MIR faculty, staff, fellows and residents (including Abdulrahman Masrani, MD, shown above) contributed to over 80 presentations at the RSNA annual meeting.

“Pretty much everywhere we interviewed, they were either sending us a contract or drawing one up,” says MIR Class of 2017 graduate Adam Sipe, MD, shown above with his wife and fellow alum, Whitney Sipe, MD.

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COVER PHOTO: MIR faculty and staff joined radiology professionals from around the world at the 2017 Radiological Society of North America’s (RSNA) annual meeting held in November at McCormick Place in Chicago.
Recollections of a Past President

by R. Gilbert Jost

In 1972, R. Gilbert Jost, MD, attended his first RSNA annual meeting. Over the years, Jost, professor emeritus at MIR, served the organization in various capacities, eventually becoming its president in 2006.

During what time period did you serve on the RSNA Board of Directors?

I received a phone call in the fall of 1999 asking if I would consider joining the RSNA Board of Directors. One new board member is selected each year, and the term of service is for eight years. During the first five years, my primary areas of responsibility were information technology and the annual meeting. In the sixth year, a board member serves as chairman of the board, a position with significant responsibility. In the eighth and final year, he or she serves as president, which involves considerable interaction with radiology’s specialty societies, as well as a good deal of travel to foreign countries.

How did you come to be on the board in the first place?

In 1991, I was asked to join the RSNA Electronic Communications Committee (ECC). The committee was made up of about a dozen people who were interested in pushing the envelope with respect to computer applications in radiology. I was named the chair of the committee in 1998 and then left the ECC the following year to join the board of directors.

How has the RSNA changed over the years?

In 1972, during my first year as a resident at Mallinckrodt, I asked Bill McAlister if I could take a few days away from the pediatric radiology service to attend the RSNA. At that time, the entire meeting was held at the Palmer House in Chicago and there were 6000 attendees. Many of the technical exhibits were located in hotel rooms on the upper floors of the hotel. Over the years, the number of presentations and the size of the technical exhibits grew significantly. For many years, scientific presentations and technical exhibits were on film-based imaging. Now, of course, radiology has emerged as a digital-based specialty and the RSNA has been instrumental in both reflecting and shaping this transformation. Another dramatic change has been the increasing international participation. The largest medical meeting in the world has become a truly international event.

Does the board of directors have much influence on what happens at the RSNA?

Oh my, yes! I can’t think of a single issue of consequence that isn’t brought before the board for discussion and approval. The staff of over 200 individuals is truly outstanding, but they look to the board for direction on all key issues. Decisions in many cases can be far reaching, and it is very satisfying to be a member of a group that can have a dramatic impact on future directions in our specialty.

What should young people do to get involved with RSNA?

One way is to take advantage of the $70 million corpus of the Research and Education Foundation where the pay line is far more favorable than that of the NIH. Another way is to volunteer for a committee. Don’t hesitate to be aggressive. If there is a committee that you are interested in, find out who the chair is and let him or her know you’re interested. In my experience, RSNA is a very satisfying organization to work with because they listen to your ideas and they get things done.
MIR at RSNA 2017

It should come as no surprise that Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology played a major role in RSNA’s 103rd Scientific Assembly this past November. MIR faculty, researchers and residents (in blue) contributed to over 80 presentations at the annual meeting and received a total of eight awards, ranging from merit to magna cum laude.

Education Exhibits, Scientific Posters, Case of the Day

All You Need to Know About Turner Syndrome Elizabeth Lee, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD; Maryam Ghadimi Mahani, MD; Demetrios A. Raptis, MD; Aws S. Hamid, MD; Prachi P. Agarwal, MD

Alternative Access: TAVR Considerations Beyond Femoral Access Michael A. Beal, MD; David C. Kraft, MD; Demetrios A. Raptis, MD; Andrew J. Bierhals, MD

Are You In or Out?: Applications of Chemical Shift Imaging in the Chest and Abdomen Adam L. Sipe, MD; Maria Zulfiqar, MD; Richard Tsai, MD; Demetrios A. Raptis, MD; Constantine A. Raptis, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD; Anup S. Shetty, MD

