

Radiation Oncology Beam

Volume 1, Issue 4

"Bringing you burning news—from tattoos to calculus"

March 2008

Important Dates



MAR/APR 2008

Grand Rounds
Kenneth Hu, M.D.
Attending Physician
Beth-Israel Medical Center
March 11, 2008

Grand Rounds
Kenneth B. Roberts, MD
Associate Professor
Yale University School of Medicine
April 1, 2008

ASTRO abstract submission
Deadline: March 17, 2008
[http://www.astro.org/Meetings/
AnnualMeetings/CallForAbstracts/
index.asp](http://www.astro.org/Meetings/AnnualMeetings/CallForAbstracts/index.asp)

Congressionally Directed Medical
Research Programs
Various Funding Opportunities
**Deadline: March 27, 2008
(pre-application)**
[http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/
bcrp.htm](http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/bcrp.htm)

American Cancer Society
Various Funding Opportunities
Deadline: April 1, 2008
[http://www.cancer.org/docroot/
RES/RES_5_1.asp?sitearea=RES](http://www.cancer.org/docroot/RES/RES_5_1.asp?sitearea=RES)

American Association for Cancer
Research
Annual Meeting
April 12—16, 2008
San Diego, CA
[http://www.aacr.org/home/
scientists/meetings--workshops/](http://www.aacr.org/home/scientists/meetings--workshops/)

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



Dr. Bruce Haffty, MD, Professor and
Chair, Department of Radiation

Bruce G. Haffty, MD,
Chairman of the Department
of Radiation Oncology,
UMDNJ-RWJMS and As-
sociate Director of the Can-

cer 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 transla-
tional 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 cur-
rently Associate Editor of
the Journal of Clinical On-
cology, and serves on key
committees of ASTRO,

ASCO, RSNA, ACR, and
ARS. He is currently Chair-
man of the ACGME Resi-
dency Review Committee in
Radiation Oncology and
serves on the Executive
Committees of the Ameri-
can College of Surgeon's
Commission on Cancer, the
National Accreditation Pro-
gram for Breast Centers,
and the American Radium
Society. Beginning in May
of this year he will also be-
gin a one-year term as Presi-
dent of the American Ra-
dium 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) form-
ing a PET/CT. The de-
partment of Radiology at
RWJUH has just acquired
a Siemens Biograph 40
slice PET/CT. This multi-
modality unit combines
two technologies and al-
lows great versatility for
our patients. It is a fully



Siemens PET/CT
Courtesy: smed.com

functional multislice CT
scanner capable in all
areas of scanning. The
PET component features
a special crystal known as
Lutetium Oxyorthosili-

cate (LSO) scintillator
crystal technology. With the fastest
scintillation decay time
and the highest density
available, LSO crystals
offers the best combina-
tion of properties of any
PET scintillator known
today. This provides the
highest and fastest detail
in diagnosing pa-
tients. This unit is being
utilized in simulation for
our Radiation Oncology
patients.

Residents' Corner



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
Sabin Motwani published an article

entitled "Multi-institutional review of repeat irradiation of chest wall and breast for recurrent breast cancer" in the February 1, 2008 issue of the International Journal of Radiation Oncology * Biology * Physics (IJROBP).

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

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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

Bruce Haffty, MD

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Medical Oncology Fellows: Partial Breast Irradiation New Brunswick, NJ February 22, 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.

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 train-

ing 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).



Ning J. Yue, Ph.D., Professor and Vice-Chair, Radiation Oncology and Chief, Division of Radiation Physics.

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 Muhannad**
Clerical Coordinator
- **Gladys Torres**
Medical Biller
- **Azalia Laguna**
Clerk
- **Melissa Morales**
Clerical
- **Tanya Sharpe**
Receptionist

Radiation Cancer Biology

- **Zhiyuan Shen, MD, PhD**
Associate Professor and
Chief, Radiation Cancer Biology
- **Bing Xia, PhD**
Assistant Professor
- **Jingmei Lu,**
Research Teaching Specialist I
- **Huimei Lu**
Research Teaching Specialist III
- **Jingyin Yue**
Graduate Student
- **Jinjiang Fan**
Graduate Student
- **Yi-Yuan Huang**
Graduate Student
- **Devora S. Schiff**
Research Teaching Specialist III
- **Jianglin Ma**
Post Doctoral Fellow
- **Cosimo Antonacci**
Post Doctoral Fellow

Academic Administration at RWJMS and CINJ

- **Sharda Kohli, MBA**
Clinical Department Administrator
- **Jo-Ella McClinnon**
Management Assistant
- **Odalys Sanchez**
Secretary I
- **Rosa Schweighardt**
Secretary II
- **Rhonda Lyles**
Secretary II

Contact Us

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