



# The Institute of Allied Medical Professions NEWSLETTER



## CAMPUS BULLETIN

### \*ESSAY CONTEST!!!\*

IAMP would like to invite all students and alumni to participate in our essay contest. The topic of the essay is "How can technologists improve quality care?". The essay should be between 350-500 words typed. The winning essay will be printed in IAMP's Summer Newsletter. Also the first place winner will receive a prize of **\$200** and the 2nd place winner will receive **\$100**. All essays are due before June 1st. The essays can be mailed to the admissions office at 405 Park Ave Suite #501 NY, NY 10022, emailed to thaggerty@iampany.com or faxed to 212-758-1424.

### ADVANCE JOB FAIR

Wednesday, April 27th is the next ADVANCE Job Fair scheduled for the metropolitan area. It will be held at Madison Square Garden, 5th Floor Expo Center, 9:30am - 2:30pm. You may register online @ [www.advancweb.com](http://www.advancweb.com) or call 1-800-546-4987. Top area job recruiters will be available to receive your resume and help you in your job search. Continuing education credits are offered for a small fee. This is a great opportunity to network and make connections for your future!

### ATLANTIC CITY OR BUST!

"The Leading Edge in Diagnostic Ultrasound" is the annual educational conference offered by The Jefferson Ultrasound Institute. This conference is known for providing updates and overviews in ultrasound since 1980. The major themes for the conference include Women's Imaging, Vascular Imaging and Doppler, a Physics Refresher (by Dr. Kremkau himself!) and Pediatric Ultrasound. The latest in ultrasound equipment will be on display in the spacious exhibit area. The conference will be held on May 10th -13th @ The Trump Taj Mahal Casino and Resort in Atlantic City. You may view info on the conference and register @ [www.jefferson.edu/jurei/conference/](http://www.jefferson.edu/jurei/conference/) or call 1-888-390-5051. Take a chance, earn CME's , network and meet your colleagues from around the country.

### CALLING ALL RESUMES

Please send updated resumes by fax or mail to your campus. Over the past three months IAMP has received many ultrasound position requests from local hospitals and private facilities. It's great to be able to fill those positions with our graduates. Updated resumes should include recent work experience as well as your clinical internship experience. If you have passed any registry exams, be sure to note this very important fact. Even if you are currently happy in your position, send your resume anyway - you never know when a great opportunity may be offered to you.

### SDMS MEETING

The next SDMS local chapter meeting will be Wednesday, June 15th at 6:00pm. Topic of discussion will be about miscellaneous ultrasound cases. We welcome all that wish to present a case of interest at the meeting. Please contact Nancy at the Queens Campus to reserve a seat. 718-779-7738. Read more about the most recent SDMS meeting on page 2.

### REGISTRY EXAMINATION PRACTICE

Go to [www.ardms.org/practiceexams/index.htm](http://www.ardms.org/practiceexams/index.htm) to try your hand at a registry exam online. There is a 15 minute tutorial before each 30 minute timed exam. The format and content is very much like a real ARDMS exam. There is a \$25. fee for each exam that you take. Good Luck! Read more about the practice exams in Industry News page 7.

## What's Inside.....



**Nuclear Medicine student Wera Kosiv wins scholarship.**



**IAMP Atlanta campus begins first class in April**



**Student profile features Robert Riker**



## *Letter from the President*



## **New Programs Begin at IAMP Atlanta**

IAMP's new Atlanta school, on the campus of St. Joseph's Hospital, is set to start their first ultrasound course on May 2nd. School Director, Terry Benson, says the local interest in the new school and its various programs, has been overwhelming. Also, St. Joseph's Hospital has had a very positive response to having a school on its campus and access to our students.

Two new program directors have been named. Denise Kinches, BS, RT, RDMS, will head up the ultrasound program and Becky Feree BS, RT, (R)(N) will direct the Nuclear Medicine Program. IAMP Atlanta will also be offering Radiology and Radiation Therapy later in the year.