Breast Density Matters Sirui Liu, BA; Amy Patel, MD; Michelle V. Lee, MD

Cardiac Case of the Day Suhny Abbara, MD; Sachin S. Saboo, MD, FRCR; Prabhakar Rajiah, MD, FRCR; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD; Brian B. Ghoshhajra, MD; Harold Goerne, MD; Asha Kandathil, MD; Kiran Batra, MD; Fernando U. Kay, MD; Sandeep S. Hedgire, MD; Theodore T. Pierce, MD; Vinit Baliyan, MBBS, MD; Gabriela Spilberg, MD; Andrew B. Wallace, MD; Demetrios A. Raptis, MD; Praveen Ranganath, MD

Chest Case of the Day Santiago E. Rossi, MD; Jane P. Ko, MD; Travis S. Henry, MD; Fernando R. Gutierrez, MD; Mylene T. Truong, MD; Girish S. Shroff, MD; Agustina Agnetti, MD; Leonela E. Lepore, MD; Felipe Aluja, MD; Jeffrey B. Alpert, MD; Dennis Toy, MD; Eric R. Flagg, MD; Paola J. Orauscio; Muhammad Naeem, MBBS

The Clinical and Imaging Characteristics of Acute Pyogenic Spondylodiscitis Presenting in the Emergency Department Andrew B. Wallace, MD; Jonathan C. Baker, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD

Calcific/Ossific Disorders of the Lungs and Pleura Hamza Jawad, MBBS; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD

Calcific/Ossific Disorders of the Lungs and Pleura Hamza Jawad, MBBS; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD

Diseases with Thoracic and Orbital Involvement: What the Radiologist Should Know Felipe Aluja, MD; Samira E. Saraya, MBChB, PhD; Vilaas Shetty, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD; Fernando R. Gutierrez, MD

Distinguishing Linitis Plastica from Its Mimics: A CT Review Soniya Pinto, MD; Shams Jubouri, MBChB; Ramy Shoela, MD; Curuchi Anand, MD; Brian D. Midkiff, MD, MPH

Fantastic Artifacts and Where to Find Them: A Comprehensive Review of US and Doppler Artifacts Eugenio Zalaquett, MD; Francisco O. Cruz, MD; Kathryn A. Robinson, MD; Marcelo Andia, MD, PhD; Nirvikar Dahiya, MD

Fournier’s Gangrene in Men and Women: What the Surgeon Wants to Know David H. Ballard, MD; Constantine A. Raptis, MD; Parisa Mazaheri, MD; Michael N. Patlas, MD, FRCP; Meghan G. Lubner, MD; Christine O. Menias, MD; Ferry J. Pickhardt, MD; Vincent M. Mellnick, MD
**Gastrointestinal Case of the Day**
Christine M. Peterson, MD; Christine O. Menias, MD; Lori Mankowski Gettle, MD; Cecil G. Wood III, MD; Vincent M. Mellnick, MD; Rosewell V. Mackey, MD; James A. Baer, MD; Andrew A. Kanarek, MD; Peter T. Hoang, MD; Maria Tucker, DO; David H. Kim, MD; Constantine A. Raptis, MD; Megan H. Lee, MD

**Certificate of Merit**

**How Advanced is Advanced Imaging?: A Mixed Reality Primer for Radiologists**
Michael Moritz, MD; Vilaas Shetty, MD; Nadeem Parkar, MD

**Imaging Assessment of Volleyball Injuries**
Brian M. Gilcrease-Garcia, MD; James D. Stensby, MD; Michael V. Friedman, MD

**Imaging Complications of Intravesical BCG Therapy for Bladder Cancer**
Daniel B. Green, MD; Christine O. Menias, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD; Akira Kawashima, MD, PhD; Rakesh D. Shah, MD; Takashi Tanaka, MD, PhD; Bernard F. King Jr, MD

**Imaging of Neurologic Complications in Patients with Hematologic Malignancies**
Mohammed Azfar Siddiqui, MBBS, MD; Joseph Mansour, MD; Manu S. Goyal, MD, MSc; Sagun Goyal; Alexander M. Skopec, MD; Vilaas Shetty, MD

**Imaging the Pulmonary Valve**
Hamza Jawad, MBBS; Demetrios A. Raptis, MD; Adam L. Sipe, MD; Pamela K. Woodard, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD

