Rohrmann Endowment for UW Radiology
Resident Educational Excellence

Fall at UW Radiology – New and Exciting Happenings!

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)

As part of the UW Radiology Residency’s Healthcare Disparities curriculum, we invited Ashley Prosper, MD, to present a virtual lecture to the residents. Dr. Prosper is a radiologist specializing in thoracic and diagnostic cardiovascular imaging at UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Prosper’s editorial in Radiology, “Lung Cancer Screening in African Americans: The Time to Act Is Now,” emphasizes the urgency to address healthcare disparities in the detection of lung cancer.

“It was wonderful to learn about Dr. Prosper’s work in lung cancer screening health disparities and the challenges that we, as physicians, are tasked with in promoting equal opportunity healthcare when tackling cancer screening on a large scale. Her experience and insight was so remarkably valuable to hear as a trainee – inspiring many of us to recognize and work to eliminate the barriers that many patients face in healthcare and obtaining imaging. I was so grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from her incredible insight.”

– Richa Patel, MD, PGY-5

UW Radiology’s EDI “Build a Pipeline” subcommittee has been diligently working on development of a curriculum for under-represented students in the community to expose them to career opportunities in medicine, highlighting all aspects of medical imaging including imaging technologists, medical physicists, radiologists, research scientists, administrative and information technology (IT) roles. This 3-day curriculum is targeted for high school juniors and seniors, and early community college students, providing them with hands-on experiences including students scanning one another with portable ultrasound machines. Students will receive a tour of the radiology department, where they can see the equipment and talk with techs and radiologists. Imaging sciences researchers will also guide students through their labs, discussing the vital role research plays in imaging. UW Radiology has also partnered with Tech Access Foundation (TAF), to participate in Project SPARC, where radiologists can be paired as mentors to students, and can also partner with a teacher to help them weave diagnostic imaging and/or medical physics into their science curriculum.

These exciting EDI opportunities will receive initial funding from the Rohrmann Endowment. UW Radiology residents are an integral part of the EDI initiatives and many residents are active participants in one or more EDI subcommittees. Expect to see reports on the trainee program as it develops and students start to explore the world of medical imaging.

The Rohrmann Endowment has funded renewal of the annual subscription to e-Anatomy, a well-utilized on-line resource that is available to residents, fellows, and faculty throughout the UW Radiology department. We have also shared this resource with the Radiation Oncology residency, and they have expressed their thanks to the Rohrmann Endowment donors for their generosity in providing the funds to support e-learning resources!

The Rohrmann Endowment supports first-author resident presentations for national radiological society meetings. Matthew Stoltzberg, MD, PGY-4 presented a poster virtually for the Society for Advanced Body Imaging (SABI) 2021 Annual meeting: “Prognostic value of heterogeneity in tumor iodine concentration from dual-energy CT in patients treated with immune checkpoint inhibitors.” Dr. Stoltzberg’s meeting registration was funded by the Rohrmann Endowment. Residents greatly appreciate these opportunities – Thank You!
Residents, fellows, and faculty participated in research journal clubs with Ali Abadi (R4) and Arezu Monawer (R3) leading a discussion on opportunistic screening at CT.

Hoivan Cheung (R5) and Dylan Constantino (R3) led a discussion for residents, fellows, and faculty on AI for aiding detection of primary bone tumors and fractures on radiographs.

Residents and fellows received sage advice on academic writing from none other than an associate editor of *Abdominal Radiology*, Dr. Antonio Westphalen.

In early December, trainees will learn about health services research from the 2021 Aunt Minnie Most Influential Radiology Researcher Semifinalist, Dr. Christoph Lee.

With the new change of season, comes new opportunities for research collaborations.

The annual virtual radiology research fair slated for early November seeks to connect trainees with faculty-mentored projects.

Speaking of November, expect to “see” residents and fellows virtually and in-person for this year’s RSNA annual meeting.

Be sure to check out our trainees’ exhibits!

Radiology Leadership Institute – UW Radiology Residents supported by funding from the Rohrmann Endowment!