Dear **IAMP** Students and Staff,

The months ahead will prove to be a very busy at IAMP. CAHEEP (Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Educational Programs) will conduct a site visit for the St. John's ultrasound program. While ABHES (Accrediting Bureau of Health Education School) will visit both our Queens and St. John's campuses. The success of these meetings will only enhance IAMP's outstanding reputation. Also, over the last three months, IAMP has added several new clinical sites to better provide our students with hands on training. I would like to take the time to personally welcome Laurie Adams, our Program Director for Radiation Therapy, to the staff of IAMP Florida. We are proud to have her on board.

I want to encourage the importance of participating in the spring newsletter's essay contest. We can all play a role in improving quality care. It starts with patient care, but can go well beyond that scope. Serious and widespread quality problems exist throughout American medical care. These problems may be classified as underuse, overuse or misuse that occur in small and large communities alike. They exist in hospitals, outpatient clinics, imaging centers and ambulatory facilities. A large number of Americans are harmed as a direct result of poor quality care. Exhaustive research has shown that there is no guarantee that any individual will receive high quality care for any particular health problem. Quality problems indicate a wide variation of health care services as an acceptable level of errors. As the Institute of Medicine said, "Quality of care is the problem, not managed care."

I am looking forward to reading your essays and presenting the best efforts with their due reward. Good Luck!

Sincerely,

*Thomas J. Haggerty*

Thomas J Haggerty

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## **SDMS Chapter Meeting in Queens a Success**

**By: Deborah Holcombe, BFA, RDMS, RVT**

On Monday, March 15, 2005, The Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers local chapter CME meeting, hosted by IAMP, was standing room only, again! Several interesting vascular cases were presented and discussed. Charles Odwin, RDMS, PA-C, presented a case of ovarian torsion. Did you know that most ovarian torsions occur on the right due to the configuration of the bowel? The case, carried on a memory stick, was presented in crisp detail on our new 42" plasma screen monitor. As was the power point presentation by Ron Gunter, RVT, entitled: Duplex Guided Radiofrequency Ablation of the Greater Saphenous Vein and Kalani Fernandos' case of Aortic Dissection. My presentation topic was about how the Strandness Criteria and the research from the NASCET study are applied daily in the duplex carotid exam. The response was great. Our colleagues that attended the meeting gave us so much positive feed back, even though we had to stop the meeting at one point to pass chairs over head in the packed room to accommodate everyone. If this keeps up we will need a theater! Special thanks to the volunteers who presented cases for holding high the torch of knowledge. And special thanks to, Oksana Polinskiy, budding sonographer, for her help that evening.

Interns and Graduates of IAMP, I need you to step up to the plate and bring in your cases. If you want be a part of the ultrasound community, reach others with you ideas or findings and advance your career, this is the place to start. Any form of presentation is acceptable: paper, films, memory stick, floppy disk or CD. We can show films on a light box or enlarger. I have had alumni (my newbies) present at other meetings with much positive feedback. This is a bullet for your resume and a safe place to develop your public speaking skills. If you are interested in presenting a case contact me at the Elmhurst campus. (718-779-7738)



### **Staff Profile**

Mary Gaughan loves her students. Having had over four hundred students pass through her 10 years at IAMP, Mary never forgets a single one of them. "As soon as I hear a student's voice over the phone, I know exactly who they are." Mary said. As Director and faculty member at IAMP Yonker's campus at St. John's Hospital, her students remain her pride and joy. "I love teaching." Mary beams, "I love the interaction with students and making a change in their lives. And I love seeing them work in the field." Mary went on to explain the different paths her students have taken over the years. "I can't think of too many states that I don't have students working

in. I even have one in Hawaii." Mary exclaimed.

Mary is also proud of the success of the IAMP Yonker's campus at St. John's. Mary has been at this campus since its inception. "Our students are well received by the industry and majority of them go on to hold managerial positions." Phyllis Greco, Mary's coworker at IAMP Yonkers and, as Mary described her "my dearest student", said that Mary is the most enthusiastic and animated teacher she has ever seen. "Mary really is one of a kind. She will do anything to make sure her students understand ultrasound and go the extra mile" Phyllis said. "She is a pleasure to work with."

