Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology and Barnes Jewish Hospital are proud to announce that four new SPECT/CT cameras will be added to the Nuclear Medicine fleet. The first unit has already been installed in the North campus, CAM2 facility; the second unit is in use imaging patients at St. Louis Children’s Hospital. The remaining two SPECT/CT units will be installed in the South campus, 9 West Pavilion facility, and will be ready for imaging in November 2015.

This newer technology will allow for better quality images and better anatomical localization of scan findings across a wide range of nuclear medicine examinations, including parathyroid imaging, bone imaging, lymphoscintigraphy, tumor imaging with several radiopharmaceuticals, and myocardial perfusion imaging. The addition of these four SPECT/CT cameras will reduce wait times for patients requiring SPECT/CT exams, increase scheduling accessibility, and provide patients with advanced imaging procedures campus-wide.
The 3T scanner in the East Building is in the process of a major upgrade. The TIM Trio has been stripped of its gradients, RF, computers and plastic leaving just the 3T magnet. Over the course of a month, that magnet will undergo the PrismaFit upgrade. When completed, the new system will be the commercial product that resulted from the development of the Human Connectome Project prototype scanner that Siemens built for Washington University. The new scanner will have 80 mT/m gradients that are almost twice as strong as the Trio, enabling superior diffusion white matter tracking. The RF allows for modern parallel acquisition strategies such as multiband, simultaneous multislice imaging. There is parallel transmission of RF that allows for inner volume imaging (imaging a field of view smaller than the object without aliasing) and homogeneous image intensity for body MRI, which is typically a challenge at 3T. This new imaging platform should serve imaging investigators well for close to a decade.
“There are a multitude of social, health, and educational needs in the greater St. Louis area which are not fully addressed by the public sector. The United Way, an organization that supports hundreds of smaller community service groups, is instrumental in addressing many of these needs. We in Radiology are fortunate to have society continue to recognize our medical, educational and scientific contributions as valuable. However, with this recognition comes the opportunity and responsibility to be generous with those in need. Please give serious consideration to making a contribution to United Way. The MIR family can make a real difference to the greater St. Louis community through our donations to the United Way.”

~ Richard Wahl, M.D.

United Way sponsored programs impact 1 in 3 people in the Greater St. Louis area, including many members of our own Washington University community.

Everyone is encouraged to participate and no amount is too small.

Please give today by logging into HRMS and selecting “United Way Pledges” under Employee Self Service. If you have given in the past, please remember to renew your pledge and keep helping.

All who donate will be eligible to win prizes, plus enter to win a 2016 Ford Focus at www.UnitedWayWatchEnterWin.org

For more information on MIR’s campaign please contact Diane Rau at rau@mir.wustl.edu or (314) 362-6153
Children’s Specialty Care Center

St. Louis Children’s Hospital opened a full service outpatient pediatric facility, the Specialty Care Center, at Mason Road and I-40. The new facility offers a wide range of pediatric medical and surgical services across numerous specialties. Pediatric radiologists from MIR staff the Imaging Center at CSCC every day of the week. Pediatric imaging services include X-ray, fluoroscopy, ultrasound, and MRI. The facility houses state-of-the-art equipment, including a GE sonography unit with US elastography and a 1.5 Tesla Siemens Aera MRI scanner. Patients can be scheduled for same-day services for most modalities.

Congratulations **Sue Day**!

Every year, the School of Medicine presents a rocking chair to the retiree with the most years of service. This summer our own Sue Day was honored for 48 years of service and presented with the rocking chair at the annual length of service ceremony. “Sue approached every day with a fresh outlook of compassion, integrity and professionalism,” says Sanjeev Bhalla MD, chief, cardiothoracic imaging. “She was a role model in our section.” Sue began her career in the abdominal imaging section as a secretary III where she spent most of her time at MIR. She went part-time and transferred to cardiothoracic imaging in 2010 to assist the section until her retirement earlier this year.

“Sue approached every day with a fresh outlook of compassion, integrity and professionalism.”

— Sanjeev Bhalla MD
Are you dense?

Find out about dense breasts and their significance to women in our new blog on the MIR website homepage. Our first entry features MIR radiologist, Dr. Steven Poplack. Check it out at:

mir.wustl.edu/focus-on-health/post/5938/are-you-dense-dense-breasts-explained

Reminder...

Dial Plan Changes scheduled for this fall.

