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Robert J. Gropler, MD, and Sheng-Kwei (Victor) Song, PhD, were among 38 researchers nationwide honored with the 2016 Distinguished Investigator Award from the Academy of Radiology Research (ARR).

The Distinguished Investigator Award acknowledges and celebrates high levels of achievement in the field of academic imaging research. It especially encourages those who have achieved scientific excellence while still being involved in clinical care, but is not limited to clinician scientists only.

Gropler, professor of radiology, is a member of MIR’s Division of Nuclear Medicine. He has clinical interests in nuclear medicine, cardiovascular imaging, coronary artery disease, and PET imaging. He also serves as chief of MIR’s Division of Radiological Sciences.

Song, professor of radiology, is a member of MIR’s Biomedical Magnetic Resonance Laboratory. His primary research interest is the development of diffusion MRI-derived biomarker of white matter injury and function.

The ARR was created in 1995 to raise awareness of the value of imaging research and its impact on patient care.

Congratulations to Vinnie Mellnick, MD, and Sanjeev Bhalla, MD, on receiving the RSNA 2016 Honored Educator Award. Established in 2011, the RSNA Honored Educator Award recognizes RSNA members who have produced an array of educational resources the past calendar year.

This annual award is given to individuals invested in furthering the profession of radiology by delivering high-quality educational content in their field of study.
Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, along with Merit Medical Systems, co-hosted two health lectures about uterine fibroid embolization (UFE) at the Brentwood Community Center this past summer. Darryl Zuckerman, MD, and Gretchen Foltz, MD, delivered the lectures. The two physicians fielded questions after the lecture, as did a patient who underwent the procedure.

Uterine fibroids are non-cancerous tumors found in the uterus that can cause pain, cramping and prolonged periods. They can be debilitating.

A UFE is a non-surgical treatment for fibroids. It’s also an alternative to a hysterectomy for treating fibroids. In the UFE procedure, an interventional radiologist uses a catheter to inject tiny pellets called microspheres into the arteries that feed the fibroid. This blocks the fibroid’s blood supply or food source, making the fibroid shrink over time and symptoms diminish. After the procedure, the patient spends the night at the hospital and goes home the next day.

MIR radiologists helped develop the procedure and are among the most experienced in it locally.

2016-17 Nuclear Medicine Chief Resident

Congratulations to MIR professor of radiology Sally J. Schwarz, MD, RPh, who has been named the new president of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging.

She is the first pharmacist and only the fourth woman out of 60 presidents to hold the title.
In June, the MIR Optical Radiology Lab held its annual Imaging Sciences Pathway Retreat (ISP) at the St. Louis Union Station Doubletree Hotel. Richard Wahl, MD, Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology Chairman, gave opening remarks followed by keynote speakers Anna M. Wu, PhD, Professor of Molecular and Medical Pharmacology, Director, JCCC Cancer Molecular Imaging, UCLA, and David W. Piston, PhD, Professor, Edward Mallinckrodt Jr. Foundation, Department Head, Cell Biology and Physiology, WUSM. Following the keynote speakers, PhD candidates presented research findings followed by a poster presentation.

Click here to see more photos from this event.
Washington University
Employee Picnic

Washington University School of Medicine held the Employee Appreciation Picnic September 30. Approximately 9,000 Wash U employees – including many MIR staffers and faculty – made their way through the food lines, listened to music, played games and enjoyed Ted Drewes’ frozen treats. The picnic is held annually on the south side of the medical campus in Hudlin Park.
MIR Diversity & Inclusion 2.0 Training Sessions

Chancellor Wrighton indicated in June of 2015 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.

To further Washington University’s efforts to enhance and understand diversity, human resources has expanded diversity and inclusion training. As a reminder, the Department of Radiology supports and highly encourages you to attend this important initiative. We have tried to make it easy by providing opportunities for you to attend the series of training sessions.

*1.0 Awareness (Jan-Feb 2016)  *2.0 Understanding (October 2016)
*3.0 Commitment  (TBD) *4.0 Action (TBD)

For those of you who were not able to attend one of our last group sessions and still need to take Diversity 1.0, please sign up in HRMS. Please attend the 1.0 session prior to attending 2.0. Thank you.

