of us strive to be - yet few of us truly become - a Gamechanger. Our colleague of many years, Ernie Garcia, is one of these rare individuals worthy of this designation.

- Story continued on page 8

In this Issue:

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Top Doctors in Atlanta

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

Neuroradiology
Jacques E. Dion, M.D.
Emory University Hospital

Patricia A. Hudgins, M.D.
Emory University Hospital

Vascular & Interventional Radiology
Kevin (Hyun) Kim, M.D.
Emory University Hospital

Curtis A. Lewis, M.D.
Grady Memorial Hospital

Atlanta magazine consulted the data gathered by the New York-based research firm Castle Connolly Medical, Ltd. As reported by *Atlanta Magazine*, "Castle Connolly seeks nominations not only of physicians who excel in academic medicine and research but also, most importantly, those who exhibit excellence in patient care — those to whom nominating physicians would send their own families."

Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) Poster Awards

Two posters created by Emory Radiology and Imaging Sciences were selected as finalists by the SNM. To be considered as a finalist you must rank in the top ten of your category.

ONCOLOGY: CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS TRACK

Presenter: Rianot Amzat
Title: *Pilot study of the utility of anti-1-amino-3-[18F]fluorocyclobutane-1-carboxylic acid (anti-3-[18F] FACBC) PET-CT for the non-invasive imaging of lung nodules.*
Authors: Rianot Amzat, Pooneh Alaei, Bital Savir-Baruch, Daniel Miller, Jonathan Beitler, Leah Bellamy, Jonathon Nye, Weiping Yu, Mark Goodman, David Schuster

CARDIOVASCULAR TRACK

Presenter: Alice Cheung
Title: *The performance of phase analysis in the presence of perfusion defects.*
Authors: Alice Cheung, Tracy Faber, Ernest Garcia, Lei Zhu1, Ji Chen

Hamed Akabari, PhD

Post Doctoral Fellow

Invited Speaker Award

Congratulations to Dr. Hamed Akbari for receiving the Invited Speaker Award for his Outstanding Performance in Research Presentation at the Fourth Annual Postdoctoral Fellow Research Symposium on May 26, 2011. The symposium was organized by the Office of Postdoctoral Education at Emory University School of Medicine.

His oral presentation was entitled "Segmentation of 3-D ultrasound prostate images using Wavelet transform." Dr. Akabari joined Dr. Baowei Fei's Lab at the Center for Systems Imaging (CSI) in February 2010 and is working on the prostate biopsy project. Congratulations!

- Baowei Fei, PhD, EngD,
Assistant Professor of Radiology and Imaging Sciences

Marcquis E. Cash, MBA, CHAA

Patient Service Associate

Certified Healthcare Access Associate (CHAA)

The CHAA credential program was launched in the fall of 1999 and was developed to elevate professional standards, enhance individual performance, and designate individuals who demonstrate the knowledge essential in patient access services at the front line staff level. Candidates are required to demonstrate proficiency by answering 115 examination questions that evaluate their knowledge of facts, concepts, and processes required in front-line patient access. The credentialing program is administered through the National Association of Healthcare Access Management (NAHAM) which is the only national professional organization dedicated to promoting excellence in the management of patient access services in all areas of the healthcare delivery system. Individuals holding the CHAA credential are required to participate in the Certification Maintenance Program in order to retain their CHAA credential. All CHAA certificates are required to report a minimum of 30 educational contact hours every other year.

President's Commission for Sexuality, Gender Diversity, and Queer Equality (PCSGDQE)

The PCSGDQE serves to advance Emory University's commitment to courageous inquiry, ethical engagement and diverse communities. The Commission envisions a learning environment in which same-gender loving, trans, and queer individuals are integrated into the intellectual life and social fabric of the University, have equal access to resources and services, and receive equitable treatment as members of the University community. The effectiveness of the Commission often relies on the diversity of our membership (diversity=experience, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, and representation of particular aspects of the University) and the selection committee will take the diversity of our general membership into consideration when making final decisions regarding applicants. PCSGDQE is working hard to improve Emory for all the people that the Commission represents. PCSGDQE exists to research matters on campus relevant to the LGBT community, to act as a catalyst when possible to further the growth of programs that serve the community, and to advise the President and other members of the University administration on important matters concerning LGBT people at Emory.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION CONT'D

Certificate of Site Qualification

The Society of Nuclear Medicine's Clinical Trials Network has qualified all four Emory Healthcare PET/CT Scanners for use in clinical trials.


