



UW School of
Medicine & Public
Health

Department of Medical Physics

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL PHYSICS NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

Greetings from The Chair

To all our Alumni, Former Faculty and Staff, and Current Faculty and Staff:

On behalf of the entire department, I am pleased to provide you with the most recent edition of the *Department of Medical Physics Newsletter*. The past year has been a very busy one, with faculty and staff transitions and new hires, a new entering class of students, a new group of program graduates, and numerous research and educational program initiatives. This edition of the newsletter will highlight several of these significant events.

As always, we are eager to hear from our program graduates and former faculty and staff. Please send any informational updates and changes of address to JoAnn Kronberg at jmkronberg@wisc.edu. For those who live outside of the Madison area, if your travels bring you to or near Madison, please let us know as we would be very pleased to schedule a visit to the department!

Please note that we have formally started a "History of the

Department" initiative and plan to ultimately publish a book dedicated to the department, the people who made the department what it is, and the department's many contributions to research, education, clinical practice, and society. Many emeritus and current faculty are involved in this exciting project. If anyone has photos, stories, or other documents you would like to provide, please contact JoAnn Kronberg by email at jmkronberg@wisc.edu.

My sincere thanks to all active and past faculty, staff, students, post-doctoral fellows, and scientists who established, and maintain, the reputation of the Department of Medical Physics as a leader in innovative research, education, and service. It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve as chair of such a phenomenal department.

Sincerely, Ed Jackson



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Kevin Johnson, PhD



Dr. Kevin Johnson was hired as Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical Physics (tenure home) in July 2016, and his efforts and funding are split 50/50 between Medical Physics and Radiology. He is a Badger through and through, as he completed his undergraduate degree in Biomedical Engineering as well as his Master's and doctorate degrees at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Johnson joins the advanced magnetic resonance pulse sequence and image reconstruction operational area, where he will focus on development and applications. In the past several decades, major advances have been made in all of the commonly utilized medical imaging modalities such that imaging now plays an integral role in disease diagnosis, treatment planning, and therapy monitoring. With rapid advances in disease etiology, imaging must continue its evolution into a more quantitative, functional, and cellular tool. This is particularly true of MRI, which for all its potential, and despite tremendous hardware improvements, remains constricted by slow speed, low detection sensitivity, and imaging inaccuracies. Due to these factors, MRI is often not utilized for diseases in which it could provide superior diagnostic and prognostic information, and is rarely used for quantitative imaging. Dr. Johnson aims to enable the potential of MRI by accelerating acquisition speed, removing ambiguities and artifacts, and providing novel techniques for disease quantification. Through these advances, he will help develop a new era of quantitative and molecular imaging across a broad spectrum of diseases. Particular research interests include:

- MR pulse sequence development, non-Cartesian and non-Fourier imaging
- Signal encoding and decoding, sampling theory, recovery from incomplete samples
- Motion robust imaging, free breathing MRI, motion sensing
- Macro and micro vascular remodeling, perfusion, flow

Welcome New Faculty

Diego Hernando, PhD



Dr. Diego Hernando was hired as Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiology (tenure home) in July 2016, and his efforts and funding are split 50/50 between Medical Physics and Radiology. Dr. Hernando is originally from Valladolid (Spain), where he majored in Telecommunication Engineering. He continued his studies in the United States and earned his Master's degree in Computer Engineering at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. In 2010, he completed his doctorate degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Hernando has joined the MRI operational area and will serve as the Director of Quantitative Body MR. Dr. Hernando's research interests are focused on the development and validation of imaging techniques for rapid and quantitative MRI. He is particularly interested in contributing to transforming MRI into a truly quantitative imaging modality. By measuring physically meaningful properties of tissue, his research group aims to develop quantitative imaging biomarkers to improve the detection, staging and treatment monitoring of various diseases. Dr. Hernando will work closely with the UW Liver Imaging Research Program, in collaboration with Dr. Scott Reeder.