Diversity and Inclusion 2.0 training sessions for Radiology are all set up. You will need to sign up via HRMS!

Instructions for signing up for Radiology’s Diversity and Inclusion 2.0

1. Log onto HRMS at https://wuissrv20.wustl.edu/psp/HRMS/?cmd=login, using your WUSTL Key ID and Passcode
2. On the Main Menu select Employee Self Service
3. Select Training and Development
4. Under Training and Development click on Training Request
5. Next Select Human Resources Enrollment
6. Click “View Available Sessions” next to your course number (Course Number – MSDI2R)
7. Select your preferred Session Number
8. Click Continue
9. Click Submit…and you’re registered!!

<table>
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Throughout the year, MIR chief residents organize social events for residents and fellows to encourage an open and friendly work environment. Since many of them move to the area without friends or family, this gives them a chance to get to know each other and the St. Louis region. One of the more popular events is the annual Cardinal baseball game that residents, fellows, faculty and their families attend at Busch Stadium. This year’s event was on September 26 between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Cincinnati Reds. Even though the Cardinals didn’t fare so well in the game, everyone seemed to have a good time.
Length of Service Award

Ken Clark, BS, MS, MBA, was honored in July 2016 for 46 years of service at Washington University School of Medicine’s annual Length-of-Service Awards ceremony. Clark, who was an IT project manager in Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology’s Electronic Radiology Laboratory, retired in January 2016.

Clark joined Washington University in 1970, hired by Jerry Cox, founder and head of the university’s renowned Biomedical Computer Laboratory. Fresh from a stint with the U.S. Navy, Clark’s first projects had to do with using computers to interpret the electrocardiogram, a problem that hadn’t been solved at that point in time, but he went on to become involved in a wide variety of medical computer projects that resulted in a large number of scientific publications, says R. Gilbert Jost, MD, professor of radiology and former director of MIR. In addition to a master's degree in mathematics, Clark obtained an MBA from Washington University in 1972 that prepared him to serve as the business manager for the laboratory for a period of time.

After 27 years at the Biomedical Computer Laboratory, in 1997, Jost hired Clark to join Mallinckrodt’s Electronic Radiology Laboratory. At that time, the group was setting out to provide leadership in transforming the field of radiology from a film-based specialty to one that was digitally based.

“Ken was a wonderful addition to the team,” says Jost. “His technical and scientific skills, which were significant, were highly relevant to the problems at hand, but particularly noteworthy was his ability to get along with everyone. He was always cheerful, friendly, upbeat and enthusiastic. He was a leader, but also a great team player.”

In Memory

Retired Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology photographer Thomas Murry died August 8, 2016, in his hometown of Crystal City MO. He was 69. A U.S. Air Force veteran, Murry joined MIR as a medical photographer in 1974 after serving in Thailand during the Vietnam War. He continued in that role until his retirement in 2007.

“I was always very fond of Tom,” says Harvey Glazer, MD, professor of radiology. “I have pleasant memories, starting from the time I was a resident and Tom would make slides for me. He was a great help to a ‘rookie’ and I always enjoyed talking to him.”
Monica Shokeen, PhD, MBA, assistant professor in radiology of MIR’s Optical Radiology Laboratory (ORL) was celebrated as one of the Rock Docs at the eleventh annual CUREiosity party held downtown at the Four Seasons Hotel on September 30, 2016. One of the most unique events in St. Louis, CUREiosity celebrates the “Rock Docs” making a difference at the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center as well as the cutting-edge “Rock Star Research” being conducted at the institution.

After receiving her MBA in international business in India, Shokeen received her PhD and completed her postdoctoral fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis. Her research is focused on small molecule and macromolecular agents for imaging and targeted drug delivery for cancer and cardiovascular diseases. Shokeen is leading the development of novel contrast agents that detects multiple myeloma with high accuracy. This work will allow doctors to monitor how patients are responding to treatment and target specific treatments to appropriate patients.