SNM Clinical Trials Network

Certificate of Site Qualification

Emory University Hospital
in
Atlanta, Georgia

has met the established minimum criteria for qualification by the
Clinical Trials Network

Michael M. Graham, PhD, MD, Co-Chair, SNM CTN
Peter S. Conti, MD, PhD, Co-Chair, SNM CTN
John M. Hoffman, MD, Co-Chair, SNM CTN

Date of Site Qualification: January 3, 2011

Founded in 2010, The Clinical Trials Network is organized to support the evaluation of novel radiopharmaceuticals and trials that use approved or experimental radiopharmaceuticals for early assessment of tumor response to novel chemotherapy agents. Organized into seven committees, the network provides oversight and strategic guidance, database management, site qualification and monitoring, scanner validation, clinical site orientation, technologist education, trial design, and a manufacturers' registry. This is an important initiative that is likely to help significantly expand the role of molecular imaging and will help bring the right treatment to the right patient at the right time. (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20674591)

Chesnal D Arepalli, MD

Research Associate

Outstanding Poster Presentation

The Fourth Annual Emory Post Doctoral Research Symposium was held on May 26th. Prior to this event the Post Docs were given the opportunity to submit their abstracts of their oral presentations and posters. A Committee of selected Emory professors reveiwed the submissions and selected the best poster/oral presentation for each section. This year Dr. Arepalli was selected as a winner in the Disease Systems division for his oral presentation on *Effect of Heart Rate, Coronary Artery Displacement and Vessel Trajectory on CT Coronary Calcium Score: a Dynamic Phantom Study*.

Young Investigator Honorable Mention Award

The North American Society of Cardiac Imaging (NASCI) has recognized Dr. Arepalli for his contributions to the article *Effect Of Heart Rate, Coronary Artery Displacement And Vessel Trajectory on CT Coronary Calcium Score: A Dynamic Phantom Study*, on which he is listed as first author.

Linda Gunsby, MHA

Manager of Ultrasound - EUH

Masters in Healthcare Administration

Linda has received her Master in Healthcare Administration from the University of St. Francis. Congratulations!

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHAIR FOR RESEARCH

Improvisation is the Key

I recently read *Bossypants* by Tina Fey, one of my favorite comic artists. In the book she talks about her training in comedy and improvisation. Effective improvisation requires ground rules that lead to the free flow of ideas between the actors. Oftentimes the ideas don't make sense, which is part of what the audience finds funny. As long as the situation is conducive to continuing the stream of consciousness, magic might happen. The thought occurred to me that some of this attitude in our conversations could be beneficial as we work through our daily challenges. With this in mind, I present the rules of improvisation as described by Tina.

The first rule is **agree**. Always agree and say yes. In improvisation this means that you accept the situation that your partner has created. If my partner says we are specs of sand on a golf ball getting ready to fall into the hole, guess what? Now I'm a speck of sand on a ball. If not, the scene grinds to an awkward halt. In our lives this rule means that, at least for the moment, you accept what you are being told. It implies a respect for who you are talking to, that their thoughts are valued, that you are willing to hear them out.

The second rule is not only to say 'yes', but to **say, 'yes, and'**. In improvisation saying 'yes, and' signals that you accept the situation and are willing to add to it. If you just say, "yeah …" the conversation isn't going anywhere. If I respond to the above scene by saying, 'When I was younger I was a giant boulder and had it made. Now I'm dizzy all the time," then the conversation is going somewhere. If everyone is adding to the scene, there is the potential that it leads to something unexpected and wonderful. In our world this means that your contributions are wanted and expected. We are a team. Your ideas are worthwhile and needed.