Jonathan Engle, PhD



Dr. Jonathan (Jon) Engle was hired as Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical Physics (tenure home) in November 2016, and his efforts and funding are split 80/20 between Medical Physics and Radiology. He leads the Cyclotron Research Group, which was established by Robert (Jerry) Nickles. Dr. Engle has Bachelor's degrees in Religion and in Physics, a Masters in Science Education, and obtained his PhD from the University of Wisconsin's Department of Medical Physics. In 2011, he moved to Los Alamos National Laboratory as a postdoctoral researcher in the Chemistry Division with the Department of Energy, Office of Science's National Isotope Program. One year later, he was awarded the Frederick Reines Postdoctoral Fellowship in experimental sciences at LANL, which he held for two years before accepting an appointment as a Scientist in Chemistry Division. In 2016, he returned to the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Engle's research interests are in the production and application of novel radionuclides for medical research and basic science investigations. In particular, his laboratory is focused on the novel diagnostics Mn-51 for assessments of functional beta cell mass in the pancreas and the investigation of Auger-, Koster-Cronig-, and conversion-electron emitting radionuclides as labels in targeted radiotherapeutic treatment of disease.

Primary PI Research Grants Awarded via Department of Medical Physics

Principal Investigator	Sponsor	Title
Speidel, Michael	National Institutes of Health	Dual-Energy Subtraction Angiography for Transcatheter Interventions
Bednarz, Bryan P.	Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation 2016-2017 Fall Competition Award	A Concurrent Monte Carlo Dose Calculation and Fluence Optimization Platform with Low Memory Footprint
Emborg, Marina E.	Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation 2016-2017 Fall Competition Award	Biomarkers of Cardiac Sympathetic Neurodegeneration and Neuroprotection
Chen, Guang-Hong & Strother, Charles M.	National Institutes of Health	One Stop Shop Imaging for Acute Ischemic Stroke Treatment (U01 renewal)
Wakai, Ronald T.	National Institutes of Health	Optimized Measurement and Signal Processing of Fetal MCG (A year-19 competitive renewal!)
Bednarz, Bryan	Virtual Phantom, Inc	ARCHER - An Extremely Fast Medical Radiation Dose Computing Software
Hall, Timothy J.	Mayo Clinic	Multi-parameter Nonlinear Elasticity Mapping of Breast Masses (NIH Subcontract Renewal)
Chen, Guang Hong	General Electric Healthcare	UW-GE Comprehensive Advanced CT Engineering Research Project
Engle, Jonathan W.	Department of Energy Early Career Award	Nuclear Data for Spallation Neutron Radioisotope Production
Ellison, Paul A.	Department of Energy	Production of Radiohalogens: Bromine and Astatine for Imaging and Therapy
Jackson, Edward F.	NIBIB/ Radiological Society of North America	Quantitative Imaging Biomarkers Alliance (QIBA®)

Faculty Promotions

Bryan P. Bednarz, PhD



Promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure in the Department of Medical Physics. Effective date of promotion, July 1, 2016.

Bradley T. Christian, PhD



Promotion to Professor with Tenure in the Departments of Medical Physics and Psychiatry. Effective date of promotion, July 1, 2017.

Partial Listing of Faculty and Student Awards and Honors July 2016- August 2017

2017

August

- Andrew Santoso and Catherine Steffel received travel grants to IEEE International Ultrasonics Symposium
- Catherine Steffel and Amy Weisman were awarded WISELI Celebrating Women in Science and Engineering Grant
- Jordan Slagowski won 3rd place in the John R. Cameron Young Investigator Symposium Award
- David Adam and Andrew Shepard received 8th annual Standard Imaging Travel Awards

July

- Medical Physics alumnae Cynthia McCollough and Susan Richardson elected to AAPM leadership positions
- Dr. Charles Mistretta received the ICRU Gray Medal
- Dr. Weibo Cai named to UW-Madison Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorship

June

- Christie Lin and IGT group received Alavi-Mandell publication award at SNMMI 2017
- Dr. Weibo Cai's group receives numerous recognitions at the 2017 SNMMI Annual Meeting in Denver
- Dr. Bruce Thomadsen and co-editors published a new book "Clinical Brachytherapy Physics" (Med Phys Publishing)
- Graduate students Fang Liu, Jacob MacDonald, David Mummy, Leonardo Rivera, and Ben Cox receive Summa Cum Laude and Magna Cum Laude Awards at 2017 ISMRM
- Jose Guerrero Gonzalez awarded National Science Foundation (NSF) graduate research fellowship

