

## ALUMNI NEWS

## YASHWANTH KATKURI AWARDED 2013 MEDICAL PHYSICS GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

Faculty, staff and students from the Medical Physics Department at Wayne State University School of Medicine gathered on Tuesday, May 28th with great anticipation to hear presentations from three finalists vying for the first annual WSU SOM Medical Physics Graduate Research Award. Mary Cherven, Yashwanth Katkuri and Nian Xiao each had 20 minutes to convince a panel of judges that they were the most deserving!

Mary was the first to present with her talk titled *Commissioning Eclipse's Pencil Beam For Low Energy X-Rays*. She was immediately followed by the presentations of Yashwanth and Nian titled *Reducing The Background Field Variations Using The Geometry Information* and *Toward Individualized Fractionation Schedule For Lung Cancer Radiotherapy*, respectively. Upon the conclusion of a brief deliberation amongst the judges, Todd Bossenberger, Colin Orton and Mark Yudelev, Program Director Jay Burmeister announced Yashwanth Katkuri as the winner of this year's award.

"It's an honor to receive the WSU SOM Medical Physics Graduate Research Award." said Katkuri. "The recognition I received from the WSU honorable professors and scientists on the day of presentation was very encouraging. It has really boosted my level of confidence and I thank them very much!"

As the winner of the WSU SOM Medical Physics Graduate Award, Yashwanth will receive financial support to attend the 55th Annual AAPM Meeting & Exhibition this summer in Indianapolis, Indiana. Congratulations Yashwanth!

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### SPRING 2013

The Wayne State School of Medicine Medical Physics Alumni Newsletter is a publication produced and emailed three times per year: August, January and May. In order to continue receiving this publication, please notify us of email changes by contacting Mary Cerulla @ [mcerulla@med.wayne.edu](mailto:mcerulla@med.wayne.edu).

## ALUMNI APPEAL FUNDS RESEARCH AWARD

In conjunction with the creation of the WSU SOM Medical Physics Graduate Research Award last year, the WSU SOM Graduate Research Award Fund was established and an appeal launched soliciting donations. Thank you to those that responded to this annual appeal: Bijoyananda Adhikary '09, Jay Burmeister '99, Karen

Chin '10, Anthony Doemer '07, Cory Knill '10, Danielle Worthly Lack '08, Stephanie Sherfinski Obert '97, Colin Orton *Professor Emeritus*, Joseph Rakowski *Faculty*, Jiajian Shen '11 and Michael Snyder '10.

All dollars collected into the WSU SOM Graduate Research Award Fund will be used to provide financial support to

winners of the WSU SOM Medical Physics Graduate Research Award. This year's winner, Yashwanth Katkuri, is grateful for the monetary support he will receive when travelling to the 55th Annual AAPM Meeting & Exhibition and thanks all WSU SOM faculty, staff and alum that financially supported this year's appeal.

# CERTIFICATE PROGRAM OBTAINS CAMPEP ACCREDITATION

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March 26, 2013

Jay Burmeister, PhD  
Karmanos Cancer Institute  
Department of Radiation Oncology  
4100 John R Street  
Detroit MI 48201

Dear Dr Burmeister:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Educational Programs (CAMPEP), I am pleased to inform you that the Wayne State University certificate program in Medical Physics is accredited by virtue of the accreditation of its graduate program. This accreditation runs parallel to the accreditation of the graduate program.

Sincerely,



William R. Hendee, PhD  
President and Chairman

Xc: Edward F Jackson, PhD, Secretary/Treasurer  
Brenda G Clark, PhD, Chair GEPRC



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### Medical Physics Residents

Robert Halford, MS  
Robin Spink, MS



## MEDICAL PHYSICS GRADUATE PROGRAM CONGRATULATORY CORNER

Congratulations to the following 2013 WSU SOM Medical Physics Graduates on their Residency Positions: Mary Cherven (*Landauer, Inc.*), Michael Derr (*McLaren Medical Systems*), Michael Sigler (*Vassar Brothers Medical Center*) and Andrew Veres (*Geisinger Medical Center*).

Congratulations 2013 WSU SOM Medical Physics Graduates John Gallo and Erik Maddock on their new positions at Eastern Maine Medical Center and Niowave, Inc., respectively.

The WSU SOM Medical Physics Program is proud to announce that 20 presentations

will be given by faculty/students at the 55th Annual AAPM Meeting this summer. Twelve of the 20 are oral presentations.

Congratulations Colin Orton, *Professor Emeritus*, who will be honored by the International Congress of Medical Physics (IOMP) for his outstanding contribution to the advancement of medical physics and health care at their 50th Annual Meeting in Brighton, England this fall.

Congratulations to former faculty member Frank Van den Heuvel on your 2013 AAPM Fellowship.

### Medical Physics Alumni Gathering

*in conjunction with*

AAPM  
55th Annual Meeting  
Monday  
August 5, 2013

*Look for an email invitation  
with all the details soon!*