The next rule is to **make statements**. How many times have you heard questions being answered with questions? If you continually ask questions, you are not adding to the conversation but rather putting the onus on the other person. Said another way, this rule says whatever the problem, be part of the solution. Don't just ask questions and point out obstacles. Those people are a drag.

The final rule is **there are no mistakes, only opportunities**. Tina calls this the best rule. It takes fear out of the situation. To me, this ties into the first rule. You respect what the other person is saying or trying to say. At least for now, everything is an option. Who knows, something crazy sounding might lead to hilarity on the stage, or insight or a new discovery in our lives.

I encourage you to have the spirit of improvisation in your interactions. It will make your conversations easier and more enjoyable, and will likely lead to better problem solving. I look forward to our next interaction.

- John Votaw, PhD,
Vice Chair for Research

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

What We Have To Offer

Based on many patient and staff observations, I often hear and see the beauty and effectiveness that true and focused human engagement brings to those being served and those who serve. I could ask you to imagine an unpleasant interaction, but instead remember a time when you and another person were fully and positively engaged, attentive and open to what was said and needed: How did that make you feel… what effect was there on the other person…and what was accomplished?

Each patient, family member and coworker deserves our full attention and compassion – the absolute best of us – every time we go into a meeting, care situation, or discussion. Or to paraphrase a multitude of sports coaches, "Are we giving 100% on every play?" Equally important, we ourselves need to fully be with others. Much has been written about how we are emotionally enriched when we give to others. And our physical health and mental well being are enhanced…as well as our learning about a variety of subjects to include ourselves. By giving our best we receive. By giving our best we also transfer treasures that can be handed on to others we will never see or know.

It might be that at this moment you are not where you want to be, but to get to your ideal destination, it helps to give your all, ingrain the habit of full and constant engagement, and make meaningful connections all the while. It might be that you have obtained your aims, but you have become complacent or restless; maybe it's time to remember what drew you to your goals in the first place. Have you ever felt the desire to be the best at what you do? Your opportunity for excellence lies with the next person you meet and you have the ability and choice to repeat that rewarding experience again and again.

So I encourage you, as I hope you will encourage me in my all too frequent falls from grace, to put aside (or settle) grievances, free yourself from judgments, commit to engage genuinely and without ulterior motives, and seek meaningful outcomes that are beneficial to all concerned. Relationships will develop and deepen, help and support will materialize from unexpected sources, and you will gain energy and inspiration for greater accomplishments. The return is well worth the investment.

- Chuck Powell
Director of Technical Operations

Quality Corner

Commitment to Quality

The Emory Healthcare quality promise to our patients is to provide impeccable clinical outcomes, delivered safely with outstanding service. Quality is safe, effective and efficient. Quality takes commitment. Quality can be found at every level within Emory Healthcare; individually, local modality or section, the department and for Emory Healthcare as a whole.

One of the department's programs in place for improving quality is the Radiology Leadership Academy (RLA). The RLA is where twelve future or current leaders of the Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences come together for nine months to increase their ability to serve humanity by improving health. They do this during the monthly classes by learning more than I think they thought possible about our department and related interactions throughout Emory healthcare, our nation and the world we live in.

The culminations of this effort are the team projects. Each RLA class is divided into three teams with four members each who present their team projects to the leadership of Emory Healthcare at the end of their RLA term. This year again we had great projects that will improve quality if implemented.

The department also cooperates with other Emory entities to improve quality. A recent example of this is our cooperation with Mike Dubose of the Emory Environmental Health and Safety Office (EHSO) to evaluate a new technology for measuring patient dose from machine produced radiation. This technology was evaluated at EUH in CT, Interventional Radiology, Cardiac Cath Lab and the GI lab and was found to be more accurate than the dose readings from the machines (except in CT) and more accurate than calculating dose after the exposure. This knowledge can help us to keep our patients safe while we provide care.

