Dr. Bruce Haffty Named President-Elect of the American Board of Radiology

Bruce G. Haffty, MD, Chairman of the Department of Radiation Oncology, UMDNJ-RWJMS and Associate Director of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey has been named President-Elect of the American Board of Radiology (ABR). Dr. Haffty is internationally recognized for his clinical expertise in breast cancer and his clinical and translational research in radiation oncology. He is author of over 200 articles, editorials, and reviews, has edited and authored numerous books and book chapters, and is a member of the editorial board of several medical journals. Dr. Haffty is currently Associate Editor of the Journal of Clinical Oncology, and serves on key committees of ASTRO, ASCO, RSNA, ACR, and ARS. He is currently Chairman of the ACGME Residency Review Committee in Radiation Oncology and serves on the Executive Committees of the American College of Surgeons’ Commission on Cancer, the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers, and the American Radium Society. Beginning in May of this year he will also begin a one-year term as President of the American Radium Society.

The American Board of

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Clinic Update

**RWJUH purchases PET/CT Used in Rad Onc Simulations**

One of the latest tools in the battle against cancer is the fusion of Positron Emission Tomography (PET) and Computerized Tomography (CT) forming a PET/CT. The Department of Radiology at RWJUH has just acquired a Siemens Biograph 40 slice PET/CT scanner capable in all areas of scanning. The PET component features a special crystal known as Lutetium Oxyorthosilicate (LSO) scintillator crystal technology. With the fastest scintillation decay time and the highest density available, LSO crystals offer the best combination of properties of any PET scintillator known today. This provides the highest and fastest detail in diagnosing patients. This unit is being utilized in simulation for our Radiation Oncology patients.
Residents have their yearly in-service training exam administered by the ACR on Thursday, March 6, 2008 in CINJ Auditorium A.

The deadline for abstract submission to ASTRO is March 17, 2008.

Residents will switch rotations on March 31, 2008.

The team format will be as follows:
- Team A - Drs. Haffty & Gabel, Dorothy Pierce, Matt Poppe
- Team B - Drs. Khan & Cohler, Jayne Camporeale, Brett Lewis
- Team C - Dr. Jabbour & Sabin Motwani
- Dr. Kim & Parima Daroui
- Elective – Sharad Goyal


Brett Lewis will present a poster entitled "Dosimetric Comparison of Electronic Compensation (EC) and Inversely- Planned IMRT (IPIMRT) for the Intact Breast after Breast Conserving Surgery" at the Radium Society being held in Laguna Niguel, CA between May 3 - 7, 2008.

Sharad Goyal submitted an article entitled "Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy for Orbital Lymphoma" to the International Journal of Radiation Oncology * Biology * Physics (IJROBP). He has submitted a trial entitled "Feasibility of 3-D Conformal Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation (APBI) for Early Stage, Node Negative Breast Cancer Patients using Acculoc Fiducial Markers: A Phase I Trial" to the IRB.

**Haffty named President-Elect of ABR (continued from page 1)**

Radiology is one of 24 Specialties, charged with oversight of Certification and Maintenance of Certification for medical specialties throughout the United States. The ABR oversees the primary certification process and maintenance of certification process in 3 disciplines, and is one of the larger medical specialty boards with over 30,000 active diplomates in Diagnostic Radiology, Radiation Oncology and Radiological Physics.

Dr. Haffty was certified in Radiation Oncology by the ABR in 1988 after completing medical school, internship in internal medicine, and residency in radiation oncology at Yale University. Since that time he has served the ABR in several volunteer capacities as an exam item writer and oral board examiner. He was elected to the Board of Trustees of the ABR in 2005, and has served as Assistant Executive Director of the ABR in charge of the primary certification exam in Radiation Oncology, Vice Chair of the Maintenance of Certification Committee and Chair of the Breast Category Examination in Radiation Oncology.