R5 residents participating in the 2021-2022 ACR’s RLI Resident Milestones Program under the local mentorship of Drs. Jonathan Medverd and Tess Chapman, shared their Block A presentation on mechanisms of radiology reimbursement on a nationwide group call on October 11, 2021. Through support from the Rohrmann Endowment, this program provides an interactive experience for residents to gain knowledge of radiology health care economics and at the same time, helps satisfy the ACGME’s Physician Role in Health Care Systems sub-competency (part of the Systems-Based Practice competency) requirement.
Rohrmann Endowment Supports UW Radiology Residents – Leadership and Career Development for our Future Leaders!

The ACR Leadership Essentials Program has been generously funded for 12 UW Radiology residents this year! Those who participate in the program will receive training in both leadership and non-interpretive skills for early career success. This program just started in September 2021, and we plan to highlight residents’ experiences as they participate throughout the course of the program. Participants review recorded lectures in advance, and then participate in live Q&A sessions with RLI faculty. This enriching experience is greatly appreciated by the residents. Thank you, Rohrmann Endowment donors!

“Participating in the RLI Leadership Essentials Program has been an enriching experience. Topics thus far have included conflict resolution, communication optimization and emotional intelligence. Learning more about these non-interpretive skills from experts across the country has been quite impactful. I am confident that participation in this program will positively influence my career, patient care and professional relationships.”

– Kara Fitzgerald, MD, PGY3
Vascular & Interventional Radiology

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<td>Russell Noh</td>
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These 12 UW Radiology residents will participate in the Leadership Essentials Program. We will share their experiences in subsequent editions of the Rohrmann Endowment Newsletter!

You can support Radiology Resident Excellence!

Mail your donation [note Rohrmann Endowment on your check]:
UW Advancement, Gift Services, Box 359505, Seattle WA 98195-9505
Call: 206.543.5686 / 866.633.2586
Online: Acceleratemed.org/Rohrmann
Spotlight: UW Radiology alumnus Sherwin Chan, MD

Sherwin Chan, MD, PhD, UW Radiology Resident 2009-2013, tells us about himself and what he’s been up to these past 8 years!

Where are you from originally?

I grew up in Edmonton, Alberta and moved to Vancouver, BC for high school. I came to the USA to attend medical school in St. Louis.

What was your path towards becoming a radiologist?

I loved all of my clinical rotations in medical school. I could have been happy doing many of them as a career. I loved taking care of patients, hearing their stories, and helping them get better.

As I completed my clinical rotations, I found out that what I loved most was putting together the clues from a patient’s clinical picture and making the diagnosis. My PhD was in biomedical engineering and I have always loved technology and good mysteries: diagnostic radiology was a great combination of these things. My rotations in radiology actually made me less interested in the specialty since they were much less interactive than my other rotations and I found that it was hard to impact clinical care as a medical student on a radiology rotation.

As an MD/PhD, I was lucky enough to graduate four years behind my starting med school cohort. In my conversations with my best friend from medical school, Jonathan Chung, he told me how he was loving his radiology residency at the University of Washington. He reassured me that life was completely different as a resident when you were actively engaged in clinical care. I am glad I listened to his advice and took the plunge and applied for radiology residency.

What was your experience like as a resident at UW Medicine?

I loved my residency experience. I loved the diverse viewpoints and styles of the staff and learning different things - from Dr. Stern’s efficient dictations to Dr. Godwin’s precise language to Dr. Haynor’s focus on what was clinically relevant. I also loved my residency class. I had a health scare during my first year of residency and they were my strongest supporters, even though we only had known each other for a few months. After that, I truly felt like we were a team that would go to great lengths to support each other and as other members of my class faced challenges, it seemed like our cohort would always rally together to support each other.

Residency was also memorable for my time doing research on my RSNA grant. I was fortunate to have the support of Dr. Paladin and Dr. Dighe in applying for this grant and being given time to do the work. The grant work was especially fun because my co-residents Tom Le and Michael McNeely were great collaborators. I will always remember hanging out on Mike’s porch with a drill, some silicone tubing and tying strings around drill bits.