This commitment to quality is evident in all you do as we strive to deliver on our vision of Transforming Health and Healing…Together.

- Dale Walker, *Director of Strategic Initiatives*

HR Tip

Tobacco Free Campus

In 2010, President Wagner appointed a Task Force to explore the feasibility of Emory becoming a tobacco-free institution.

The University Senate approved the initiative in April 2011 and the task force is expected to make its recommendation to President Wagner this summer. It is currently anticipated that this policy would include all Emory property, including vehicles on Emory property, and become effective in January 2012.

For more information visit: www.tobaccofree.emory.edu/

Growing Our Talent

RLA Class of 2011

Over the course of the nine-month program, which began in September 2010, the RLA fellows refined their leadership skills, read several thought provoking books, participated in elective courses and spent many extra hours working on group projects that would advance our departmental strategic plan by focusing on improving our customer service.

Ultimately, the fellows used their refined knowledge and proficiency to work in three groups to create project proposals that could be actionable within our department and move our strategic plan forward.

Two groups approached this challenge through patient education. Their proposals generated videos that were seen by patients through the televisions in the PPCA or iPads prior to their exams. This insight of what was about to happen relieved some angst and provided our patients and their families information so that they could ask questions. Each of the two groups has set a benchmark for the improvement they perceived during their trial periods. In the future, these two groups plan to merge, creating a multi-media approach to patient education.

Our third group addressed the needs of our referring physicians and proposed an on-line scheduling system. The implementation of this service would allow our department to streamline its scheduling processes while delivering a more immediate fulfillment of service to our referring physicians.

Following the presentations, the fellows' dedication and hard work were celebrated with a luncheon including leadership from our department and various program presenters.

Thank you to the fellows who made the second year of RLA a success. Thank you to the various presenters who contributed to the growth of our fellows and enriched the quality of the program. Thank you to the Radiology administration for your vision and dedication to making this program possible. And finally, thank you to my co-facilitators Chuck Powell, Cynthia Wood, Habib Tannir, Mike Armstrong, Dale Walker and Dr. Dan Lee whose insight into leadership and devotion to the development of an engaging program fueled its success.

- Moncia Salama, *Communications Manager*

RLA Class of 2011

Willie Arnold, MCP
– Teleradiology Manager

Michael Barber, RT
- Manager, Imaging Services at Executive Park

Randy Bethea, MS, RT(R)
– Assistant Director, Imaging Services Breast Imaging Center

Regina Dunkley, CPC
– Reimbursement Manager

Anh Duong, MD
– Assistant Professor, Cardiothoracic Imaging

Richard Elliott, RN
– Shift Nurse Manager

Baowei Fei, PhD
– Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Scholar, Assistant Professor of Radiology and Biomedical Engineering

Dan MacFarlane, CPA
– Director of Decision Support

Barbara Peck, MBA, RT(R)(QM)
– Asst. Director, Medical Imaging Program Clinical Coordinator

Greg Pennington, MBA, BBA
– Sr. Manager of Clinical Operations

Leonel Vasquez, MD
– Assistant Professor and Director of Breast Imaging

Richard Wright, RT
– Manager, Interventional Radiology & CT

Emory Radiology On Tour

Annual Body MRI Conference

The 5th Annual American College of Radiology (ACR) Body MRI Update Course was chaired by Diego R. Martin, MD, PhD, July 9-11, 2011. Being offered for the first time in Georgia, participants were presented with the latest body MRI methods and applications in the enjoyment of the Hyatt Regency Atlanta. Topics ranged from the comprehensive diagnostic clinical examination of the chest, breasts, liver, pancreas, kidneys, adrenal glands, gastrointestinal system, and pelvis to applications in transplant surgery, oncology, pediatrics, and pregnancy. The lectures included technical implementation in the high field strength scanner, MRA, contrast agents, protocol optimization, and quality/safety. The insights from physicians were complemented by perspectives from administration, physicists, and technologists, and the ACR to provide a composite view of the body MR imaging center.