Planning is underway to implement Direct Inward Dial (DID) throughout the Washington University campus. With this plan, everyone will be required to use the full seven digit number when calling within the university and medical school campus. For example, to call security, it was 2-HELP; the planned change will require the full seven digit number to be dialed, 314-362-4357. When making calls outside of the medical school campus you will not be required to dial 9 first. You can direct dial using the area code and seven digit phone number. All emergencies will remain 911 no area code is required. Organizers anticipate these changes will be completed on the medical center campus later this fall.
Employee Appreciation Picnic

Friday, September 18, 2015
11:00 am—2:00 pm
Hudlin Park

WUSM employees only
No family members please
Sponsored by the Dean’s Office and Medical School Management Council

Washington University in St. Louis
School of Medicine
Washington University School of Medicine and Barnes-Jewish Hospital have initiated planning for the second phase of the off-campus ambulatory expansion in South St. Louis County (South County Phase II). A new building is under construction adjacent to the South County Siteman Cancer Center which opened in January 2013, at I-55 and Butler Hill Rd.

This 83,000 square foot outpatient facility will be jointly owned by BJH/WUSM and will include outpatient surgery, imaging, lab, therapy and Washington University physician subspecialty offices. Imaging services will include plain film, CT, MRI, PET/CT (mobile pad), and mammography.

Plans for completion of this facility are scheduled for April, 2016, and will not only increase access for patients from South County, southern Illinois and the surrounding areas, but in doing so will also alleviate outpatient capacity constraints on the main campus.
What’s Coming Up

First Fridays at the Science Center
Come join the fun at the St. Louis Science Center on Friday nights,
October 2 & November 6. On the first Friday night of each month there is a free Star Party at the Planetarium. Members of the St. Louis Astronomical Society set up telescopes for public viewing and are available to answer questions. For more information see the St. Louis Science Center website: slsc.org/first-fridays

It’s Apple Picking Time
Fun for the whole family at Eckert’s Orchards in Belleville IL. Apple Fest is held every weekend in September 10 am - 5 pm. Admission is free, but there is a fee for some festival activities. Visit the website: eckerts.com/events-calendar/

The Great Forest Park Balloon Glow and Race
Balloon Glow: Friday September 18, 7-9 PM.
Dozens of pilots will inflate their balloons (but not take off) on Central Field near the Jewel Box. As it starts to get dark, the glow from the balloons creates a surreal and beautiful site. Throw in the sound of the balloons’ burners, plus great food and drink, and you’ve got a full feast for the senses. Visitors can also meet the pilots and learn more about what it takes to race a hot air balloon. The Balloon Glow ends with a fireworks display at 9:15 p.m.

Balloon Race: Saturday September 19, 4:30 PM.
The main event is a classic “hounds and hare” balloon race, with the Energizer Bunny Balloon as the perfect “hare.” At 4:30 p.m., the Bunny launches from Central Field and gets a short head start, before being chased by the other 70 balloons. Their goal is to follow the Bunny’s route, and, after the Bunny Balloon lands, drop a bag of birdseed as close to its landing site as possible. The one who comes closest to the Bunny wins the race. greatforestparkballoonrace.com/

HOP in the City Beer Festival
September 19, 2015 Schafly St. Louis Tap Room, is having a party for beer lovers. Get unlimited samples of more than 40 Schafly brews, plus food and live music from noon to 5p.m., Visit the Tap Room website for more information on acquiring tickets. schlafly.com/events/calendar/2015/09/19/hop/

St. Charles Oktoberfest
St. Charles hosts its annual Oktoberfest celebration in late September. The three day festival is filled with activities for visitors of all ages. There’s German music, beer and food, plus a parade, kids area and car show. Admission is free. September 25-27, 2015 saintcharlesoktoberfest.com/

 Talks & Lectures

GRAND ROUNDS LECTURES
Scarpellino Auditorium 2015-2016 Schedule*

October 14, 2015 Wendell G. Scott Lecture
October 21, 2015 G. Leland Melson Lecture

November 11, 2015
January 13, 2016
February 10, 2016
March 2, 2016
April 13, 2016
May 11, 2016
June 7, 2016

*This is a tentative schedule; some dates may change.

Please welcome these NEW MIR EMPLOYEES:

July
Christina Kreuzer
Physician’s Assistant – Interventional Radiology

John Crandall
Clinical Research Coordinator II

Andrew (AJ) Gunn
Assistant Professor – Interventional Radiology

Eric Eutsler
Instructor – Pediatric Radiology

August
Raja Ramaswamy
Assistant Professor – Interventional Radiology

Angelique Schneider
IBC III – Billing & Patient Accounts

Xia Ge
Staff Scientist – Biomedical MR Lab