RADIOLOGY Faculty News

Dr. Kenneth Bader’s application to the ITM pilot funds was selected as a finalist. The ITM created the Pilot Award program in 2017 to offer researchers money, resources, and collaboration opportunities. As part of the application, a video was produced to highlight Dr. Bader’s work. View the video here.

Dr. Melvy Mathew has been promoted to Associate Professor of Radiology. Dr. Mathew has been with the abdominal imaging section since coming here from a fellowship at Johns Hopkins in 2014. She earned her medical degree at UIC.

Dr. Carina Yang has been chosen as a Senior Faculty Scholar in the Bucksbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence. Dr. Yang is recognized by her peers as an exceptional clinician, teacher, mentor, and physician who understands the importance of personal care, effective communication, and strong doctor-patient relationships.

As a Bucksbaum Institute Senior Faculty Scholar, she will mentor, coach, and advise Bucksbaum Institute Students, Junior Faculty, and Associate Junior Faculty Scholars.

You are cordially invited to attend

THE PAUL C. HODGES SOCIETY &
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY

Annual Alumni Reception

Monday, November 28, 2022
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Fifth floor, Crystal Ballroom
Union League Club
65 W. Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL

Dress code: business casual attire – no denim

We look forward to seeing you at RSNA’s 2022 Annual Meeting and the Hodges Annual Reception!
After 35 years of exemplary service to the Department of Radiology and the University of Chicago, Dr. Larry Dixon, highly respected physician amongst his peers and favorite educator amongst his trainees, announced his retirement. Dr. Dixon received his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, and subsequently completed his radiology residency at the Medical College of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where he was Chief Resident. He stayed in Philadelphia for his fellowship in musculoskeletal imaging at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1985, he joined the radiology faculty at the University of Chicago, and became the Chief of the Section of Musculoskeletal Radiology in 1993. In addition to overseeing a rotation that was a favorite among residents, Dr. Dixon helped to develop a successful Musculoskeletal Imaging Fellowship at the University in 1999, and was its Program Director for 20 years. During his career at the University, Dr. Dixon also served as Chair of the Radiology Residency Selection Committee and as a member of the Medical Student Selection Committee for the Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Dixon is a three-time recipient of the Mark Tetalman Award for Outstanding Teaching in the department – a feat yet unmatched by any other faculty member.

Below are some comments to Dr. Dixon from former students and faculty colleagues:

“Upon meeting Larry during my very first rotation as a radiology resident in 1995, I knew that I had matched at the right program. His enthusiasm for teaching was truly second to none in the department; and you wanted to share in that enthusiasm and thereby work just a little bit harder to impress him. I would say that one of his greatest qualities as an academic MSK radiologist was his ability to inspire future MSK radiologists. There is no doubt in my mind that I am an academic MSK radiologist today because of Larry. There is no better place that I could have worked for the past 20+ years, and no better colleague to have worked with. Larry made coming into work fun. So Larry, thank you very much for being a wonderful colleague and friend over the past 20+ years, and thank you very much for your contributions to the section, department and University. This institution is a better place because of you!”

Scott Stacy, MD

“The only reason I love bilateral hand X-rays is because of you!”


“When I think of Larry Dixon, two words come to mind. The two words are “GREAT CASE!” ringing throughout the entire department reading room.”

Jhemon Lee, MD (1994-1998)

“I worked with Dr. Larry Dixon for two years of my residency back in 2002-2004. Although I don’t read any MSK imaging these days, Larry continues to be a major influence on my career each and every day. He taught me the importance of building strong and trusting relationships in the workplace and the need to treat everyone with dignity and respect, regardless of their level of training. Without question, you have shaped my career as an educator and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for teaching me to be the best radiologist and teacher that I could be.”

Vic J. Pizzitola, MD
Radiology resident, 2002-2004
Breast Radiologist, Mayo Clinic in Arizona

“Thanks for all the teaching and the personal inspiration and fun times learning at the old X Ray rolling films back in the day. Enjoy your free time now! All the best.”

Grace Knuttenen, MD ’2006

“I wish you the very best in your retirement. You were an outstanding collaborator as we tried to understand the role of medical imaging and AI in assessing fractures and osteoporosis a few decades back. Your kind patience and teaching were greatly appreciated by me and my lab.”

Maryellen Giger, PhD

“After working with you in the same department for about 18 years, I understand that you are outstanding radiologist and teacher. I really miss you after your retirement. Congratulations for retirement and hope you will enjoy your retirement life.”

Thanks.