Personally, Mary cites her proudest accomplishment as all three of her grandchildren. "There is no greater joy than putting my grandchildren on my lap and reading them a story. It is such a gift!" Mary said. Mary also has three children of her own: Mary Grace, 34, Christopher, 33, and Daniel, 27. Before coming to IAMP she worked at UDS for fifteen years. She was born in Boston.

Mary moved to New York to attend high school and has lived here ever since.

Being a veteran teacher Mary has very valuable advice for IAMP students. "What you will get out of the program is what you put in." Mary advises, "If you work hard and focus, we will do everything else."

When Mary was asked how she wanted her students to remember her she said simply "I want them to remember me as someone who was always on their side. Someone they can count on."



**Mary Gaughan (middle) with co-workers Anne Douglin (left) and Phyllis Greco (right) at IAMP Yonkers**



### **Student Profile**

When Nuclear Medicine Program Director, Carolyn Jacobs, was asked who was the most outstanding Nuclear Medicine Student of this year, without a moment's hesitation she said two words, "Robert Riker". Throughout the program Robert has managed to maintain an "A" average, impress all of his teachers and fellow students, and subsequently snag a desirable position at Mount Sinai. Everyone agrees that at the age of 26, Robert is on a path to becoming a top scientist in his field.

Born in New Jersey, Robert moved to Pensacola, FL when he was young. It wasn't until after he received his BS in Engineering at the University of Florida, that he set his sights on the east coast. He heard about The Institute of

Allied Medical Profession's Nuclear Medicine Program from an alumni. Originally Robert was leaning towards staying on the engineer/technologists side of medicine. Although after joining a mentorship program in Florida, he witnessed first hand the gratification that comes from helping people directly. Robert believed that Nuclear Medicine was a perfect hybrid of both working with technology and people. After weighing his options Robert finally settled on IAMP because of its locations, affiliations and the intensity of the program.

"I liked how IAMP allows the student to jump head first into the program by experiencing hands-on and classroom training at the same time." Robert reflects, "I found this to be a very effective learning method." After completing his clinical at Mount Sinai, Robert was so well liked by his co-workers, they asked him to join the staff. Robert originally planned to return to Florida after the program, however, a job at a great hospital in New York City was too difficult to turn down. "There is always something going on in New York City and the hospitals offer the most

cutting edge technology. This is where I need to be."

In his sparetime, Robert practices a rare martial arts called Krav Maga. He also enjoys running in Central Park. As for his future Robert has set some immediate goals. "I want to pass both my board exams, pay off my student loans, save up for a house and travel." As for his distant future Robert hopes to one day be a Director of Radiology or perhaps a Medical Physicist. According to his outstanding performance, there is a good chance that Robert Riker will achieve all his goals and more.

#### **Fill in the Blanks.....**

When people aren't looking I'm: reading.

I'm always humming the tune: (long pause) I never hum.

I'd rather be: outside.

I can't stand it when people: don't clean up after their dogs.

My personal hero is: my brother.