**Cum Laude**

**The Importance of Non Fat-Suppressed T1-Weighted Sequences in Musculoskeletal Magnetic Resonance Imaging**
Michael V. Friedman, MD; Minerva Zhou; Jonathan C. Baker, MD; Jennifer L. Demertzis, MD; Travis J. Hillen, MD; Jack W. Jennings, MD; Jeremiah R. Long, MD; David A. Rubin, MD; James D. Stensby, MD

**Inter-rater Reliability in Radiology: A Primer for Appropriate Use, Interpretation and avoidance of Potential Pitfalls**
Chara E. Rydzak, MD, PhD; Phech Colatat, PhD

**LI-RADS Radiology-Pathology Working Group: Building a Bridge Towards Standardized Terminology**
Alexandra Roudenko, MD; Alessandro Furlan, MD; Ian Wanless; Alexander C. Kagen, MD; Kathryn J. Fowler, MD; Neil Theise, MD; Roberto Cannella, MD; Valerie Paradis, MD; Marco Dioguardi Burgio, MD; Marta Ida Minervini, MD; Valerie Vilgrain, MD; Claude B. Sirlin, MD

**MRI in the First Trimester of Pregnancy: Indications, Findings and Management**
Junsung Rho, MD; Lejla Aganovic, MD; Noushin Vahdat, MD; Raja Ramaswamy, MD; Michele A. Brown, MD; Christine O. Menias, MD; Lorene E. Romine, MD; Christian S. Welch, MD; Fiona Cassidy, MD

**Multi-modality Imaging of Ileal Carcinoid Tumor Along the Spectrum of Disease**
Aksha Gupta, MD; Meghan G. Lubner, MD; Christine O. Menias, MD; Vincent M. Mellnick, MD; Khaled M. Elsayes, MD; Perry J. Pickhardt, MD

**Musculoskeletal Case of the Day**
Jennifer L. Demertzis, MD; James D. Stensby, MD; Benjamin Dewey, MD; Jeremiah R. Long, MD; Aaron D. Fain, MD; Soterios Gyftopoulos, MD, MSc; Nicholas G. Rhodes, MD; Mary Kristen Jesse, MD; Valentino D. Abballe, BS, MD; John S. Symanski, MD; Francesca D. Beaman, MD; Jonathan H. Stein, MD

**Neuroradiology Case of the Day**
Tabassum A. Kennedy, MD; Jeffrey Cagley, MD; Sumant S. Tumuluru, MD; Jonathan Revels, DO; Justin L. Brucker, MD; Javier Villanueva-Meyer, MD; John N. Campbell, MD; Susan L. Rebsamen, MD

**Non-Obstetric Emergencies in the Pregnant Patient: A Multi-Modal, System-Based, Head-To-Toe Review**
Gayatri Joshi, MD; Karen S. Zheng, MD; Saurabh Rohatgi, MD; Vincent M. Mellnick, MD; Keith D. Herr, MD

(Continued on Page 7)
This Room Has Great Reception

It was an evening filled with great food and good friends as current and former residents, fellows and faculty gathered at the 2017 “MIR at RSNA” reception. The annual event, held at the Hyatt Regency of Chicago’s Crystal Ballroom, included remarks from Richard L. Wahl, MD, director of Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, and R. Gilbert Jost, MD, former MIR director and past RSNA president.
(Continued from Page 4)

Oh, The Places Contrast Will Go! Interpreting Fluoroscopic Images Obtained During Injection Arthrography Ramy Shoela, MD; Jeremiah R. Long, MD; Randy O. Chang, BS; James D. Stensby, MD

Ovarian Teratomas: A Comprehensive State-of-the-Art Review Dhakshina M. Ganeshan, MBBS, FRCR; Christine O. Menias, MD; Akram M. Shaaban, MBCh; Perry J. Pickhardt, MD; Wendaline M. VanBuren, MD; Preetha Ramalingam, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD

Percutaneous CT Guided Biopsies of the Cervical Spine: Technique, Histopathologic and Microbiologic Yield, and Safety at a Single Academic Institution Elizabeth L. Wiesner, BA; Jeremiah R. Long, MD; Travis J. Hillen, MD; Michael V. Friedman, MD; Jack W. Jennings, MD

Pitfalls in MRI of Thymic Masses Mark M. Hammer, MD; Maria F. Barile, MD; Constantine A. Raptis, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD

