Barry A. Siegel, MD was awarded the Benedict Cassen Prize during the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) in St. Louis, MO. This honor is given every two years by the Education and Research Foundation for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (ERF) to a living scientist or physician/scientist whose work has led to a major advance in basic or clinical nuclear medicine science.

"In receiving the Cassen Prize, he takes his place among the most influential people in nuclear medicine imaging."

Siegel was honored for his sustained contributions to clinical translation of nuclear medicine science and, in particular, his visionary leadership in developing scientific methodology for evidence-based clinical trials that resulted in widespread acceptance of imaging studies using positron emission tomography (PET).

“I am truly honored to have received this award and am gratified that my efforts, in collaboration with so many colleagues at Washington University and other institutions, have helped to achieve broader recognition of the utility of PET in clinical practice,” said Siegel.

“Dr. Siegel has been a pioneer in clinical PET, proving its effectiveness and ensuring adequate reimbursement,” said SNMMI president Gary Dillehay, MD, FACNM, FACP. “In receiving the Cassen Prize, he takes his place among the most influential people in nuclear medicine imaging.”

The Cassen Prize, is considered by many the Nobel Prize of Nuclear Medicine, honors Benedict Cassen, whose invention of the rectilinear radioisotope scanner – the first instrument capable of making an image of radiotracer distribution, in body organs of living patients – was seminal to the development of clinical nuclear medicine.

Siegel is the 13th individual to have been presented this prestigious award by the Education and Research Foundation of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging since 1994.
Marcus E. Raichle, MD
awarded the Kavli Prize in Neuroscience

Marcus E. Raichle, MD is one of three scientists awarded this year’s prestigious Kavli Prize in Neuroscience. The Kavli Prize recognizes researchers for their seminal advances in three categories: neuroscience, astrophysics and nanoscience. This year’s laureates were selected for the discovery of specialized brain networks for memory and cognition, for pioneering the theory of cosmic inflation and for contributions to the field of nano-optics.

“It is an incredibly pleasant surprise and extremely flattering,” Raichle said. “It’s rather nice that with the tremendous increase in neuroscience and recognitions at all different levels at which we work – from cells and genes, all the way up to the human brain – that this years award involved things we can relate to in the human brain.”

“Recognition of this kind of work in particular is very neat. And you feel a sense of gratitude to the people you work with. I’ve been at Washington University for 43 years, and I’ve had the most amazing array of students and colleagues and opportunities and equipment and so forth, and those all play a huge role. I’m lucky to have been here. And to be a representative of that is an honor.”

Raichle and his colleagues have found that brain regions in the default network often are among the first areas affected by Alzheimer’s disease. These changes one day may aid in early diagnosis of Alzheimer’s.

In 1971, he joined Washington University’s Department of Neurology and the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology and became a full professor within seven years. He is a neurologist emeritus at Barnes-Jewish Hospital.
Perhaps the highest honor a faculty member can receive is Teacher of the Year from the residents. This is a Mallinckrodt tradition whereby the residents choose one faculty member as outstanding teacher. This year’s distinction was awarded to Vinnie Mellnick, MD with the Abdominal Imaging Section.

Each resident votes for up to five candidates for teacher of the year and the senior class makes the final choice. These five distinguished teachers and teacher of the year are not revealed until the night of the dinner where all candidates are recognized.

For Mellnick, being awarded Teacher of the Year honors is very humbling, “I can’t say enough how honored I am to have been chosen for the Teacher of the Year award,” says Mellnick. “As someone who trained at MIR, I’ve always been impressed with the educators who make the residency program here among the world’s best.”

Customarily, a graduating resident introduces the teacher of the year and presents a slide show as an introduction. David Slat, MD, introduced Mellnick with opening remarks and a slide show chronicling his life. “The list of past winners of this award is full of people whom I consider to be role models for academic radiology. To be mentioned among that group is both exciting and incredibly humbling, says Mellnick.” In addition to being part of the Abdominal Imaging faculty, Mellnick is co-director of both body CT and the BJC radiology emergency department.
June 14, The Peabody Opera House was the setting for the 2014 MIR Radiology End-of-the-Year Dinner. Residents and fellows received their certificates of completion in the residency and fellowship programs at Washington University School of Medicine at Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology.