Department of Radiology and Imaging Services representation in addition to Dr. Martin consisted of Adina L. Alazraki, MD, Bobbie Burrow, RT, (R)(MR)(CT), Bobby T. Kalb, MD, Hiroumi D. Kitajima, PhD, Mary S. Newell, MD, Puneet Sharma, PhD, and Habib Tannir, MS. In addition to national body MRI luminaries, such as J. Paul Finn, MD (California), Shahid M. Hussain, MD, PhD (Nebraska), Aytekin Oto, MD (Illinois), Scott B. Reeder, MD, PhD (Wisconsin) and Richard C. Semelka, MD (North Carolina), the program benefited from the local venue in showcasing the Emory MRI team through prominent Emory University collaborators Volkan Adsay, MD (Pathology), Steven I. Hanish, MD (Surgery), and Juan M. Sarmiento, MD (Surgery). Corporate sessions provided by GE Healthcare, Philips Healthcare, and Siemens Medical Solutions as well as support from Bayer Healthcare and Bracco presented the industry state-of-the-art to complete the delightful experience for all.

- Hiroumi Kitajima, PhD
Clinical Physicist

New Grants

Quantitative imaging of amyloid plaques in Alzheimer's disease via x-ray phase CT

Principal Investigator:
Xiangyang Tang, PhD

Co-Investigators:
Carolyn C. Meltzer, MD
Marla Gearing, PhD
Hui Mao, PhD

Funding Organization: Pilot project of Emory Alzheimer's Disease Research Center

Significance: Alzheimer's Disease has become the most common neurodegenerative disease with dementia as its clinical symptom and the accumulations of extracellular amyloid plaque (AP) and intracellular neurofibrillary tangles (NFT) as the neuropathological hallmarks. The objective of this project is to develop the methodology for direct imaging of AP in Alzheimer's disease (AD) with x-ray tube and grating-based differential phase contrast CT. This novel imaging method will potentially provide the three-dimensional (3D) visualization of AP in Alzheimer's brain for early diagnosis and therapeutic assessment, which may substantially benefit the preclinical and clinical applications to find the cause of and the cure for AD.

X-ray phase CT for imaging of biomarker-targeted nanoparticle probes

Principal Investigator:
Xiangyang Tang, PhD

Co-Investigator:
Lily Yang, MD/PhD

Funding Organization: Pilot project of Emory Molecular and Translational Imaging Center

Significance: The immediate goal of this project is to establish the differential phase contrast micro-CT implemented with x-ray tube and grating (namely phase micro-CT) as a modality for longitudinal imaging of small animals using contrast-enhancing targeted nanoparticle (NP) probes in the preclinical applications of early detection, accurate monitoring of targeted delivery of therapeutics and prompt assessment of therapeutic efficacy, while the ultimate goal is to translate the x-ray phase CT enhanced by biomarker-targeted probes into a clinical imaging modality. Our preliminary data have shown that the x-ray phase CT can reach the contrast-to-noise ratio of conventional attenuation CT with potentially two orders of magnitude lower radiation dose at the spatial resolution adequate for small animal imaging. In addition, it is believed that the biomarker-targeted nanoparticle probes can significantly increase the contrast between tumor and surrounding tissues. Hence, the proposed imaging method is anticipated to have significant impact on preclinical applications and eventually translate to clinical applications where differentiation of low contrast soft tissues is essential.

Quantification of the Hemodynamic Environment and Structural Alterations in the Progression of Coronary Artery Disease

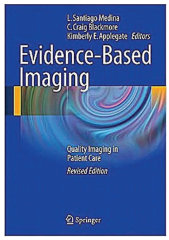
Principal Investigator:
Lucas H Timmins, PhD

Sponsors:
Don P Giddens, PhD,
John N Oshinski, PhD
Habib Samady, MD,

Funding Organization: American Heart Association (Postdoctoral Fellowship)