Renal Colic Imaging 2017: Myths, Recent Trends, and Controversies Michael N. Patlas, MD, FRCP; Abdullah Alabousi, MD; Vincent M. Melnick, MD; Victoria Chernyak, MD, MS; Nataly Farshait, MS; Douglas S. Katz, MD

Resident Primer: A Pattern-Based Approach to Causes of Intraparenchymal Hemorrhage on Head CT Paul S. Sander, MD; Joseph Mansour, MD; Matthew S. Parsons, MD; Joshua R. Fage, MD; James Williams; Vilaas Shetty, MD

Sternal Metastases in Breast Cancer: Multimodality Imaging Review Whitney A. Manlove, MD; Katerina Konstantinoff, BA; Michelle V. Lee, MD

Syndromes and Unusual Imaging Associated with Germ Cell Tumors Kirti Magudia, MD, PhD; Christine O. Menias, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD; Venkata S. Katabathina, MD; Mark M. Hammer, MD

Systematic Approach to the LI-RADS v2017 Hepatocellular Carcinoma Treatment Response Algorithm Natally Horvat, MD; Claude B. Sirlin, MD; Ania Z. Kielar, MD; Charles Y. Kim, MD; Victoria Chernyak, MD, MS; Takeshi Yokoo, MD, PhD; Khaled M. Elsayes, MD; Hooman Yarmohammadi, MD; Sara Lewis, MD; Kathryn J. Fowler, MD; Richard Kinh Gian Do, MD, PhD

Thoracic Hernias: A Radiologic Review Felipe Aluja, MD; Fernando R. Gutierrez, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD

Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implants (TAVI): The Role of Patient-specific 3D Models at Preprocedural Planning Montserrat Torrent; Thiago Vasconcelos Paulo Neto, MD; Paola J. Orausclio; Diego M. Haberman, MD; Mariana Corneli; Paola Kuschnir; Fernando R. Gutierrez, MD

Tumors and Tumor-like Conditions of the Vulva and Vagina Ayushi Gupta, MD; Christine O. Menias, MD; Anup S. Shetty, MD; Khaled M. Elsayes, MD; Akram M. Shaaban, MBCh; Candice W. Bolan, MD; Melissa J. McGovern, MD

The Unusual Suspects: Mammographic, Sonographic, and Histopathologic Appearance of Atypical Breast Masses Maria Zulfiquar, MD; Laura Billadello, MD; Guihua Cao, MD; Katherine E. Schwetey, MD, PhD; Catherine Lowdermilk, MD

Vascular Anomalies of the Pediatric Native Liver Brittany K. Albers, MD; Rebecca L. Hulett, MD; Eric P. Eutsler, MD; Jennifer L. Nicholas, MD; Geetika Khanna, MD, MS

Vascular Interventional Wednesday Poster Discussions Naganathan B. Mani, MD
When the Envelope Is Poisoned: A Guide to Fascial Diseases in the Extremities
Amy E. Killeen, MD; James D. Stensby, MD; Jeremiah R. Long, MD; Travis J. Hillen, MD; Michael V. Friedman, MD; Jennifer L. Demertzis, MD

Certificate of Merit
Multisession and Refresher Courses

The Biology of Atherosclerosis
Pamela K. Woodard, MD

Breast Cancer with PET-CT
Richard L. Wahl, MD

BOOST: Gastrointestinal—Oncology Anatomy (An Interactive Session)
Parag Parikh, MD; Kathryn J. Fowler, MD

Cardiot and Abdominal Doppler (Hands-on)
Gowthaman Gunabushanam, MD; Shweta Bhatt, MD, MBBS; Wui K. Chong, MD; Corinne Deurdulian, MD; Vikram S. Dogra, MD; Ulrike M. Hamper, MD, MBA; David Jones-Manns; Mark E. Lockhart, MD; Margarita V. Revzin, MD; Michelle L. Robbin, MD; Leslie M. Scutt, MD; Ravinder Sidhu, MD; Sadhna Verma, MD; William D. Middleton, MD

Cardiac CT Mentored Case Review: Part I (In Conjunction with the North American Society for Cardiovascular Imaging) (An Interactive Session)
Jill E. Jacobs, MD; Pamela K. Woodard, MD