Dr. Jost, along with program directors from each division, presented fellow and resident certificates as they were recognized individually. Special awards this year went to Ephraim Parent, MD, who received the Roentgen Resident Research award presented by Jon McConathy, MD, PhD. Parent is a rising fourth year resident and will graduate in June 2015. Fellow of the Year honors, presented by Ben Northrup, MD, went to Jeremiah Long, MD, from the Musculoskeletal section (MSK) and will remain with MIR as a faculty member beginning July 1.

To see more photos from the dinner [click here](#).
The Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) annual meeting was held in St. Louis June 7-11, while celebrating the society’s 60th year. This meeting has been recognized by thousands of professional attendees as the premier educational and networking event in molecular imaging and nuclear medicine. Washington University faculty, students and staff were well represented in a broad range of scientific categories and continuing education sessions. Some of the recent work highlighted from MIR included development of new radiopharmaceuticals for oncology, neurology and cardiology as well as clinical research studies with PET/CT, SPECT/CT and our new PET/MRI system. The SNMMI also presented the opportunity to feature the installation of the new TR-19 cyclotron and the GMP production facility. Tours brought interested meeting attendees to visit the MIR Cyclotron Facility.

Additionally, MIR’s Sally Schwarz, Associate Professor of Radiology and Co-Director of the Cyclotron Facility, became the SNMMI VP Elect. She will become the SNMMI President in 2016 and will be the first pharmacist to achieve this honor.
The CYCLOTRON

The TR19 is a dual particle (proton and deuterion) cyclotron manufactured by Advance Cyclotron Systems, located in Vancouver, Canada. This new machine will support ongoing and future research growth in the development and use of new imaging agents for Positron Emission Tomography (PET imaging) at Washington University. The combination of features within the TR19 is optimal for supporting the diverse number of PET radionuclides and radiopharmaceuticals needed to support pre-clinical and clinical research in oncology, neurology, cardiology and basic science. The TR19, which is the only machine suitable to produce a broad spectrum of positron-emitting isotopes, including Cu-64, Zr-89 and Y-86, and is ideal for increasing the production of “standard” radionuclides, such as C-11, F-18, and O-15, required for our clinical imaging studies.

The TR19 was recently installed in the East Building in the Department of Radiology.

The TR19 will fulfill the departments long-term objective to increase its ability to support ongoing and future research growth at Washington University by providing a more reliable and flexible platform that will more than double the radioisotope production capacity of our cyclotron facility. This machine will ensure that Washington University maintains our position as a leader in research in PET imaging.

Greg Gaehle, Co-Director, Cyclotron Facility
Jerry Wallis, MD, associate professor of radiology, division of Nuclear Medicine, started working with stained glass in 1985, and became interested in glassblowing in 2006. He took four semesters of glassblowing (through WU University College) at Third Degree Glass Factory on Delmar near the WU Medical Center. Since that time, he has been renting studio time there, and enjoying glassblowing.

“Glassblowing is a time when I can focus on an entirely different aspect of my life,” says Wallis. “When you are working with 2,000 degree glass, you are thinking of only the project at hand.”

Blowing glass is usually done with two people, one primarily working the glass, and the other assisting. The two trade off roles during the course of a three to four hour sessions, typically making three to six pieces over the course of a morning. The hot glass furnaces make winter the best time to blow glass; during the summer it is best to enjoy another hobby.

Wallis earned his undergraduate degree at Yale, and his medical degree and masters in computer science at Stanford. He trained in internal medicine and nuclear medicine at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Since 1986, he has practiced nuclear medicine as part of the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.
2014-2015 Chief Residents

DANIEL HOLT, MD
SARAH CONNOLLY, MD
MARK HAMMER, MD
JING QI, MD

Introductions

Please WELCOME these NEW MIR EMPLOYEES:

March
DAVID JOHN, Network Engineer II
ERL
XUYI YUE, Visiting Researcher
Radiological Chemistry Lab

April
ALICIA BARCH, SharePoint Developer
MIR IT services
MARY KONROY
Marketing/Social Media Coordinator
MIR Administration