Yonglin Pu, MD

Thank you for all you have taught me over the years during my time in residency from 2016-2021. Eric Kim, MD
PREMED STUDENTS VISIT CLINICAL AREAS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY

Seven pre-med undergraduate students with a potential interest in radiology careers toured the radiology department at part of their summer research fellowships at the University, as coordinated via the department’s Diversity & Inclusion Council’s Leadership. Five were University of Chicago undergrads participating in the SURFBOARD (Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship in Bioimaging for Oncology and Related Disciplines) run by Patrick La Riviere, Ph.D., Professor of Radiology. Two were students from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign participating in the Cancer Center EYES (Educators and Youth Enjoying Science) program who were doing research in Dr. La Riviere’s lab.

One of our clinical physicists, Emily Marshall, Ph.D., guided the students on the tour, which started in the interventional radiology suite with Dr. Osman Ahmed extolling the joys of a career in IR and showing the students images from an ongoing case involving genicular artery embolization, a technique he has recently piloted at the University to treat osteoarthritis. The students then moved on to the neuroradiology reading room where they broke into small groups to confer with faculty members Drs. Jack Collins, Saad Ali, and Elaine Tanhehco, as well as new neuro fellow Joe Wilson. After returning to the research labs, the two students from UIUC were also able to meet with Dr. Chris Straus for further discussion of education and career paths in radiology. Dymarcko Davis, one of the students from UIUC, said the tour was the highlight of the summer for him.

Names of Participating Students:
Dymarcko Davis (UIUC)
Simone Holland (UIUC)
Kameel Khabaz
Katherine Miao
Eve Tanios
Nino Pusateri
Raj Tummala

South Side Science Festival

On Saturday, September 17th, the Graduate Program in Medical Physics (GPMP) Diversity and Outreach Committee and the Department of Radiology Diversity and Inclusion Council hosted a hands-on educational booth at the South Side Science Festival held at the Eckhardt Research Center on the University of Chicago campus. Volunteers put their heads together and crafted several fun hands-on learning opportunities to teach booth visitors about wave properties, radiation detection, and image-guided radiology procedures. The event was attended by visitors of all ages. Researchers and clinicians had an opportunity to answer booth visitor’s questions about the important work they do every day in a fun and immersive environment.

Paul C. Hodges Society Newsletter Staff

Editor
Dr. Scott Stacy           sstacy@radiology.bsd.uchicago.edu

Content
Lee Brauer                 nbrauer@radiology.bsd.uchicago.edu

Layout & Circulation
Mary Green                 mgreen@radiology.bsd.uchicago.edu
Tell us a bit about yourself (where you grew up and your journey into medicine).

I grew up in Des Plaines, so right here in a suburb of Chicago. As a first-generation college student, I attended Case Western Reserve University and completed my medical education at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria.

I had always been interested in science, and medicine appealed to me because it had a direct measurable impact on patients’ health and outcomes. I did get a job as a software consultant for a year before medical school to see an alternative, but the culture was more focused on career advancement and financial improvement rather than on intellectual fulfillment. When I entered into medicine, I found that in people who would push themselves to be better in any expertise.

What challenges did you encounter during the journey through college and medicine as a first-generation college student?

Along the way, there were a few cultural challenges that others may take for granted and that I had to learn to navigate on my own. For instance, regarding professional behavior, there were simple things like learning how to tie a tie. Or, for a college interview at a coffee shop, it did not occur to me to review my CV beforehand and print out my application for the meeting. These things made me feel uncomfortable afterward, but I learned through a combination of experience and online posts.

Why did you choose Radiology?

I had initially chosen Surgery but changed to Radiology after my intern year. I like how in Radiology you can put together the pieces of a puzzle to find a diagnosis. In Radiology I also enjoy the cognitive rigor in practicing medicine.

What are your thoughts on DEI in the medical field and Radiology specifically?

Often there can be many factors outside of our department contributing to there being less URiM in medicine and in Radiology. One of the pieces is to ensure that the culture we foster is one that would make people feel comfortable. Being cognizant of our conversations can help create an environment that would make others comfortable joining Radiology. When someone walks through the door, they should be welcome with open arms.

How do you think UCM can improve recruitment of URiM into the medical field?

Radiology can do a better job of advocating for itself within medicine and the community as a whole. At a Level 1 trauma center, radiologists and especially residents are a huge service to the community at large. I do not think there is an understanding in medicine and the community in general of how important our role is in taking care of the South Side community. If we do a better job of communicating how critical we are in contributing to the care of these patients, people who have a desire to help communities like the one we serve may be more attracted to the field.

As a future Radiologist training at a prestigious institution, what advice would you give to other URiM to boost their academic and professional opportunities?

Going back to the sense of discomfort I had in a lot of situations, you are bound to feel imposter syndrome. However, you cannot learn or improve if you are not uncomfortable. I would say to welcome the discomfort because you might learn something that might serve you in the future.