Case Review: Introduction to LI-RADS (Hands-on)
Ania Z. Kielar, MD; Claude B. Sirlin, MD; Cynthia S. Santillan, MD; Kathryn J. Fowler, MD; An Tang, MD; Khaled M. Elsayes, MD; Victoria Chernyak, MD, MS; Yuko Kono, MD, PhD; Thomas A. Hope, MD; Elizabeth M. Hecht, MD; Robert M. Marks, MD; Aya Kamaya, MD; Mustafa R. Bashir, MD; Richard Kinh Gian Do, MD, PhD; Donald G. Mitchell, MD

Contrast-Enhanced Digital Mammography is Comparable to Breast MRI in Assessing Tumor Response for Breast Cancer Patients Following Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy
Matthew Covington, MD; Mark D. Sugi, MD; Talal Hilal, MD; Heidi Kosiorek, MS; Donald Northfelt, MD; Barbara A. Pockaj, MD; Bhavika K. Patel, MD

CT Pulmonary Angiography for Pulmonary Embolism
Sanjeev Bhalla, MD

Drug-induced Gastrointestinal Complications: Oncologic and Beyond
Vincent M. Mellnick, MD

Gastrointestinal (Radiomics)
Andrew D. Smith, MD, PhD; Kathryn J. Fowler, MD

Histological Subtype as a Predictor of Localized Recurrence after Thermal Ablation of Lung Adenocarcinoma
Seth Stein, MD; Song Gao; Waleed M. Shady, MBCh; Elena N. Petre, MD; Jeremy C. Durack, MD; Carole A. Ridge, MD; Prasad Adusumilli; Stephen B. Solomon, MD; Ety Ziv, MD, PhD

Imaging of Colonic Emergencies
Vincent M. Mellnick, MD

Imaging Dementias: MRI
Tammie S. Benzinger, MD, PhD

Imaging of Liver
Jay P. Heiken, MD

Imaging of Patellofemoral Instability in Children and Adolescents
Eric P. Eutsler, MD

Interactive Case Discussion
Farrokh Dehdashti, MD; Osman Ratib, MD

Imaging of the Repaired Thoracic Aorta: Normal Appearances and Complications
Constantine A. Raptis, MD

Imaging of Lymphoma
Delphine L. Chen, MD

Lymphoma
Delphine L. Chen, MD

Metabolic Characterization of Heart Disease
Robert J. Gropler, MD

Memorable M & M Cases
Michael D. Darcy, MD

Molecular Imaging Symposium: Cardiovascular MI Applications
Markus Schwaiger, MD; Robert J. Gropler, MD

Morbidity and Mortality
Sanjay Misra, MD; Michael D. Darcy, MD

MR Imaging
Tammie S. Benzinger, MD, PhD

Musculoskeletal Series: MRI of Small Joints
David A. Rubin, MD; Pavel A. Vajda, MD

Nodal Lymphangiogram and Embolization for the Treatment of Postoperative Groin Lymphoceles
Mitchell T. Smith, MD; Jonathan M. Lorenz, MD; Resmi Charalel, MD; Seung Kwon Kim, MD; Olaguoke K. Akinwande, MD; Raja Ramaswamy, MD

Overview: Scale & Scope of Error in Diagnosis
James R. Duncan, MD, PhD

Pears and Pitfalls of Bone and Soft Tissue Biopsies
Travis J. Hillen, MD

Pediatric Series: Musculoskeletal Imaging
Diego Jaramillo, MD, MPH; Eric P. Eutsler, MD; Jie C. Nguyen, MD, MS; Stephan D. Voss, MD, PhD

Pelvic Tumors
Farrokh Dehdashti, MD

PET Imaging of Metabolism and Downstream Targets
Kooresh I. Shoghi, PhD

PET/MRI Clinical Applications: Cardiac
Pamela K. Woodard, MD
Prophylactic Embolization
Pre-Y90 Naganathan B. Mani, MD

Randomized Controlled Trials-
The Importance of Level One Evidence Suresh Vedantham, MD

Read with the Experts (Cardiac Radiology) (An Interactive Session)
Jill E. Jacobs, MD; Sanjeev Bhalla, MD; Smita Patel, MBBS, FRCR; Eric E. Williamson, MD; Amar B. Shah, MD