May

- Christina Brunnuell, Ph.D., selected for AAPM Science Council Associates Mentorship Program

April

- Four of Dr. Weibo Cai's group members won travel awards to the 2017 SNMMI Annual Meeting
- Jon Hansen won first prize at the 2017 NCC-AAPM Spring Meeting Young Investigator Symposium

February

- Calibration Lab students Manik Aima and Sameer Taneja won CIRMS Annual Meeting Travel Awards

2016

December

- Dr. Weibo Cai's group members Emily Ehlerding, Christopher England, Dawei Jiang, and Shreya Goal received RSNA Travel Awards

November

- Calibration Lab students Natalie Viscariello and Jessica Fagerstrom received AAPM Expanding Horizons Travel Awards
- Dr. Guang-Hong Chen's CT group members John Garrett, Xu Ji, and Yinseng Li received RSNA Travel Awards and Xu Ji and Yinsheng Li also received AAPM Expanding Horizons Travel Award

October

- Dr. Weibo Cai delivered plenary lecture at EANM Annual Congress
- Lindsey Drehfal won Best Student Presentation at ITEC
- Michael Kissick published a new book on radiation physics

September

- Daniel Gomez-Cardona received 2016 RSNA Trainee Research Prize

August

- Matthew Scarpelli, Brandon Walker received John R. Cameron Young Investigator Symposium Awards

July

- Drs. Thomadsen and Smilowitz elected to AAPM leadership positions
- Dr. Cai's group received multiple awards at 2016 SNMMI meeting
- Leonard Che Fru and Brandon Walker received AAPM Standard Imaging Travel Awards

Medical Physics 2017 Incoming Students

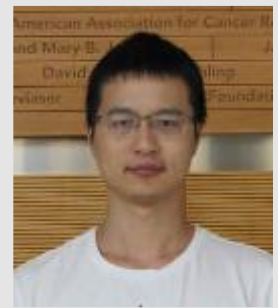
Welcome
Incoming
Class



Blake Benyard
Morehouse College
Atlanta, GA - USA



Alexandra Difilippo
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY - USA



Mang Feng
China University of Science &
Technology, Hefei, CHINA



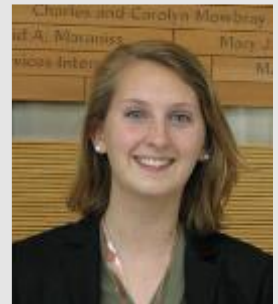
William Ferris
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI - USA



Dalton Griner
Brigham Young University
Provo, UT - USA



Mulan Jen
Chang Gung University
Kweishan, TAIWAN



Sydney Jupitz
St. Mary's College of Maryland
St. Mary's City, MD - USA



Emily King
U of Michigan at Ann Arbor
Ann Arbor, MI - USA



Lawrence Lechuga
California State University
Chico, CA - USA



Jason Moody
University of Pennsylvania
East Stroudsburg, PA - USA



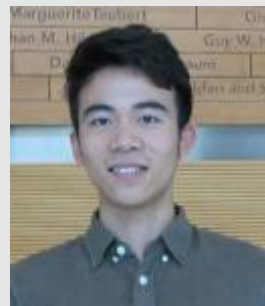
Aeli Olson
Bethel College
Saint Paul, MN - USA



Grant Roberts
University of Kansas City
Kansas City, MO - USA



Hayley Whitson
Willamette University
Salem, OR - USA

























Chengzhu Zhang
Tsinghua University
Beijing, CHINA



Ruiyang Zhao
Xi'an Jiantong University
Xi'an 61 - CHINA














Congrats to our Medical Physics Program Graduates

(May 2016 through August 2017)