Upcoming MIR Event

WHAT: Optical Radiology Lab (ORL) OPEN HOUSE
WHEN: Tuesday, November 22, 2016, 3-5 PM
WHERE: 2nd floor of the McKinley building

The Optical Radiology Lab (ORL) is hosting an open house Tuesday, November 22, 2016, 3-5 pm, on the 2nd floor of the McKinley building. Rob Gropler, MD, and Rich Wahl, MD, will give opening remarks, followed by a few words from ORL Director Samuel Achilefu, PhD, FRSC. Following these remarks there will be a student and postdoctoral poster session representing projects and unique resources the ORL offers.

Refreshments will be served, all are welcome.
Full-throttle. Pedal to the metal.
For any 3-year-old, life can be a blur.
This is more true for Charlie than for other children.
But from his perspective, he’s just like any other kid his age.

Take a peek at Charlie’s story and see how United Way is helping
transform his perception into reality. HelpingPeople.org

1 in 3 people in the St. Louis area are helped by United Way
or one of their 170 partner nonprofit agencies every year.

Click here to log in to HRMS today to conveniently donate via payroll deduction.

Thank you for helping Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology
and Washington University in St. Louis in our effort to aid the United Way of Greater St. Louis.
What’s Coming Up

St. Louis Renaissance Faire
Take a Trip Back in Time for Medieval Fun in Rotary Park
Step back in time and enjoy the fun of the St. Louis Renaissance Faire. The annual event draws crowds from around the St. Louis area. Highlights include live jousting demonstrations, sword fighting, a fairy forest and a re-created 16th century French village.
Weekends through October 16, 2016
http://stlouis.about.com/od/eventsfestivals/p/St-Louis-Renaissance-Faire.htm

Apple Butter Festival
The Apple Butter Festival is Kimmswick Missouri’s largest celebration of the year. More than 100,000 visitors fill Market Street and the city park to sample apple butter and dozens of other foods. Hundreds of craft vendors sell their goods at booths around town. The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
October 29-30, 2016 in Kimmswick, MO
http://gokimmswick.com/apple-butter-festival-kimmswick/

The Great Godfrey Maze
The Great Godfrey Maze continues to welcome visitors this month. The seven-acre corn maze is a fall tradition at Glazebrook Park. Go during the day or bring a flashlight for the haunted maze at night. Admission is $6 for adults and $4 for children.
Weekends through October 30, 2016 in Godfrey, IL

Oktoberfest Celebrations
For wine lovers, Hermann’s the place to be during Oktoberfest. The small town comes alive each weekend in October, welcoming thousands of visitors to Stone Hill and its other wineries. You can get there by car, Amtrak or bike via the Katy Trail.
October 2016 in Hermann, MO
http://stlouis.about.com/od/topattractions/tp/Oktoberfest.htm

Please welcome these NEW MIR EMPLOYEES:

July
Jasmine Park, Research Tech 2, Optical Radiology Lab
Kristy Bingaman, Program Coordinator, Neuro Imaging Lab

August
Donna Dierker, Sr. Programmer Analyst, Neuro Imaging Lab
Amy Evans, Clinical Research Coordinator 2, Cardiovascular Imaging Lab
Alyssa Gonzales, Clinical Research Study Assistant 2, Neuro Imaging Lab
Christopher Ebersole, Clinical Fellow, Breast Imaging

September
Pavan Kavali, Instructor, Interventional Radiology
Masoud Edalati Ahmadsaraei, Postdoc Research Associate, Cardiovascular Imaging Lab
Jeremy Underwood, Analyst Fin/Project Mgt, Billing & Patient Accounts
Partha Karmakar, Postdoc Research Associate, Optical Radiology Lab
Lindsey Riedy, Certified Coder, Billing & Patient Accounts
Jennifer Nicholas, Assistant Professor, Pediatric Radiology
Angie Hester, Clinical Nurse Coordinator, Interventional Radiology
Zhepeng Wang, Staff Scientist, Optical Radiology Lab
Jason Flowers, Financial Accounting Assistant, Billing & Patient Assistant

October
Kostiantyn Ziabrev, PhD – Postdoc Research Associate, Optical Radiology Lab

Wavelength
Wavelength is published bimonthly by the Visual Media Center for employees of Mallinckrodt Institute. Contributions are encouraged: e-mail Mickey Wynn: wynnm@mir.wustl.edu; or call (314) 747-0622
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