Another memorable part of residency was my trip to Tanzania with Joe Tang. This was generously supported by the Rohmann Endowment. During that trip, Joe and I got so good at ultrasound scanning (including pediatric echo – which is a skill I still use today!) The trip also made me appreciate how fortunate we are. I finally feel like I’m in a position now to give back to those communities and I am lucky to be able to do some research that I think will really help increase imaging access in low- and middle-income countries.

What excites you most about radiology and what are some of your specialty areas?

I am a pediatric radiologist. I love the day-to-day interactions with my radiology colleagues and my clinical colleagues. Pediatric radiology is such a big field that I’m always learning how to be a more useful consultant by learning what information clinicians need from me to manage the patients correctly. I also love the ability to interact with patients and their families. Nothing makes me happier than successfully reducing an intussusception and telling the parents that I have been able to save their kid from needing surgery.

I am also excited about three things in the future of radiology. The first is that I’m seeing more and more talented trainees interested in our specialty. This really excites me for the future of our profession.

The second thing that excites me is the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to revolutionize our profession. AI has the potential to decrease or eliminate the mundane repetitive tasks that take up much of our day. This will give us time to concentrate on the more complex patient images that require our expertise and energy, give us time to interact more with our clinical colleagues to work as a team to care for our patients and give us time to talk directly with our patients about their...
diagnoses and possible next steps (I do this every time after my fluoroscopy procedures and these conversations are often a highlight of my day).

The third thing that excites me are new technologies that are coming to make imaging faster, more precise and more accessible. Three examples are MRI fingerprinting (which allows the reconstruction of many of our traditional MRI sequences from a single acquisition), Dotatate PET and portable low field MRI. [Disclosure: Hyperfine Inc. provides my hospital with in-kind research support].

What do you think are some of the most important experiences for residents to have?

The first, second, and third goals of a residency program are to train excellent clinical radiologists. Apart from that clinical training, I believe it is crucial for residents to learn how to critically analyze medical literature. In this age of rapid innovation and scientific progress, I think we all need to be able to critically analyze these new developments and separate the good science from the science that needs more validation. To me, this skill will be crucial going forward as radiology practices have to incorporate these new advances quickly or be left behind. Being able to look at the primary literature to see which new advances are backed by good science will allow our future radiologists to stay ahead of the curve. It is evident that education is very important to you – both in educating and mentoring trainees. What does your role entail as Director of Radiology Research at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, and please tell us more about your passion and vision for medical trainee education.

The favorite part of my job is mentoring and teaching trainees. I also feel that this is the way in which I can most positively impact the field because my trainees are a force multiplier. If I teach them and mentor them well, they will be able to positively impact the lives of many more people than I could ever help in my career. Our residents rotate with us in four-week blocks, and I feel so happy when I see the improvement in their clinical reads over the four weeks. I have especially enjoyed mentoring the residents who have done mini fellowships with us and our pediatric radiology fellows, because they improve so much in their time with us.

I have also been lucky enough to mentor trainees for research. I love seeing them get excited for their research projects. It is so rewarding to see them calmly handle questions after presenting in front of large rooms of attending radiologists at national conferences. I am also at the point in my career where I feel my role is to teach, mentor, and support those around me. I take this responsibility seriously and relish when my trainees successfully take the lead on research projects and complete them successfully with my support.

I have also very much enjoyed working with Chris Walker (UW Rad Res 2008-2012) to educate trainees about personal finance. In our opinion, none of us are ever taught these skills in medical training, yet they are so important. Having financial security can help you avoid burnout by giving you the freedom to cut back, move to a different place, find a different job, take some time off and ask for things at work more emphatically knowing that you have a cushion in case of emergencies.

Along with your clinical practice as a pediatric radiologist, you are also the Vice Chair of Radiology Research at Children’s Mercy Kansas City. Please share with our readers your areas of research, as well as some of the biggest challenges you face in radiology research.

I am really excited about our research studies involving a portable low-field (0.064 T) MRI machine. This MRI can be wheeled anywhere with very few safety limitations. It is also 1/30th the cost of conventional MRIs. This machine could greatly improve access to MRI for underserved populations. However, the MRI is optimized for adult imaging. Pediatrics is always going to be a smaller market and so we have been working with the company to optimize the MRI for pediatric applications.

