IR Director Richard L. Wahl, MD, has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine, formerly known as the Institute of Medicine. Election to this academy is considered one of the highest honors in the field of health and medicine in the United States.

Wahl is among 70 new members and 10 international associates whose elections were announced in October. Members are selected based on their professional achievements and commitment to service.

The National Academy of Medicine (NAM) has taken over many of the roles previously performed by the Institute of Medicine and joins the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering as respected advisers on matters of science, technology and health. The role of the Institute of Medicine has been redefined to focus on consensus study and convening activities.

Wahl was among the first to combine internally delivered radiation therapy for non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma with techniques that use the immune system and nuclear medicine imaging to inform and precisely target treatments. The combined approach, now FDA-approved, is known as radioimmunotherapy and is recognized as one of the first “precision medicine” approaches for human cancer treatment.

He has been a leader in introducing and using positron emission tomography (PET) to diagnose a broad array of cancers and other diseases. He also is at the forefront of more recent efforts to combine quantitative data from PET scans with computerized tomography (CT) and MRI to form “fusion” images that can help physicians more precisely diagnose and characterize cancers.

MIR’s website has a new feature:
a blog with consumer-driven content

A new blog, “Focus On Health,” provides health information about common medical conditions and diseases. One recent entry shows a time-lapse video of how Alzheimer’s disease affects the brain. Another entry explains the significance of dense breasts. The blog is viewable on the homepage of the MIR website: www.mir.wustl.edu/focus-on-health
This year marked the 101st Scientific Assembly & Annual Meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), which hosts more than 50,000 attendees each year. As this new century begins, radiologists from around the world had the opportunity to focus on the future of radiology’s role in health care.

The annual MIR reception was held in the Hyatt Regency Crystal Ballroom, where Drs. Wahl and Bhalla announced the formation of the Evens Society for MIR alumni. The society is named in honor of Ronald Evens, MD, whose 28 years of service as director of MIR helped the department gain international recognition as one of the finest radiology departments in the world.

“The goal of the Evens Society is to foster a sense of family and community among the residents, fellows, faculty and alumni,” says Sanjeev Bhalla, MD. “Through society activities, members will have the opportunity to meet and network with alumni, many of whom are national and international leaders in radiology, research and education.”

Another major goal of the Evens Society will be to encourage support of educational opportunities for radiology trainees.

All alumni attending the event received Evens Society lapel pins.
Sanjeev Bhalla, MD, introducing the Evens Society Alumni Association

2015-16 Chief Residents Hilary Orlowski, MD, Chris Smith, MD, and Sebastian McWilliams, MD

MIR faculty Vinnie Mellnick, MD, and his wife, Shanna

MIR Director Rich Wahl, MD, along with MIR Alumni David DiSantis, MD, and William Conway, MD

MIR Alumni Jeffrey Yu, MD, and Holly Burge, MD, along with Dennis Balfe, MD

Keith Bernstein, MD, Hui Hua Shu, MD, Merideth Byers, MD, and Nitin Tasma, MD

MIR Director Rich Wahl, MD, MIR Alum Dale Johnston and Sandy Wahl
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McCormick

Multisession presenter Cary Siegel, MD

Drs. Barry Siegel and Richard Wahl stop for a photo at McCormick Place

Steve Don, MD, at RSNA press conference regarding Xbox gaming technology and how it may improve X-ray precision
news.wustl.edu/news/Pages/Xbox-gaming-technology-may-improve-X-rays.aspx

Kayla Bowerson, MD, presents an electronic poster at McCormick Place during RSNA

Multisession moderator Farrokh Dehdashti, MD, along with presenter, Tyler Fraum, MD