Significance: The surrounding hemodynamic environment, specifically flow induced wall shear stress, is a strong determinant of susceptibility to atherosclerosis. Furthermore, in the coronary arteries wall shear stress has also been implicated in the rapid progression of atherosclerosis, which likely results in myocardial infarction and sudden cardiac death. The primary goal of this proposal is to increase the clinical utility and accuracy of detecting rapidly progressing coronary lesions through examination of the blood flow induced mechanical environment. Specifically, this proposal has two Specific Aims: 1) quantitatively compare the geometric and hemodynamic differences in patient-specific 3D angiographic versus intravascular ultrasound reconstructed coronary geometries; 2) quantitatively analyze the focal correlation between wall shear stress (WSS) and coronary artery plaque progression. Accomplishing each of these aims will provide vital information in the early detection and treatment of cardiovascular disease and, potentially, decrease the number of major adverse cardiac events.

Check It Out



Chen J, Garcia EV, Bax JJ, Iskandrian AE, Borges-Neto S, Soman P. SPECT myocardial perfusion imaging for the assessment of left ventricular mechanical dyssynchrony. *J Nucl Cardiol.* 2011 May 13. [Epub ahead of print]

Folks RD, Manatunga D, Garcia EV, Taylor AT. Automated Patient Motion Detection and Correction in Dynamic Renal Scintigraphy. *J Nucl Med Technol.* 2011;39:131-139.

Evidence-Based Imaging: Quality Imaging in Patient Care, Revised Edition presents the radiologist and clinician with a user-friendly guide to the evidence-based science and the merit behind the diagnostic imaging performed in medicine. Edited by Drs. L. Santiago Medina, C. Craig Blackmore and **Kimberly E. Applegate**.

GET INVOLVED

2nd Annual Science of GME Event

Emory's second annual "Science of GME Projects Day" was held on June 9th. Forty five posters from 18 Emory residency and fellowship programs were presented. My poster was titled "Improving On-Time Patient Procedure Starts in Interventional Radiology at EUH". It described the ongoing quality improvement project led by Dr. Kimberly Applegate and Mr. Richard Wright to improve on-time patient procedure starts in IR. The project uses a data driven, team-based approach to identify and reduce sources of delay.

- Bradley Rostad, MD, *First-Year Resident*

Our department's Adopt-a-Resident grant gave me the opportunity to explore my own interest in global health. Because this is new territory, I had to build it from the ground up. With Dr. Pat Hudgins serving as my project mentor, we spent 2009 researching potential locations in the developing world. During the Annual Science GME day this year, I had the opportunity to display my experience through a poster presentation to various Emory faculty and staff, including Dean Lawley. From the inception of this project, it has been Dr. Hudgins and my goal to create a partnership with our Ethiopian colleagues and even establish a yearly resident and faculty rotation. Our next step is to secure funding for future trips and to create a selection process for those interested. We also hope to explore the possibility of Ethiopian faculty to rotate to Emory. These accomplishments and plans for the future were expressed during the Annual Science GME day and I hope to gain further interest in our goals to have potential collaborations with more Emory faculty and staff.

- Ali Tahvildari, MD, *Fourth-Year Resident*

Volunteering

The EUHM Radiology leadership team spent a half day volunteering at MedShare. While there, they sorted 2,077 pounds of medical supplies that would have normally ended up in a landfill and prepared 172 boxes that are ready to be entered into the database and loaded directly onto a container to be shipped to qualified healthcare facilities in the developing world.

MedShare is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving healthcare and the environment through the efficient recovery and redistribution of the surplus of medical supplies and equipment to those most in need. We collect surplus medical supplies and equipment from hospitals, medical distribution companies and individuals, and then redistribute them to qualified healthcare facilities in the developing world. We also outfit medical missions and safety net clinics in both the U.S. and abroad.

- Trecia Wertz, *Manager - EUHM, MOT*

Employee Engagement at WCI & EUOSH

WCI

The first annual EUOSH Employee Engagement Event took place on June 8th in the parking lot of one of Emory's newest facilities. The BBQ event served as a "Meet & Greet" between Radiology and the new Scheduling and Precert Departments that opened last October.

