

Matching Program results are in

The 2007-2008 resident training programs begin on July 1. This year, the Institute welcomes 18 trainees who come from these excellent schools:

- David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles
- University of Alabama School of Medicine
- Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
- University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
- University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine
- Emory University School of Medicine
- Georgetown University School of Medicine
- University of Louisville School of Medicine
- University of Washington School of Medicine
- Indiana University School of Medicine
- Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
- Saint Louis University School of Medicine
- University of Utah School of Medicine
- The Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science
- Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine.

39th Wilson Award presented

Jennifer (Jeni) Sprague, a student in the Medical Scientist Training Program, received the 2006-2007 Hugh M. Wilson Award for Meritorious Work in Radiology. The award honors Mallinckrodt Institute's second director and is presented as part of Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine's (WUSM's) commencement program.

Sprague earned an undergraduate degree in biochemistry (with highest honors) at Indiana University and received a combined medical/doctoral degree at WUSM. She completed her doctoral research in Mallinckrodt Institute's Radiological Chemistry Laboratory. Under the mentorship of Carolyn Anderson, PhD, professor of radiology and associate professor of molecular biology and pharmacology, Sprague's research combined basic science and translational research in the evaluation of radiopharmaceuticals for



Researcher Carolyn Anderson (left) in the lab with Jennifer Sprague

early diagnosis and monitoring of cancer metastasis using positron emission tomography (PET).

As a result of Sprague's work involving the radiochemistry, characterization, and biological evaluation of copper-64, a tracer used with PET for cancer imaging, her research was published in four scientific journals: *Clinical Cancer Research*, *Nuclear Medicine and Biology*, *Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, and the *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*.

"While performing her dissertation research in my lab, Jeni had outstanding

ideas toward the progress and direction of her project and demonstrated scientific maturity well beyond her age and experience," says Anderson. "Jeni's insight and curiosity have led to some very exciting discoveries regarding the development of novel imaging agents and imaging strategies. What makes her truly exceptional, however, is the combination of her scientific and personal maturity, profound curiosity, and unbelievable organizational and time-management skills. I have been extremely fortunate to have a student of such caliber working in my group"



Welch speaks at Nobel Conference

Michael Welch, PhD, professor of radiology, of chemistry, and of molecular biology and pharmacology, presented an overview of "PET imaging using nonstandard radionuclides" at the Nobel Conference, *Watching Life through Molecular Imaging*. The conference was held in the Nobel Forum—where the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine is selected—at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. Prior to the Nobel Forum, Welch, cochief of Mallinckrodt Institute's Division of Radiological Sciences, was keynote speaker at the 17th International Symposium on Radiopharmaceutical Sciences in Aachen, Germany.

MIR team excels in imaging interpretation

The Institute's diagnostic radiology resident/faculty team was the big winner—for the third time—in the Philips Vydareny Imaging Interpretation Competition at the 55th Annual Meeting of the Association of University Radiologists (AUR). Team members: doctors Kristopher Cummings, Joseph Erinjeri, and Jack Jennings—2006-2007 diagnostic radiology chief residents; Constantine Raptis—second-year resident; Jennifer Demertzis, Meghan Lubner, and Sara Rohr—third-year residents and the 2007-2008 diagnostic radiology chief residents; Jeffrey Carena—fourth-year resident; Daniel Wessell, musculoskeletal radiology clinical fellow and

2005-2006 diagnostic radiology chief resident; Jennifer Gould, assistant professor of radiology and director of the Diagnostic Radiology Residency Training Program at Mallinckrodt Institute; Christine Menias, assistant professor of radiology and residency program assistant director; and Sanjeev Bhalla, assistant professor of radiology and residency program assistant director.



Jennifer Gould, MD, accepts the award from Reed Dunnick, MD, AUR president.



In the huddle: (seated, left to right) Daniel Wessell, MD, PhD; Christine Menias, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD; and Jennifer Gould, MD. (Standing, left to right) Jennifer Demertzis, MD; Constantine Raptis, MD; Kristopher Cummings, MD; Joseph Erinjeri, MD, PhD; and Sara Rohr, MD.

Research fellowship is available

Bayer HealthCare has funded a fellowship for research involving contrast-enhanced magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Jeffrey Brown, MD, professor of radiology, director of clinical research, and cochief of body MRI, will administer the one-year fellowship that will begin in November 2007. For more information about the fellowship and the application process, go to the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology Web site at www.mir.wustl.edu.

WUSM among nation's top schools

In the 2007 *U.S. News & World Report* rankings, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine (WUSM) retained its fourth overall ranking among research-oriented medical schools and continues to hold first place in student selectivity (based on college grade-point averages and MCAT scores). Among the top schools are Harvard University (ranked first); Johns Hopkins University (second); University of Pennsylvania (third); University of California, San Francisco (fifth); University of Washington (sixth); Stanford University (seventh); Duke University and Yale University (tied for eighth place).