August 2016		Abigail E. Besemer, PhD Human Oncology Resident/Research Intern University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI	Dec 2016		Camille Garcia Ramos, PhD Medical Physics Postdoctoral Fellow University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI
August 2016		Christina (Lewis) Brunquell, PhD Medical Physics Resident University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI	Dec 2016		Stephanie A. Harmon, PhD Scientist Leidos Biomedical Research Rockville, MD
August 2016		Larry Hernandez, PhD Currently pursuing employment as a Medical Physicist San Diego, CA	May 2017		Kirby R. Campbell, PhD Biomedical Engineering Research Associate UW-College of Engineering Madison, WI
August 2016		Reinier Hernandez, PhD Radiology Research Associate University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI	May 2017		Maria Daniela Cornejo Ramirez, PhD Post-Doctoral Researcher University of California - San Diego La Jolla, CA
August 2016		Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., PhD Medical Physics Resident University of Texas, Southwestern Dallas, TX	May 2017		Jessica M Fagerstrom, PhD Medical Physicist Northwest Med Physics Center Lynnwood, WA
August 2016		Madhav Venkateswaran, PhD RF & Mixed Signal Design for Medical Imaging GE Healthcare Madison, WI	May 2017		Stephen Graves, PhD Medical Physics Resident University of Iowa Iowa City, IA
August 2016		Svyatoslav Vergun, PhD Data Scientist Green Key Technologies Chicago, IL	May 2016		Michael Lawless, PhD Human Oncology Assistant Professor (CHS) University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI
August 2016		Lianggong (Bruce) Wen, PhD Electro-Optical Scientist-Metrology Corning Corporation Painted Post, NY	May 2016		Megan A. (Wood) Hyun, PhD Radiation Oncology Assistant Professor U of Nebraska Medical Center Omaha, NE
August 2016		Connor Brennan, MS Independent Singer/Songwriter/Performer Producer at Connor Brennan Music Madison, WI	May 2017		Ricardo Pizarro, PhD Postdoctoral Fellow Montreal Neurological Institute Montreal QC CANADA
May 2016		Margo Batie, MS Nuclear Engineering Graduate Research Assistant University of California Berkeley Berkeley, CA	May 2016		Gary Stange, PhD Fellow in the NNSA Graduate Fellowship Program, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Richland, Washington
			May 2017		Samantha J. Simiele, PhD Radiation Oncology Resident University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI
			May 2017		Kayvan Samimi, PhD MIR Postdoctoral Fellow Morgridge Institute for Research Madison, WI

Congrats to our Medical Physics Program Graduates

(May 2016 through August 2017)

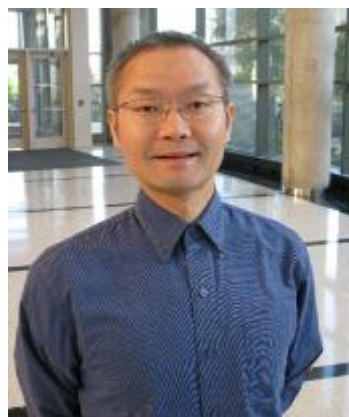
May 2017		Hector Valvovinos, PhD Medical Physicist National Institute of Cancer Nuclear Medicine Mexico City, MEXICO	August 2017		Yongshuai Ge, PhD Associate Professor Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences Shenzhen, CHINA
May 2017		Brandon Walker, PhD Post-Doctoral Researcher Morgridge Medical Engineering Institute for Research Madison, WI	August 2017		Deb Horng, PhD MRI Research Scientist Cambridge, MA
August 2017		David D. Campos, PhD Radiation Oncology Resident UC Davis Cancer Center Sacramento, CA	August 2017		Miles Olsen, PhD Currently pursuing employment in the field of Medical Imaging
August 2017		Haidy Nasief, PhD Instructor University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI	August 2017		Courtney Morrison, PhD Radiology Resident Henry Ford Health Systems Detroit, MI
August 2017		David Dunkerley, PhD Human Oncology Resident/Research Intern University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI	August 2017		Patrick Lao, PhD Currently pursuing post-doctoral training in utilizing PET imaging for drug development in Alzheimer's Disease treatment
August 2017		John W. Garrett, PhD Medical Physics Assistant Scientist University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI	August 2017		Jordan Slagowksi, PhD Radiation Oncology Resident MD Anderson Cancer Center Houston, TX
May 2017		Everardo Flores-Martinez, PhD Medical Physics Resident UC San Diego San Diego, CA			