Semi-automated 3D Ablation Margin Assessment: Retrospective Evaluation in Patients with Radiofrequency Ablation of Colorectal Liver Metastases Elena Kaye, PhD; Francois Cornelis, MD, PhD; Waled K. Shady, MBBS; Elena N. Petre, MD; Weiji Shi; Zhigang Zhang, PhD; Stephen B. Solomon, MD; Constantinos T. Sofocleous, MD, PhD; Jeremy C. Durack, MD

Small Joint Technique
David A. Rubin, MD

Understanding the Role of CT in the Imaging of Pulmonary Infections
Constantine A. Raptis, MD

US for Thyroid Cancer: Diagnosis, Surveillance, and Treatment
Jill E. Langer, MD; Kathryn A. Robinson, MD; Sheila Sheth, MD

Using Social Media as a Platform to Provide Humanitarian Tele-Radiology Services to Areas Under Siege
Abdulrahman Masrani, MD; Ihsan I. Mamoun, MD; Bisher Tarabishy, MD; Abdul Rahman Tarabishy, MD; Muhammad Alsaid; Nada Haroun; Mohammad Arabi, MD, FRCR

Scientific and Special Interest Sessions

The Added Value of Quantitative Imaging in Clinical Practice
Richard L. Wahl, MD

Cardiac (General Topics, CT, SPECT, and PET)
Pamela K. Woodard, MD; Karen G. Ordovas, MD

Cardiac (MRI)
Hildo J. Lamb, MD, PhD; Pamela K. Woodard, MD; Belinda D’Souza, MD

Estimating Lung Carbon Monoxide Diffusion Rates with Positron Emission Tomography
Delphine L. Chen, MD; Murali Chakinala, MD; Colleen McEvoy, MD; Jeffrey J. Atkinson, MD; Amy Evans; Amber Salter, PhD, MPH; Frank Brooks, PhD

The IDEAS Study: Goals and Update
Barry A. Siegel, MD

Integrating Structural and Functional Biomarkers in Dementia Imaging
Tammie S. Benzinger, MD, PhD

Measurement Repeatability of Cold-Activated Brown Adipose Tissue Volume on [18F]FDG-PET Using both PET/CT and PET/MRI
Tyler J. Fraum, MD; John Crandall; Daniel R. Ludwig, MD; Kathryn J. Fowler, MD; Sihao Chen; Richard Laforest, PhD; Farrokh Dehdashti, MD; Hongyu An, DSc; Richard L. Wahl, MD

Neuroradiology (Functional MRI)
Joshua S. Shimony, MD, PhD; Dan T. Nguyen, MD

Nuclear Medicine (Gastrointestinal, Lymphoma and Melanoma Imaging)
Frederik L. Giesel, MD, MBA; Farrokh Dehdashti, MD

Outcomes of Percutaneous Cholecystostomy Tube Placement in 419 Patients: A Single Institute Experience
Daniel J. Young, MD; John P. Karageorgiou, MD; Naganathan B. Mani, MD; Seung Kwon Kim, MD

Science Session with Keynote: Gastrointestinal (Advanced Liver MRI Techniques)
Moderators: Hersh Chandarana, MD; Kathryn J. Fowler, MD; Scott B. Reeder, MD, PhD

Vascular Interventional (Vascular and Dialysis Access)
Himanshu Shah, MD; Naganathan B. Mani, MD

Volumetric Phase Contrast MR Imaging (4D Flow) of Transjugular Intrahepatic Portosystemic Shunts
Joseph W. Owen, MD; Kathryn J. Fowler, MD; Nael E. Saad, MBBS; Glenn Foster, RT
A Resident’s First Day

In November, Kevin Neal, MD, a fourth-year resident at Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, went to his first RSNA. Focal Spot asked him to chronicle his experience for one day. Below is a time-stamped account of the event on Monday, November 27, as seen through the eyes (and iPhone) of a first-time attendee.

8:08 a.m. Took an Uber from the hotel to McCormick Place. Checked my coat then headed into my first session of the day, “Open and Endovascular Aortic Repair Imaging Essentials.”

10:15 a.m. On my way to grab a coffee between sessions I stopped to watch a tumbling group performing in the atrium.

10:20 a.m. Finally got that coffee and was off to a cardiac CT session that featured Diagnosis Live.

12:12 p.m. Time to wait in line for free pizza at the resident lounge.

12:45 p.m. Checked out educational posters in the learning center. I found the educational exhibits to be the most useful and fun.