Thanks to my superstar team of two imaging physicists and two research coordinators, we have made a lot of progress on this, and the latest images look much closer to conventional MRI images.

(Continued on p. 6)
Sherwin Chan, MD PhD, class of 2013, and his colleague, Joseph Tang, MD, class of 2012, participated in an international health rotation in Tanzania during their residency in the Fall of 2011. Once the Rohrmann Endowment reached sufficient funding in 2013, it retroactively funded their travel expenditures!

Joe and Sherwin reflected upon their experience: “Our experience in Tanzania rejuvenated our enthusiasm for patient centered care because we were able to interact so intimately with patients and physicians in a way that is not possible in our productivity-driven society. We hope that global health initiatives such as this can continue so that future residents may experience their own epiphanies abroad.”

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Endowment, the UW Radiology residency program has continued to support global health rotations for residents each year since then (with the exception of 2020, due to COVID restrictions on travel).

Continued from page 5 –

We are also working on finding clinical scenarios where this technology can be most beneficial. If we are successful in this work, it will be one way in which I can give back and help improve children’s health worldwide. [Disclosure: Hyperfine Inc. provides my hospital with in-kind research support].

I am also very proud of my work looking at ultrasound elastography for early detection of veno-occlusive disease in stem cell transplant recipients. I stumbled on this kind of research when I got lost in the hospital during my first month as an attending and did an impromptu conference with the stem cell transplant team. They told me about this disease which has up to 80% mortality in severe cases, but the mortality can be decreased to the 30-40% range from the 70-80% range if they could just diagnose it early enough. Unfortunately, they had no reliable biomarker. In our single site trial, we showed that elastography diagnosed this disease 2 to 12 days earlier than the best criteria at that time and this would give the clinicians enough lead time to change management and save lives. A fellow in pediatric hematology and oncology was critical to this research. I was so proud when he won an award at a radiology meeting for the work that he championed. Now I am leading a multicenter trial to verify these findings. If this works, radiologists everywhere will have the ability to save lives by diagnosing this disease early enough to effectively intervene. [Disclosure: Jazz Pharmaceuticals provides my hospital with research funding, and I have received consulting income from Jazz Pharmaceuticals.]

I have only been able to be successful in my research because my clinical colleagues and my chair have been so supportive of my efforts. My clinical colleagues have been tolerant of my research time and have cheered the research accomplishments of everyone in the department. My chair, Dr. Doug Rivard, has been an exemplary servant leader. He believed in me and gave me protected academic time; he advocated with the chief of pediatrics so I got a startup package about a year after I started; he helped me lobby hospital leadership to build out my fantastic research team. He has given me complete autonomy in conducting my research and supporting my radiology and clinical colleagues in their research. He has also been my advocate to hospital leadership whenever I have needed that extra support to get things approved. I could never have achieved any of the above success without his strong support and advocacy.

I have had many challenges here too. We are a small standalone children’s hospital and I have had to work with limited institutional resources and no direct research mentorship. There have been a lot of lessons learned trying to run multicenter clinical trials from a smaller place with limited resources. Mentorship has been hard to find. The mentors in radiology and at my hospital with the relevant experience to help me are very busy and many are oversubscribed.

Having great mentors plays such an important role for all of us. Who were some of your early mentors? And who were your most recent ones?

My earliest mentors were my high school teachers Mrs. Matthews, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Chu. In particular, Mr. Chu challenged me to be humbler and to continually improve. I was lucky to have my undergraduate advisors Dr. Stephen Scott and Dr. Gerald Loeb. Dr. Loeb convinced me to go pursue an MD/PhD degree in the US. I had an amazing PhD mentor, Dr. Daniel Moran, who taught me how to communicate complex ideas to a lay audience and he was a role model for healthcare innovation, side hustles, and work-life balance long before these concepts became fashionable.