Drs. Dan Picus, MD, and Jack Jennings, MD, at McCormick Place during RSNA

Aseem Sharma, MD, and Colin Derdeyn, MD, at McCormick Place
On September 30, Washington University’s Center for Multiple Myeloma Nanotherapy (CMMN) held a reception in the McDonnell Pediatric Center lobby celebrating its recent launch. Funded by a $13.7 million, five-year grant from the National Cancer Institute, the CMMN is also a Center of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence, which is a group of select medical centers across the United States charged with developing nanotechnology-based methods to diagnose and treat cancer. Currently there are only six of these centers.
This past fall, approximately 110 MIR faculty and staff members participated in a departmental retreat at the Fours Season Hotel on Laclede’s Landing. The purpose of the retreat was to refine the institute’s missions and opportunities for the coming decade and beyond, and it allowed attendees the opportunity to provide input to major questions regarding the department. Many of the ideas that were brought up at the retreat are being discussed and prioritized.
Sunshine and low humidity made for a beautiful day for the Washington University School of Medicine Employee Appreciation Picnic on September 18. Approximately 9,000 employees – including many MIR staffers and faculty – made their way through the food lines, played games and enjoyed Ted Drewes’ frozen treats. The picnic is held annually on the south side of the medical campus in Hudlin Park.
Kudos Kitty Harrison

Congratulations to MIR’s Kitty Harrison. She was among the first class of registered nurses to receive a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from Washington University through the Goldfarb School of Nursing this past November 2015. Harrison joined Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology in 2007 as a registered nurse and currently works in the Cardiovascular Imaging Lab (CVIL) where she coordinates a worldwide industry sponsored study with Dr. Pamela Woodard, MD. The study uses MRI contrast for heart stress testing, and compares the images to the gold standard SPECT stress testing.

Harrison is also coordinating the imaging portion of a grant study with Todd Cade, PT, PhD, for a rare genetic disease entitled Barth Syndrome. Cade is studying the metabolic effects of heart and skeletal muscle function for this rare and devastating disease using PET/CT scanning.

Diversity Schedule

Chancellor Wrighton has repeatedly indicated that diversity is vital to the future of Washington University. It enhances our sense of community, while it positively impacts knowledge creation, problem solving and productivity – all key to our mission as a world-class university.

The Department of Radiology supports this important initiative and will be providing a series of training sessions over the next few years:
- 1.0 Awareness
- 2.0 Understanding
- 3.0 Commitment
- 4.0 Action

Training sessions start with 1.0 Awareness. A variety of times and dates are available for this very important training:

- Thursday 1/21 at 7am (FLTC Holden Auditorium)
- Tuesday 1/26 at 7am (FLTC Holden Auditorium)
- Friday 1/29, at noon (FLTC Holden Auditorium)
- Tuesday 2/2 at 4pm (MIR Scarpellino Auditorium)
- Thursday 2/11 at noon (MIR Scarpellino Auditorium)

More details to come, but mark your calendar now!
Several construction renovations are taking place in the MIR tower. In October, the new Ultrasound suite moved from the fourth floor to the first floor, and GIGU moved from the fourth floor MIR to North Campus on a temporary basis.

Fourth floor MIR demolition is currently under way for the temporary relocation of Interventional Radiology with scheduled completion March, 2016. Once the fourth floor is complete, Interventional Radiology will be relocated to that floor during renovations of the eighth floor. These renovations should be completed by June, 2016.

The residency program at Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology (MIR) is in the middle of interview season, and this year prospective residents are taking home a new brochure! With a new look and updated information, the brochure features a welcome letter from Department of Radiology head Richard L. Wahl, MD, individual resident vignettes, statistics (MIR by the Numbers), descriptions of residency and fellowship training programs, information about the Division of Radiological Sciences and MIR’s Research Support Facilities, and a list of St. Louis attractions and annual events.
We want to extend a sincere thank you to all of the employees of Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology who supported the United Way campaign this year. Together, we raised $42,933 for the United Way (up from $33,827 in 2014), and more than 32% of employees participated (up from 26% in 2014.) And, we landed number #1 in our Tier (up from #3 last year) based on the number of employees in the division (competing against WU Orthopedics, Anesthesiology, Facilities, Neurology and Pathology/Immunology). Overall, the department of radiology ranked 21st in total participation in the School of Medicine (up from 25th of 63 divisions in 2014) and 3rd in total amount raised for the United Way. More families will keep a roof over their heads, more kids will go to bed with full stomachs, and more people will find the help they need. Because of you, our community will continue to grow and thrive. Because of you, more people will live their best possible lives.

Thank you once again for supporting the United Way. You helped make St. Louis a better place to live!