The current President of the ABR, Dr. Philip Alderson, will complete his term in June, 2008. Dr. Alderson is transitioning from his position as Chair of Radiology at Columbia to become Dean of the School of Medicine at St. Louis University. In June, the current President-Elect of the ABR, N Reed Dunnick M.D., Chairman of the Department of Radiology at University of Michigan will assume his two year term as president and Dr. Haffty will serve a two year term as President-Elect, followed by a two year term as President of the American Board of Radiology.

**New Recruits**

The Department of Radiation Oncology welcomes Hong Cai, Research Teaching Specialist IV, to Dr. Bing Xia's lab. Dr. Cai joins us from the Newark campus where she has been working as an RTSV during the past year. Prior to joining UMDNJ-Newark, she completed a 2.5-year postdoctoral training at the Siegfried and Janet Weis Center for Research in Pennsylvania. She brings her considerable experience in molecular biology, biochemistry and mouse model to our department, and will work on the functional analysis of breast cancer tumor suppressor BRCA2 in Dr. Bing Xia's lab.

**Radiation Oncology At Large**

**Presentations:**
- Satish Jaywant, PhD
  International Conference on Novel Techniques in Clinical Oncology and Radiation Physics, Guest Lecturer: “Image Guided Radiotherapy used with Stereotactic Radiotherapy”, Vellore, India, February 9, 2008

**Leadership:**
- Ning J. Yue, PhD:
  Elected President of New Jersey Chapter of American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM)

**Applications:**
- Zhiyuan Shen, MD, PhD, PI, Filamin-A as a Novel Cancer Prognostic Marker and Therapeutic Target, NIH, Total $1,950,000.

**Applications:**
- Bruce Haffty, MD
  The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Medical Oncology Fellows:
  Partial Breast Irradiation
  New Brunswick, NJ February 22, 2008
Meet the players

Ning J. Yue, Ph.D.
Professor and Vice Chairman
Chief, Division of Radiation Physics
Department of Radiation Oncology, UMDNJ—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and CINJ and RWJUH

As an oncology patient at CINJ or RWJUH for whom radiation therapy is prescribed, treatment is coordinated by a team of professionals. In the department of Radiation Oncology at UMDNJ-RWJMS/CINJ and RWJUH, the team is comprised of a radiation oncologist, a resident, an advance practice nurse, a radiation therapist, a dosimetrist, a nurse and a physicist.

You may not expect a physicist to be part of the medical team delivering care, but, “Radiation is not like general medicine,” according to Dr. Ning J. Yue, Chief of the Division of Physics in the department of Radiation Oncology at UMDNJ-RWJMS/CINJ and RWJUH. “Physicists initiate new treatment programs involving radiation. Their roles include implementation and development of new technologies in clinical radiation treatment and various technical procedures. They ensure that the amount of radiation is accurately and precisely delivered to the tumor and to spare healthy tissue,” which is accomplished through careful calibration and constant appraisal of the technology used to deliver radiation to ensure operation within specific technical parameters.

Applied physics (the type of physics involved in radiation therapy) is pure physics, or the science of matter and its motion as well as space and time, but with a twist. With applied physics, the scientist thinks of ways to apply the discoveries of pure physics to life. According to Dr. Yue, successful applied physics as a medical physicist in cancer treatment requires teamwork, persistence, consistency and excellent interpersonal skills.

A medical physicist at an academic institution has three roles: clinical, education and research. Physicists in the department of Radiation Oncology are responsible for treatment delivery and ensure that radiation is delivered in accordance with the prescribed treatment plan. They participate in the teaching of residents through both didactic lectures and practical application of physics. Each physicist in the department is committed to research and is actively collaborating with industry to develop, test and implement new technologies to ultimately improve radiation treatment delivery.

Dr. Yue and his team of physicists, Satish Jaywant, PhD and Venkat Narra, PhD, have overseen the implementation and technical management of a growing number of radiation therapy options available to patients in need of radiation treatment. Within the past two years these options have grown to include HDR brachytherapy, TomoTherapy and Linac based image guided radiotherapy.

Dr. Yue is also actively working to develop an accredited training program for future medical physicists. There are few training programs for medical physicists in the United States, and far fewer are accredited. Dr. Yue’s goal is to create a Medical Physicist training program within the department of Radiation Oncology at UMDNJ-RWJUH/CINJ and RWJUH that is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Program, Inc. (CAMPEP).