Imaging Physics Residency Program Initial CAMPEP Accreditation

We are very pleased to announce that the UW School of Medicine and Public Health Imaging Physics Residency Program in the Department of Medical Physics was accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs, Inc. (CAMPEP) in 2017. The successful initial accreditation was the result of the dedicated efforts of many individuals, especially Frank Ranallo, PhD (Program Director) and John Vetter, PhD (Program Deputy Director). Our thanks also to Jim Zagzebski, PhD, and others on the Steering Committee who spent many hours preparing and refining the program self-study and participating in the site visit. A big thank you as well to the first two residents in this newly accredited program, Christina Brunnquell, PhD, and Zhimin Li, PhD, who were not only a key part of the CAMPEP site visit, but who have provided active feedback that has been, and will continue to be, used to further refine and improve the program. The financial support for one of the two residency positions is provided through the efforts of the Department of Radiology, and this support is gratefully acknowledged.



Christina Brunnquell, PhD



Zhimin Li, PhD

Medical Physics Graduate Program Reaccreditation

In addition to the initial accreditation of the Imaging Physics Graduate Program, 2017 also marked a reaccreditation event for our Medical Physics Graduate Program. Having two site visits in less than six months, one for the graduate program and one for the residency program, required substantial effort on the part of many individuals and we sincerely thank all involved.

The UW-Madison Medical Physics Graduate Program continues to be the largest such accredited program in North America (and beyond).

Department Picnic 2017

Ever wonder what you could do with 100 brats, 80 burgers, 30 hot dogs, and a lot of corn on the cob? If you're the Department of Medical Physics, you have a picnic! On the evening of Thursday, September 7, 2017, despite chilly weather and the forecast of rain, approximately 140 Medical Physics faculty, students, staff and family members (and a few puppies!) gathered for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun. In addition to this impressive turnout, many folks volunteered to set up, bring delicious side dishes and sweet treats, and help with the inevitable clean up. All the while, our very own Grill Masters (Lianna DiMaso, Ian Marsh, Natalie Vicariello, and Gengyan Zhao) manned the grills, and Rasmus Birn kept the hot corn on cob coming to the buffet table. All this help made the event a great success!

For more than 20 years, our department has been hosting the annual picnic, which usually takes place shortly after the beginning of the Fall Semester. This event is a fantastic opportunity for the incoming class to mingle with current students, staff and faculty in a relaxed social environment. Due to construction being done at our usual haunt, the Vilas Park Zoo Shelter, this year we gathered at a new location, the Rennebohm Park Pavilion, which featured plenty of tables for our large group, lots of cover from any potentially unfriendly weather, a basketball court and a nearby play structure for the children. This year was a transition year for us as Deb Torgerson passed the picnic torch to Lyddia Ruch-Doll and Mary Paskey. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Deb for her years of hard work on this beloved Medical Physics tradition.

Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's event! We hope to see you again in 2018!



Left to Right
David Mummy, Kai Ludwig,
Blake Benyard, Sameer Taneja,
Leonard Che Fru, Manik Aima,
Oliver Wieben, and Carson
Hoffman

Left to Right
Dr. Ramus Birn, Ian Marsh,
Lianna Di Maso, Natalie
Viscariello, and Jameson

List of Trainees Supported by the T32 Over the Past Year

Graduate Program,
Radiological Sciences Training Grant

Principal Investigator: Timothy J. Hall, PhD

- ❖ The students supported by the training grant are required to give a 12-minute presentation (informational public level), with a 3-minutes between each talk for questions and transition to the next speaker.

Postdocs

1. C: Timothy Colgan /
Advisor: Scott B. Reeder, MD, PhD
2. C: Camille Garcia-Ramos /
Advisor: M.E. Meyerand, PhD
3. C: Annelise Malkus /
Advisor: Sean B. Fain, PhD
4. P: Christopher England /
Advisor: Weibo Cai, PhD
5. P: Leah Henze-Bancroft /
Advisors: Roberta M. Strigel, MD, MS,
and Walter F. Block, PhD