2:11 p.m. Posed with a 3-D print of William Rontgen, father of the X-ray.

6:00 p.m. Following an afternoon session, it was time to start getting ready for the MIR alumni reception.

8:30 p.m. I really enjoyed the reception. It gave me a chance to talk with my attendings and co-residents outside of work. I also was able to catch up with former fellows and attendings, including Kris Cummings, a former chest attending who is now working in Scottsdale. And there was a great build-your-own pasta bar.

9:00 p.m. Following the reception, about 20 people met up at Gilt, a local restaurant known for its craft cocktails. I talked with Akash Sharma, one of our former nuclear medicine attendings, who now lives in Florida.

12:30 a.m. After one last night cap at O’Callaghan’s, it was time head back to my Airbnb and call it a night.
WHAT IS IT ABOUT AN MIR ALUM?

When Adam Sipe, MD, completes his cardiothoracic imaging fellowship later this year, he and his wife, Whitney Sipe, MD, also an MIR fellow, will head south to Arkansas (him Bentonville, her nearby Fayetteville) to begin their careers.

The two radiologists started job hunting mid-way through the fourth year of their residencies. By September 2017, both received multiple offers and had signed contracts. “Pretty much everywhere we interviewed, they were either sending us a contract or drawing one up,” Sipe says.

Classmate and MRI imaging fellow, William Curtis, MD, had a similar experience. After he accepted a position, he received an offer from another radiology group and withdrew his application from another practice. “I also cancelled or turned down another two or three interview offers,” he says. “There were Mallinckrodt alums at all the places I applied.” Curtis and his wife, who is an ophthalmologist, will be heading to Dallas in September 2018.

So what is it that puts an MIR resident at the top of the hiring heap?

Distinguishing Differences

“All are smart and well trained,” says William Grande, MD, with Radiology Imaging Associates, a subspecialty group with 90 radiologists in Colorado. “They’re taught to be team players. They’re taught to do more than what is asked and to take on the hard tasks,” he says. And they’re taught as first-year residents to answer the phone on the first ring, recalls Grande, an interventional radiologist who graduated from Mallinckrodt in 2010.

MIR residents are highly motivated, adds Amy K. Hara, MD, professor of radiology and chair of the department at Mayo Clinic Arizona. “They’re extremely well trained by the book and typically have an excellent work ethic. It’s hard to find this combination all the time,” says Hara, who was an abdominal imaging fellow at MIR in 2001. But you will find them at the Mayo Clinic’s campus in Arizona. Seven of its 42 radiologists trained at Mallinckrodt.
Mallinckrodt’s reputation carries a lot of weight, says Larry Tang, MD, with TRA-MINW, a private multispecialty radiology group with 11 locations throughout the state of Washington. “Across the board, it’s strong in all areas of radiology.” Yet these three alums readily admit that MIR applicants don’t get a free pass when it comes to getting a job in their practices. There are contenders and they typically come from other top-tier radiology programs.

The Other Contenders

“We don’t have any prejudice but we certainly know the names of the top programs,” continues Tang, an MSK specialist and member of MIR’s Class of 2004. “Mallinckrodt, the University of California-San Francisco, Massachusetts General Hospital and Michigan certainly catch your eye,” he says.

The alums cited in this article also mentioned Mayo Clinic, Duke University, the University of Colorado and the University of Washington.

“We look for the right person,” says Tang, who was also an MSK fellow at Mallinckrodt in 2005. “We look for strong team players who get along with his or her colleagues.” They have to be willing to do the clinical work but also participate in building relationships with the practice’s collaborators and hospitals.

Mayo, which typically has 20 to 30 applicants for each radiologist position, also looks for a cultural fit. “Someone who wants to interact with clinicians and teach,” says Hara.

A Global Presence

Having the largest network of radiology alumni, many of whom hold leadership positions in clinical care, research and teaching, helps when it comes to finding a position.

There are MIR alumni everywhere, says Sipe, and if a job becomes available, MIR faculty don’t hesitate to reach out to its graduates at that facility to open doors for more dialogue.

“I don’t think there’s a place in the continental United States, or even Alaska or Hawaii, where we (MIR graduates) couldn’t get at least a job offer or a job opportunity,” says Sipe.

