

## ALUMNI NEWS

## WSU BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPROVES CREATION OF GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

At their meeting on December 5, 2012, The Wayne State University Board of Governors approved the establishment of a Certificate Program in Medical Physics effective September 2013. The proposal, prepared by Dr. Jay Burmeister and Mary Cerulla, was submitted to the Board of Governors for approval by Ronald T. Brown, Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. The proposal for accreditation by CAMPEP has already been submitted and we anticipate accreditation of this program within the coming year.



Creation of the Graduate Certificate Program in Medical Physics comes in response to the ABR's 2014 initiative whereby all entrants to the ABR exam will be required to complete a two year accredited clinical residency program and AAPM Report #197S which outlines the recommendations for core medical physics courses necessary for entry into such programs. "The Certificate Program will essentially offer candidates with graduate degrees in disciplines other than medical physics the didactic coursework necessary to allow them eligibility for entry into accredited clinical medical physics residency programs." said Burmeister. "Currently, there are only six accredited certificate programs in North America keeping Wayne State University at the forefront of Medical Physics education as we gear up for this significant change in educational requirements."

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### WINTER 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).

## WELCOME FALL 2012 GRADUATE STUDENTS!

The strength and reputation of the WSU Medical Physics Program continually attracts quality applicants and Fall 2012 was no exception. Fourteen students made the grade and were welcomed into the highly competitive WSU Medical Physics Graduate Programs.

Brian Loughery and Evan Silverstein are currently working toward doctorate degrees in

medical physics while Benjamin Catt, Michael Dumas, Kishor Karki, Yashwanth Katkuri, Joseph Koh, Kathryn Masi, Alan Mayville, Essa Mayyas, Charles Moreau, Steven Nielsen, Michael Pillainayagam and Charles Wu are seeking a Master of Science Degree in Radiological Physics.

"I applied to this program because I knew I would receive a high quality, clinical medical physics

education." said Kishor Karki crediting the academic environment at WSU for his success. Yashwanth Katkuri echoes those sentiments adding: "My day to day research at WSU fascinates me and shows me the endless possibilities in diagnosis and treatment."

Congratulations on acceptance into this program and best of luck to all Fall 2012 students!



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Fall 2012 Graduate Students (*back row l-r*): Alan Mayville, Joseph Koh, Qixie (Charles) Wu, Brian Loughery, Benjamin Catt, Steve Nielson and Michael Pillainayagam (*front row l-r*): Michael Dumas, Charles Moreau, Kathryn Masi, Kishor Karki, Evan Silverstein and Yashwanth Katkuri  
 Not pictured: Essa Mayyas

*I have found the students and faculty in this program to be extremely friendly and welcoming for newcomers into this field. The second years have done an amazing job helping us get situated into the program. The faculty have been just as hospitable. I have to give a lot of credit to Dr. Burmeister and how comfortable he makes the students feel. Even during my interview process, he was extremely helpful and forthcoming about the decision process.*

- Evan Silverstein

*A number of physicists at my current job (U of M Radiation Oncology Department) highly recommended the WSU program. I appreciate the program's flexibility as it allows me to keep working in the radiation oncology department at Michigan.*

- Kathryn Masi

## WSU SOM MEDICAL PHYSICS GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

At the 2012 Alumni Gathering in Charlotte, NC, Dr. Jay Burmeister announced the creation of an annual graduate research award designed to recognize outstanding clinical or laboratory research by a current student/graduate of the WSU SOM Medical/Radiological Physics Graduate Program. In addition to the recognition received by winning this award, the recipient would receive financial support so as to attend the annual AAPM meeting/exhibition.

To that end, a *Graduate Research Award Fund* was established and an alumni appeal went out soliciting donations. To date, we are pleased to report that we have collected donations totaling over \$1,000. And, it's not too late to give! If you would like to make a donation, a form is attached for your convenience.

Students and recent graduates interested in vying for this award are being asked to submit an abstract with supporting documentation by

May 3, 2013 at which time the WSU SOM faculty/staff will determine the top candidates. Top candidates, then, will present on May 28th beginning at Noon in the GROC Large Conference Room. We encourage all alumni to join us for this event and participate in the judging. If you are interested in joining us May 28th, please RSVP by May 17th to [Mary Cerulla](#).

A recap of all the details including donors, applicants and, of course, the winner will be provided in the May newsletter.



**MEDICAL PHYSICS GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD  
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*Funds collected will be used for travel expenses to the 55th Annual AAPM Meeting for the recipient of the 2013 Medical Physics Graduate Research Award.*