June
JEREMY UNDERWOOD
Financial Accounting Assistant
Billing & Patient Accts.
DENISE GARCIA Secretary III
Abdominal Imaging
This past spring, approximately 200 attendees turned out for the MIR poster session in the Farrell Learning and Teaching Center with 70 posters, representing a vast array of research taking place in the clinical and research areas of MIR. The focus was on research performed by junior faculty, post docs and graduate students, although the work of senior researchers was also displayed. Planning for next year’s poster session has already begun for March 2015.
**What’s Coming Up**

**FAIR ST. LOUIS MOVES TO FOREST PARK**

Independence Day and STL250 converge on Forest Park for America’s Biggest Birthday Party. Since 1981, the Fair Saint Louis Foundation (formerly the Veiled Prophet Fair Foundation) - in partnership with the City of St. Louis and the National Park Service - has hosted a spectacular celebration featuring live music, educational activities, air shows and spectacular fireworks over the Fourth of July weekend. This year the festivities will be in Forest Park. For more information on concerts, air shows, parades and parking, see the website [www.fairsaintlouis.org](http://www.fairsaintlouis.org).

**CELEBRATE IN WEBSTER GROVES**

Webster Groves Community Days is an annual event to celebrate the Fourth of July holiday. The Citizen’s Committee for Community Days organizes all of the activities for the event. The Webster Groves Lions Club also holds its annual carnival and barbecue charity fundraiser during the celebration. All activities (aside from the carnival and barbecue) are free and are funded through donations from businesses, organizations, and the citizens of Webster Groves. The 2014 Community Days celebration will run for four days from Wednesday, July 2 through Saturday, July 5 at Memorial Park (located just south of I-44 at the intersection of Elm and Glendale Avenues). For more information check out the website [http://www.webstergroves.org/index.aspx?nid=194](http://www.webstergroves.org/index.aspx?nid=194).

**GRANT’S FARM… FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!**

Grant’s Farm has been a St. Louis tradition for more than five decades. The 281-acre ancestral home of the Busch family, located just south of the city of St. Louis, is home to more than 900 animals representing more than 100 different species. More than 24 million guests have visited this popular family attraction since it was opened it to the public in 1954. Entrance to Grant’s Farm is free, however there is a fee for parking. Check out the website for further information on summer hours. [http://anheuser-busch.com/index.php/our-heritage/grants-farm/](http://anheuser-busch.com/index.php/our-heritage/grants-farm/).

**WHITAKER MUSIC FESTIVAL AT MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN**

Held every summer on Wednesday evening from June through early August. The free concerts are held at the Cohen Amphitheater inside the Missouri Botanical Garden. The music starts at 7:30 p.m., but you can arrive early. Admission to the Garden is free on Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Visit [www.missouribotanicalgarden.org](http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org) for more information.

**Talks & Lectures**

**GRAND ROUNDS LECTURES PRESENTED IN SCARPELLINO AUDITORIUM**

**MARCH 11, 2014**

“Shoulder MR – Arthroscopy Correlation”
Presented by William E. Palmer, M.D.
Director, Musculoskeletal Imaging
Massachusetts General Hospital

**MARCH 26, 2014**

Daniel R. Biello Lecture
“Molecular Imaging of Prostate Cancer: Beyond the Bone Scan”
Presented by David M. Schuster, MD
Associate Professor of Radiology,
Director, Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging
Emory University Hospital

**APRIL 9, 2014**

“Lower Gastrointestinal Hemorrhage: Updated Algorithms for Scintigraphy, CTA & Angiography”
Presented by J. Fritz Angle, MD
Professor of Radiology
University of Virginia

**APRIL 28, 2014**

Senturia Lecture
“Digital Breast Tomosynthesis: A New Era in Breast Cancer Diagnosis”
Presented by, Steven Poplack, MD
Associate Professor Radiology and OB/GYN
Geisel School of Medicine
Director, Breast Imaging
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

**JUNE 10, 2014**

“Sonography in the Management of Neonatal Necrotizing Enterocolitis”
Presented by Alan Daneman, B.Sc., MBB.Ch.
Staff Radiologist
Department of Diagnostic Imaging
The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids)
Professor of Radiology, Medical Imaging
University of Toronto