“If your CV says ‘Mallinckrodt,’ it will get your foot in the door, if the door is open.”
Twenty-two years ago Drs. Sanjeev Bhalla, Christine “Cooky” Menias and David Kim met as MIR residents and formed a unique bond that continues to this day. At RSNA 2017, Focal Spot sat down with the three busy radiologists to discuss the early days of residency and what Mallinckrodt means to them.

**FS:** How did you all meet?

**Bhalla:** I met Cooky the first day of orientation in 1995 and we became best friends during residency. From the beginning we’d heard amazing things about Dave, who was a year ahead of us, but we never saw him. Then, about six weeks after orientation, he showed up at a conference and we both said, ‘That’s Dave Kim!’

**Kim:** From the beginning it was clear how smart they [Bhalla and Menias] were. Pretty soon it became evident if you had a question they were the ones you would go to.

**Menias:** Actually, I think we were really dumb as residents. [laughter] We had such a force of wonderful and ridiculously smart residents that you were constantly studying. There was positive peer pressure.

**Bhalla:** Our first year we had a particularly strong fourth year class. Andy Fisher, Eric Malden, Matt Fleishman, Jeff Freeland ... these people would destroy cases in the case conferences. So you would go home and study.

There was no shortage of laughter as the long-time friends finally caught up with each other at the RSNA Learning Center.
because you had to be prepared in case you were called on in front of those people.

**Menias:** The three of us didn’t get really close until after Dave came back [to academic radiology].

**Bhalla:** Dave left in 1999 after fellowship to join a hybrid private practice group in Memphis.

**Kim:** I think I was kind of lost at the time.

**Bhalla:** He left there and went to Madison [University of Wisconsin], where he joined other Mallinckrodt people.

**Kim:** When I finally realized what was missing in my life I came back [to academic radiology]. There’s a definite joy in continuing to learn and get better.

**FS:** Talk about some of the mentors you’ve had at MIR.

**Menias:** Sanjeev Bhalla. Seriously, you had to go to your neighbor for mentoring. It wasn’t competitive. It was symbiotic.

**Kim:** It’s just the way the Mallinckrodt culture is. You mentor each other and help people succeed. For me it was Perry Pickhardt, who has continued to mentor me as faculty together at Wisconsin.

**Menias:** Most of the people who train at Mallinckrodt stay academic or are involved in academia in some capacity. And those people want to continue to collaborate after they’re gone.

**Bhalla:** Of course, there have been faculty who have influenced the various ways we approach things. For example, none of us went into breast imaging but Barb Monsees has influenced all of us in the way we practice. She’s so patient-centered in her way of thinking and always driven by what she sees as the right way to do medicine. The same with Dan Picus. None of us went into IR and yet I think the way we all approach our services is very similar to Dan’s. Stuart Sagel, another one, who believed radiology was filled with the potential to be indecisive but that you weren’t really helping anyone if you were indecisive.

**Kim:** I would say Dennis Balfe and Jay Heiken. I find many aspects of how I practice were drawn from them.

**Menias:** Yes, Dennis Balfe. He taught me everything I know about GI fluoroscopy. Tom Herman was also a very big mentor for me. One day Tom took me up to the NICU to remind me that all of those pictures we were looking at had little babies behind them.

**FS:** What do you think sets Mallinckrodt apart from other institutions?

**Bhalla:** One of the things you get from Mallinckrodt is the gift of being able to lecture. And it comes from so many mentors who did these really high caliber conferences that we just assumed was the standard. But then you go to national and international meetings and you know when it’s someone from Mallinckrodt giving the lecture because they’re phenomenal.

**Menias:** I think the Mallinckrodt follow-up conference is probably one of the best things they offered. Every month, for every single rotation, for four years we had to look up what happened so we could understand the story behind the film and learn from it. I haven’t seen that at any other institution.

**Kim:** I think there are certain qualities of someone who trained at Mallinckrodt that you can see. I mean, everyone is smart but what really separates them is a sense of professionalism and holding the patient central to all their efforts. They really go the extra mile.

**Kim:** Cooky and I are now at different institutions but Mallinckrodt will always be our home base. I remember the feeling when I got my acceptance letter. It was one of the best days of my life.

**Menias:** I still have mine.

**Kim:** Me too.

**Bhalla:** I don’t. Maybe my mom has it. [laughter] 😂
Below: The Windy City provided a stunning backdrop to the 2017 RSNA Annual Meeting.