Predocs

1. C: Tobey Betthausen /
Advisor: Brad T. Christian, PhD
2. C: Emily Ehlerding /
Advisor: Wiebo Cai, PhD
3. C: Quinton Guerrero /
Advisor: Timothy J. Hall, PhD
4. C: Carson Hoffman /
Advisor: Oliver Wieben, PhD
5. C: Sabrina Hoffman /
Advisor: Bruce R. Thomadsen, PhD
6. C: Kai Ludwig /
Advisor: Sean B. Fain, PhD
7. C: Andrew Santoso /
Advisor: Timothy J. Hall, PhD
8. C: Andrew Shepard /
Advisor: Bryan P. Bednarz, PhD
9. P: Kirby Campbell /
Advisor: Paul J. Campagnola, PhD
10. P: Stephen Graves /
Advisor: R. J. Nickles, PhD
11. P: Stephanie Harmon /
Advisor: Robert Jeraj, PhD
12. P: Michael Pinkert /
Advisor: Walter F. Block, PhD and
Kevin Elicieri, PhD
13. P: Kayvan Samimi /
Advisor: Tomy Varghese, PhD
14. P: Samantha Simiele /
Advisor: Larry A. DeWerd, PhD

(C: Current; P: Past)

BOWLING 2016

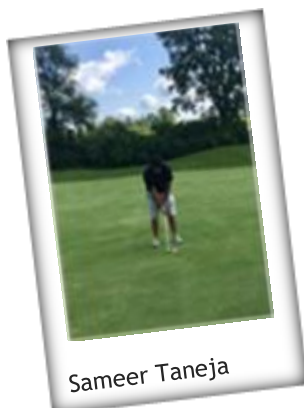
A huge thanks to all who bowled at the Medical Physics Bowl-O-Rama on November 20th, 2016 at Schwoegler's Park Towne Lanes! The winners of the event, with an amazing performance, called themselves "The Resonators" and the team included Howard Rowley (vocals), Tom Gist (lead guitar), Pat Turski (bass) and Scott Reeder (drums)! There were other winners of the evening, Brandon Walker for highest single game score, Lyddia Ruch-Doll for lowest standard deviation of the three games, Howard Rowley for closest total score to the rest mass of the electron in keV, and Katie Banowetz for closest single game score to the k-edge of lead in keV and for the total score closest to the speed of light in km/ms.



Left to Right
The Resonators: Scott Reeder, Patrick Turski, Thomas Grist, and Howard Rowley

Golf Outing 2017

The 23rd annual UW Medical Physics golf scramble was a complete success. Thanks to all 44 participants who came out to play a round of 18-hole golf at University Ridge Golf Course on August 24th! This year's competition was a close one, but congratulations to the winners who will have their names immortalized on the plaque outside of the Medical Physics offices: EJ Borman, Chris Guglielmo, John Khalil and Tyler Prout! We would also like to thank our amazing sponsors, including Standard Imaging, Landauer Medical Physics, UW Radiology, and also Gary Frank for his generous donation. We hope to see you in August 2018!



Sameer Taneja



Left to Right
Lianna Di Maso, Eric Simiele, Sameer Taneja, and John Garrett



Natalie Viscariello, and Alex Antolak



Left to Right: John Hayes, Luis Torres, Daniel Gomez Cardona, and Evan Harvey



Left to Right: John Garrett, Jenelle Fuller, Sara John, David Mummy, and Ben Cox



Left to Right: Eric Simiele, Leonard Che Fru, Sameer Taneja, Andrew Shepard, Jacob Beres, and Kai Ludwig



Left to Right: Wes Culberson, Gary Frank, Matt Davis, Nathan Davis, Larry DeWerd, and Wally Pepler

2017 Annual Alumni Reception

The 2017 Alumni Reception was held in Denver, Colorado on Monday, July 31, 2017, in conjunction with the 59th AAPM annual meeting. The event was held at Stout Street Social and was very well attended.