Sincerely,
Kim Kania, Janis Loehr, Anysa Rieder, Tracy Thiecken, Kashwayne Williams and Diane Rau
Your United Way committee
In Memory

Robert McKnight 1936-2015

Retired MIR radiologist Robert McKnight passed away November 29 in St. Louis. He attended Florida State University from 1954-1957 and graduated from Washington University Medical School in 1961. He served in the United States Air Force from 1966 to 1968. He taught at Washington University Medical School and was a cardiac radiologist until his retirement in 2003.

“Bob was a wonderful person, brilliant radiologist and teacher, and an MIR faculty member for many years,” says friend and colleague Bill McAlister, MD. “He will be missed by me and all those who knew him at MIR.”

Dr. McKnight will always be remembered for his wonderful sense of humor, his infectious giant laugh and his practical joking, while at the same time he was a dedicated doctor and educator who always pushed himself and his students to know more and do better.

Margaret “Peggy” Jost 1942-2015

Peggy Jost died unexpectedly on November 12 while traveling in Portugal with her husband, former Mallinckrodt director and Department of Radiology chair R. Gilbert Jost, MD. She was 73. Peggy Jost began her graduate studies at Yale Medical School. After marrying in 1967 and then moving to St. Louis, she was awarded a master’s degree in biomedical engineering from Washington University where she worked in a variety of medical research laboratories. Devoted to her family and friends, Peggy Jost was well-known to Mallinckrodt faculty and staff. A memorial service was held at Ladue Chapel on December 11.
What's Coming Up

Holiday Lights
Winter Wonderland – Tilles Park
For 30 years, employees with the St. Louis County Parks Department have turned Tilles Park into a Winter Wonderland. You can drive through the display, but the best way to see the lights is by horse-drawn carriage. Winter Wonderland is open daily from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., except for Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve. Cars are welcome Sunday through Friday, but Saturdays are reserved for carriage rides. Admission is $10 per car. Tickets for carriage rides are available through MetroTix, and prices vary depending on the size of the carriage.
stlouisco.com/parksandrecreation/thingstodo/winterwonderland

Brewery Lights
Now - January 3, 2016
See the Anheuser Busch Brewery in St. Louis all decked out for the holidays. The brewery is hosting free walking tours, along with free samples of AB products during Brewery Lights. There are also food stations, a s’mores station and a special VIP holiday package. The display is open daily from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Walking tours are not available on Christmas Eve, Christmas or New Year’s Eve. Now through January 3, 2016. brewerylights.com

Garden Glow
Missouri Botanical Gardens
The third annual Garden Glow features a million lights surrounding visitors with a spectacle of unique installations amid some of the Garden’s most iconic locations. Enjoy interactive photo opportunities, traditional holiday music and festivities, delicious food and drinks and more as the Garden is transformed around you into a winter wonderland.

This year’s Garden Glow includes expanded installations, more family photo opps, specially priced Family Nights, and Dine & Glow, a fixed-price menu of comfort foods served in Sassafras until 8 p.m.
missouribotanicalgarden.org/things-to-do/events/signature-events/garden-glow.aspx
View photos of Garden Glow

NYE Live! At Ballpark Village
St. Louis’ newest celebration is NYE Live! at Ballpark Village. Visitors can mingle among the many bars and restaurants in the Village. There will be live music, inclusive drink packages and party favors. The theme for the celebration is Glitter & Glow, a Night in Hollywood. General admission tickets are $85-$95. Diamond access tickets (which include appetizers) are $110-$120.
nye-live.com/st-louis

Talks & Lectures

GRAND ROUNDS LECTURES

Melson Lecture
Following the 23rd Annual G. Leland Melson Memorial Lecture October 21, 2015
Fletcher’s talk titled
Multi-kV and Multi-spectral Imaging: Changing the Future of Body CT
can be viewed by clicking on the title.

Please welcome these NEW MIR EMPLOYEES:

October
Christina Kreuzer
Physician’s Assistant – Interventional Radiology

Hongyu Au
Associate Professor – Biomedical MR Lab

Cihat Eldenia
Postdoc Research Associate – Biomedical MR Lab

November
Tracy Burns-Yocum
Clinical Research Study Asst II – Optical Radiology Lab

December
Yingquiu Guo
Senior Research Technician – Radiological Chemistry Lab