Dr. Yue’s own path to medical physics was all about being in the right place at the right time. Twenty-five years ago in China, physics was the hottest field. It was an attractive discipline because there were many opportunities for individuals to make big contributions to society, and it was an obvious career choice for Dr. Yue. He came to the US to complete his PhD at the University of Pennsylvania in the early 1990’s. But with the end of the cold war, positions in pure physics were scarce.

Dr. Yue had a young family to support and so decided to expand his job search to include computer science. He applied for a computer scientist position that was posted by Dr. Suntha, Chief Physicist in Radiation Oncology at TJU. Dr. Suntha noted Dr. Yue’s degree and experience in physics and asked if he was really interested in computer science or would he consider medical physics.

As a pure physicist, Dr. Yue had no idea what medical physics was—he didn't even know the field existed. Dr. Suntha gave Dr. Yue a medical physics journal, asked him to take it home and read it, and to call in the morning with a decision. Dr. Yue took the journal home, opened it and immediately realized that he had no idea what they were talking about. But he knew that his goal was to be in academics and so without any understanding of medical physics he called Dr. Suntha the next morning to tell him that he would take the job as a medical physicist!

And he has not looked back since. Dr. Yue was recently elected President of the New Jersey Chapter of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM). It seems that he finally knows what medical physics is all about.
THE DEPARTMENT OF RADIATION ONCOLOGY AT UMDNJ - RWJMS AND CINJ AND RWJUH

Bruce G. Haffty MD
Professor and Chair

Clinical Radiation Oncology
• Molly Gabel, MD
  Associate Professor and Chief, Clinical Radiation Oncology
• Alan Cohler, MD
  Instructor
• Salma Jabbour, MD
  Assistant Professor
• Atif Khan, MD
  Assistant Professor
• Sung Kim, MD
  Assistant Professor and Associate Director, Residency Training Program
• Michael McKenna, MD
  Assistant Professor

Residents
• Sharad Goyal, MD
  Chief Resident PGY-5
• Brett Lewis, MD, PhD
  PGY-3
• Matthew Poppe, MD
  PGY-3
• Parima Daroui, MD, PhD
  PGY-2
• Sabin Motwani, MD, PhD
  PGY-2

Radiation Physics
• Ning Jeff Yue, PhD
  Professor, Vice Chair and Chief, Radiation Physics
• Satish Jaywant, PhD
  Associate Professor
• Venkat Narra PhD
  Associate Professor

Advance Practice Nurses
• Jayne Camporeale, RN, MSN, APN
• Dorothy Pierce, RN, MSN, APN

Clinical Services at RWJUH
• Jisseelle Nater
  Operations Manager
• William Witherup
  Chief Therapist
• Shushma Patel
  Assistant Chief Therapist
• Ann Marie Maisel
  Therapist
• Susan Resavy
  Therapist
• Mary Kazio
  Therapist
• Krystin Greene
  Therapist
• Melissa Mareth
  Therapist
• Lillian Hosein
  Therapist
• Carie Strauss
  Therapist
• Kevin Sinn
  Therapist
• Scott Barnes
  Chief of Dosimetry
• Rihan Davis
  Dosimetrist
• Jacqueline Tull, RN
  Nurse
• Theresa Singley, RN
  Nurse
• Brenda Adell
  Medical Coder
• Terry Blekeski
  Senior Medical Coder
• Shelly Muhanad
  Clerical Coordinator
• Gladys Torres
  Medical Biller
• Azalia Laguna
  Clerk
• Melissa Morales
  Clerical
• Tanya Sharpe
  Receptionist

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  Associate Professor and Chief, Radiation Cancer Biology
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• Jingmei Lu
  Research Teaching Specialist I
• Huimei Lu
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  Graduate Student
• Jinjiang Fan
  Graduate Student
• Yi-Yuan Huang
  Graduate Student
• Devora S. Schiff
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• Jiashin Ma
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