We would like to acknowledge and thank our 2017 sponsors:

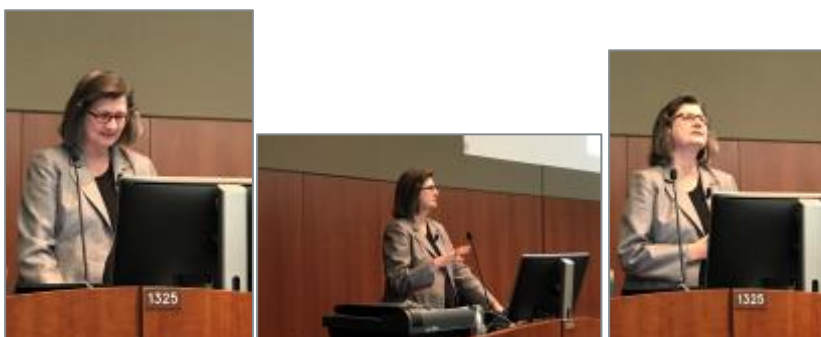
GAMMEX, A Sun Nuclear Company
Midwest Medical Physics, LLC
Radiological Imaging Technology
Standard Imaging, Inc.
Theragenics Corporation
UW Calibration Laboratory



John R. Cameron Symposium 2017

Dr. Maryellen Giger

A.N. Pritzker Professor of Radiology - University of Chicago



We were very pleased to have Dr. Maryellen Giger present the 2017 John R. Cameron Symposium Lecture. Her presentation, titled *Radiomics and Deep Learning in Medical Imaging for Precision Medicine*, addressed many important issues for the future of medical physics and its roles in the era of Precision Medicine.

Women in Medical Physics Initiative 2017

As part of a larger student initiative on diversity, inclusion, and community engagement in the Department of Medical Physics, graduate students Catherine Steffel and Amy Weisman were awarded a grant through the Women in Science & Engineering Leadership Institute (WISELI) Celebrating Women in Science & Engineering Grant Program. The goal of Ms. Steffel's and Ms. Weisman's grant program is to facilitate participation and increased awareness of women in Medical Physics fields. Students, faculty, and staff will have opportunities to network and engage with enthusiastic female Medical Physicists in industry, clinical, and academic roles throughout the 2017-18 academic year.



Left to Right: Amy Weisman, and Catherine Steffel

Thank You, John Vetter!

John has a long-standing history with the Department of Medical Physics. He attended undergraduate and graduate school at University of Wisconsin-Madison and joined the department as a Researcher in 1992 before he became a faculty member. He quickly showed his expertise in managing the radiological physics quality assurance efforts and became the Director of Radiological Physics Services. When the Department Administrator at that time was recruited away, John was presented with the opportunity to serve as both a medical physics faculty member and department administrator, and he said YES! As they say, the rest is history. John managed the department budget, served as effort coordinator and credit card site manager, supervised the administrative team, and provided backup services for pre- and post-award grant management, all while maintaining his faculty responsibilities. During his tenure as Department Administrator, he was a key part of remarkable progress in the department, including increasing faculty size, expanding the graduate student program, planning new facilities, and moving the department from MSC to WIMR.

We are excited to have John remain in the department as a CHS faculty member and serving as Director of Radiological Physics Services (RPS), which provides medical physics services for the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, UW Medical Foundation clinics, and other Madison area hospitals and clinics. As RPS Director, he manages four medical physics faculty and two imaging physics residents. In addition, he performs quality assurance testing on approximately 120 radiographic and fluoroscopic imaging systems, 25 mammography units, 6 nuclear medicine imagers, and 2 CT scanners. He designs and tests radiation shielding for x-ray and nuclear imaging facilities, performs patient dose calculations, and advises clinical staff on health effects of radiation exposure. John also teaches the CT portion of the Medical Physics 665 Rad Lab: CT, DSA and MRI Physics, and the mammography portion of Medical Physics 662 Rad Lab on Diagnostic Imaging Physics. In addition, he provides approximately 20 lectures for the course "Physics for Radiology Residents". Finally, John serves as the Deputy Director of the recently CAMPEP-accredited Imaging Physics Residency Program.

John's skill and expert knowledge has left a deep and important imprint on the department, and his countless hours and tireless efforts over the years have not gone unnoticed. Thank you to John for his years of service as Medical Physics Department Administrator. We look forward to his continued contributions towards the success of the department.