At the University of Washington, Dr. Minoshima, Dr. Kicska, and Dr. Paladin all helped me to be a better researcher and a stronger educator. My most recent mentors have been Dr. Rivard, Dr. Kristin Fickenscher, and Dr. Tom Curran. They have helped me develop my servant leader skills that have enabled me to transition to a focus on elevating and enabling the success of the people around me.

(Continued on page 8)
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Donate Online: Acceleratemed.org/Rohrmann

The UW Diagnostic Radiology Residency program reported on the 2020-21 Annual Review, reflecting on education and recruitment over the past academic year. We are delighted to share this information, highlighting our commitment to Diversity and Inclusion, as well as celebrating the scholarship, research, and educational achievements of our residents.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

- Strongly value applicants who come from diverse backgrounds, as we believe this enhances the educational experience for all residents and faculty and reflects the broad demographics of the WWAMI region and beyond
- Recognize the value of all types of diversity, including gender, geographic origin, career goals, background, ethnicity, disability, LGBTQ, military status, and extracurricular interests

Program Demographics

- Number of residents:
  - PGY-2 – 11 (3 IR/DR)
  - PGY-3 – 11 (3 IR/DR)
  - PGY-4 – 11 (2 IR/DR)
  - PGY-5 – 11 (3 IR/DR)
- Number of women - 25 (48%)
- Those who self identify as an underrepresented minority - 12

We also recently surveyed graduates of the classes of 2017-2021 (many thanks to those who responded!). The largest percentage of respondents (56%) are currently in fellowships, and 22% are currently practicing in a university academic setting, 11% are in private practice, 6% are practicing in a community academic setting, and 5% are practicing in a government setting. We truly appreciated receiving feedback that our resident alumni rated their overall clinical performance at the same level (78%) or above the level (22%) of their peers!

The department is heading into the exciting recruitment season for the 2022 Match. We received a record number of applications this year! Interviews will again be held virtually over Zoom due to the ongoing pandemic.

We also had a successful well-attended open house to showcase the residency in late September.

We welcomed our new PGY2 crop of residents who started their Radiology training on July 1. We were still in that sweet spot where everyone was vaccinated before the delta surge and we all got together at Angelisa Paladin’s for a great dinner.
Advice and Fun Facts from Sherwin Chan

What advice do you give to radiology residents today?

Embrace being a doctor. AI will change radiology. The days of providing value by reading a large number of patient scans will sunset. Be ready for the days of providing value to our patients in other ways.

Learn to critically read the literature. Many of you won’t do research as a part of your career, but most of you will lead practice improvements and will need to know how to separate the good literature from the bad.

When you are looking for your first job, try to find a good fit. Look at the mission and vision statement of the place that you are joining and make sure it fits with your values.

What are some of your favorite activities outside of work?

I love walking around the neighborhood with my wife and two girls (ages 5 and 7) and watching my kids learn new skills. We love visiting my extended family and getting the cousins together. As a family, we also love being outdoors: swimming, biking, hiking, and wildlife watching. Personally, I love reading history and social science books and playing board games with our friends.

Fun Facts about Sherwin:

• I partially funded my living expenses in graduate school through playing on-line poker tournaments
• My wife’s favorite job was teaching French at Newport High School
• Hockey is my favorite sport and I’m so excited about the Seattle Kraken
• During residency, I would accompany fellow residents Joe Tang and Tom Le up to Vancouver for < 24 hours just to eat good Asian food!

We hope you have enjoyed reading about our EDI programs (see page 1) and our commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. More information about the partnership between UW Radiology and the Tech Access Foundation (TAF), including a report about our radiologists’ participation in the virtual career fair in late October will be included in the next edition of the Rohrmann Endowment newsletter. We are very excited about this opportunity to connect with students in the community! These students will be able to talk one-on-one with radiologists and medical professionals, ask questions about radiology, medical physics, research, and many other career options in the field of imaging technology. Your ideas and questions are welcome.

ACGME RESIDENT SURVEY – DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

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<td>Preparation for interaction with diverse individuals*</td>
<td>81%</td>
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<td>Program fosters inclusive work environment*</td>
<td>97%</td>
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<td>Diverse resident/fellow recruitment and retention*</td>
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*New question in 2020