The departments joined forces to facilitate the needs of the new outpatient clinic which opened this week in the Medical Outpatient Building of EUOSH, and their growing MRI Department.

- Viki Swartz, RT(R)
Radiology Technologist

The Emory Clinic - EP & EUOSH

On Wednesday, June 22, the The Emory Clinic Staff from EP and WCI Radiology enjoyed an employee engagement event hosted by their leadership at the Los Loros Mexican Restaurant in Decatur. The evening consisted of delicious food and drinks, a raffle for colorful sombreros, a stubborn piñata and an abundance of laughs amongst coworkers. Everyone enjoyed mingling with one another and relaxing outside of work alongside Dr. Meltzer, Habib Tannir and Chuck Powell. "It was so nice! We had a really good time and can't wait for the next event," said Nicolle Ramsay-De Jesus, a CT technologist and Kelley Hughley, an MA in CT, which echoed the sentiment of all those who had the pleasure of attending.

- Brenda Ann Hall, RT(R), RDMS, RVT
Ultrasound Lead Technologist

New Faces & Appointments

Hussein K. Dido, MPH
Administrative Fellow - EUH

Hussein received his MPH from Morehouse SOM. Prior to joining us, he gained extensive administrative experience at a private school in Atlanta where he served as an assistant principal for five years. Hussein's other professional experience includes research in the field of both incidence and prevalence of HIV/AIDS among refugees in DeKalb County, GA.

Alaina Shapiro
Program & Event Coordinator - EUH

Alaina has been with the Department for over three years supporting the newsletter, website, events and recruitment. She will now move into a more focused role supporting our departmental programs, such as the Faculty Orientation, and lead the event coordination. Alaina is also an active member in the Service Excellence Committee.

Greg Pennington, MBA
Senior Manager, Clinic Operations - EUHM

In recognition of Greg's hard work and dedication he has been promoted to Sr Manager. In this expanded role he will be a key contributor to improvements to the PACS related workflow, manage the clinic operations for image guided procedures, provide direct oversight for our department scheduling and on-site professional practice support for EUHM.

Leslie Anne Sims, RT(R)
Radiology Technologist - EUH

Leslie joins the team at EUH with four years of experience and a perfect attendance record for the past three years. She plans to keep her record going here at Emory. Leslie is a member of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).

Maria Rivas, MD
Research Associate - EUH

After five years of research experience with the Emory Division of Infectious Disease, Dr. Rivas joins our department to be an active member of the IR research team. Her previous experience with IRB regulations, data collection and physician initiated studies will be an asset to the research.

Veronica Ventura, MD
Sr Research Associate - EUH

With15 years of medical background, including five years of Research Experience, Dr. Ventura will be joining the Division of IR research team. She has advanced training and professional experiences in settings of Animal Care, Performing and Monitoring Anesthetic and Surgical Procedures, as well as a variety of Interventional techniques and procedures.

Dr. Garcia's Endowed Professorship continued from page 1

In the new Emory School of Medicine Strategic Plan for Research, we seek to shift our emphasis from measuring our research success as an institution merely by simply how much grant funding we have amassed (although we have grown enormously in this metric over the past two decades) or in NIH rankings. After much discussion and thought, we have come to focus the new strategic plan on taking a critical look at the impact of our work on enhancing knowledge and improving human health. Dr. Garcia is the model of a field-changing faculty member we celebrate as we look around us and ask ourselves which disruptive technology has successfully translated into the clinical setting.

Drs. Meltzer, Garcia and Votaw all shared stories of Dr. Garcia's path to his accomplishment.

At the professorship event, Dr. Votaw reminded us of Dr. Garcia's love of baseball and likened the attainment of an endowed professorship in academia to the ultimate honor in baseball of having one's legacy preserved within the Hall of Fame. There could not be a more deserving colleague based on both his extraordinary accomplishments and his humanity.

Dr. Garcia's wife and children are among his biggest supporters.

Congratulations, Ernie!

- Carolyn C. Meltzer, MD, FACR

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