Left to Right: Frank Ranallo and John Vetter

Administrative Staff

Chair and Professor:

Edward F. Jackson, PhD
efjackson@wisc.edu

Department Administrator:

Amy Martens, MBA
aemartens@wisc.edu

Assistant to the Chair:

JoAnn Kronberg
jmkronberg@wisc.edu

Research Administrator:

Mary Paskey
mpaskey@wisc.edu

Graduate Coordinator:

Deb Torgerson
datorger@wisc.edu

HR Business Partner:

Kayla Gomez-Cardona
kgomezcardon@wisc.edu

Financial Specialist:

Clint Colby
ccolby@wisc.edu

Financial Specialist Senior:

Kymmy Lomax
lomax2@wisc.edu

Administrative Support:

Lyddia Ruch-Doll
ruchdoll@wisc.edu

IT Manager:

Yacouba Traore
ytraore@wisc.edu

Web Developer:

Charles Reinke
cfreinke@wisc.edu

Student Support:

Kelsey Felicijan & Natalie Ryan

Graduate Student Representatives:

studentreps@medphysics.wisc.edu

Lianna Di Maso
 Ian Marsh
 Natalie Viscariello
 Gengyan Zhao

New Administrative Core

In addition to faculty hires, the Department of Medical Physics recently hired a full-time Department Administrator, Amy Martens, MBA, in Spring 2017. Amy most recently served as the Department of Emergency Medicine Administrator for the past seven years where she was responsible for a \$15+ million annual budget. Beyond her background in human resources, management, and health care, Amy previously served as Research Administrator for The Center for Health Enhancement Systems Studies (CHESS) as well as Grants & Contracts Specialist at Research and Sponsored Programs.

In addition to a full-time administrator, the Medical Physics administrative infrastructure has recently grown to include both a full-time Financial Specialist Senior, Kymmy Lomax, and a full-time Human Resources Business Partner, Kayla Gomez-Cardona. These hires are a joint partnership with the School of Medicine & Public Health Dean's Office through a shared services model. Moreover, Charles Reinke, the department's web developer has increased his FTE from 0.6 to 0.8 effective July 2017.

Given the opportunity to set the course for the next year, the administrative team developed the following mission statement:

Our mission is to support the Department of Medical Physics by consistently exceeding the expectations of our faculty, learners, and staff through excellence in administrative support and talent.

We strive to accomplish this by:

- (1) Building a collaborative environment where each person is valued and has an opportunity for personal and professional growth
- (2) Encouraging cooperation and collaboration among administration, faculty, and others to streamline processes and improve productivity
- (3) Striving to advance and empower faculty, learners, and each other
- (4) Strengthening relationships within our department, school, University, and surrounding community

Philanthropy and Support

As clearly demonstrated by the brief summaries of activities in this newsletter, the Department of Medical Physics continues to be a clear leader in medical physics education, training, and research. The faculty continue to be leaders in the fields of radiation metrology, radiation therapy, imaging (CT, MR, ultrasound, PET), and biomagnetism. The graduate program is the largest in North America and the students who matriculate each year are consistently among the best applicants to North American programs. The medical physics residency program in Radiation Therapy Physics is CAMPEP-accredited and the Imaging Physics Residency Program was accredited by CAMPEP in April 2017. Graduates of our graduate, post-doctoral, and residency programs have gone on to highly successful careers in academia, industry, hospitals and clinics, consulting groups, entrepreneurships, *etc.* We seek to continue to provide this level of UW-Madison leadership into the future, in spite of particularly competitive and limited funding availability for research grants and decreasing budgets from the state. To accomplish this goal, the extensive network of UW-Madison Medical Physics Alumni can help through tax-deductible donations, of any amount, to the John. R. Cameron Memorial Fund, the Herb Attix Fund, or the Medical Physics Fund.

Contributions to the **John R. Cameron Memorial Fund** are used solely in support of research and education missions of the Department of Medical Physics. Contributions to the Herb Attix Fund are used to support graduate students selected by the faculty as **Herb Attix Fellows**. Contributions to the **Medical Physics Fund** are used for general support of the department's education and research missions, and is the most general fund option. Please consider making a donation today! Any level of support will be greatly appreciated by the department's faculty, staff, students, and residents.

To contribute, please go to <http://www.medphysics.wisc.edu/aboutus/donation/> and select the fund or funds to which you wish to make a donation. Again, all donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



John R. Cameron, PhD



F. Herb Attix, PhD