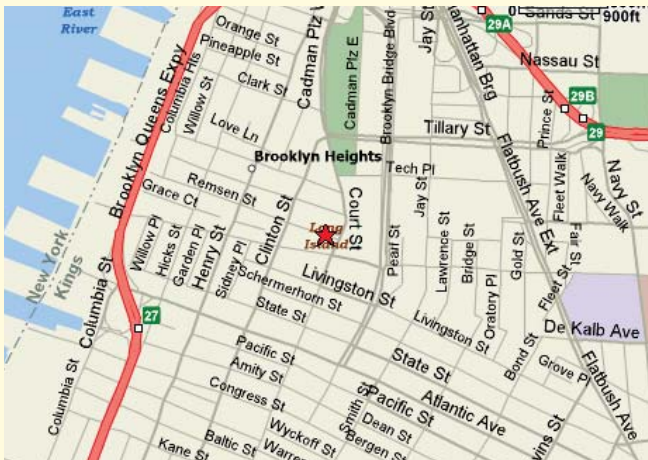


## St. Francis College Joins IAMP

The Institute has joined with St. Francis College located at 180 Remsen Street, conveniently located in downtown Brooklyn to offer you an opportunity to receive your Bachelor's degree in Special Studies. The college will accept up to a total of 105 transfer credits, with 80 credits given for successfully completing IAMP's Diagnostic Ultrasound Program.

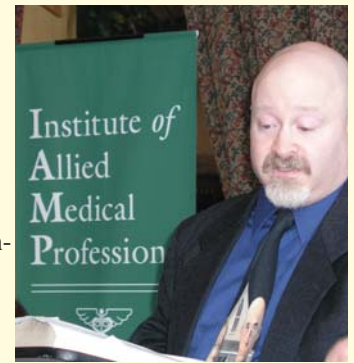
St. Francis will be accepting students beginning January 18, 2005. As a courtesy to our students, all application fees will be waived. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, plan to attend one of our information seminars, or you may contact the Office of Admissions online at [www.stfranciscollege.edu](http://www.stfranciscollege.edu)

If you have any questions you may call St. Francis College directly at 718/489-5200.



## St. John's Graduation

On January 20, 2005 graduation exercises for the St John's class 9/03, were held at the Harvest-on-Hudson Restaurant, Hastings, New York. The Address to Graduates was offered by Nicole Parodi(Delbene) Class of September 2003. Nicole is presently employed at Danbury Hospital as Chief Sonographer of the Peri-natal unit.



Larry Dell'Aquila provided the Student Commentary thanking the staff and fellow students for their support during the training process. Silvana Byrne Class of 2001 welcomed graduates as fellow alumni and invited them to take an active role in alumni activities.

Accepting the Award for Outstanding Clinical Instructor was Dr. Gerard Foye, Chief Perinatalogist, Danbury Hospital, Danbury Connecticut.

Congratulations to Larry Dell'Aquila, Ty Gruber, Lisa Mindich and Kavitha Murthavasrapu for receiving High Honors and Patricia Bator, Owen Morrison, Jaclyn Nevin, Colleen Pecoraro and Danny Sayegh for receiving honors.

## CLASS PHOTO



### **Back Row Left to Right**

Owen Morrison, Colleen Pecoraro, Glenn Klami, Lisa Mindich, Ty Gruber

### **Front Row Left to Right**

Divina Roberts, Jessica Belli, Janet Valez, Gina Ferraro, Patricia Bator, Larry Dell'Aquila, Kavitha Murthavarapu, Jaclyn Nevin, Tracy Disclafani, Danny Sayegh

# Nuclear News



## Nuclear Medicine Student Wins Scholarship

IAMP Nuclear Medicine student Wera Kosiv was awarded the Paul Cole Scholarship from the Society of Nuclear Medicine after her personal statement caught the attention of the Scholarship Committee. On March 16, 2005, John Hart, Mt Sinai's Radiology Department's Administrative Director, awarded Wera with a \$1000 check in front of Mt. Sinai and IAMP staff.

Wera graduated with honors with a Master's degree in Chemistry from the very prestigious Chernovtsky State University in the Ukraine. A love for science, research and chemistry has always guided her path. When Wera came to the USA six years ago she began working at Lutheran Hospital in the Medical Library. There she came to learn about the broad possibilities of professions in science and clinical medicine. Wera then decided that her choice for her future would be Nuclear Medicine Technology.

Today, Wera is half way through her clinical training at Mt. Sinai where they are very happy to have here. Since the inception of Institute's Nuclear Medicine Tehnology program in 1977, Mount Sinai continues to contribute solid support to the education of clinical studies. At the present time more that 50% of the working technical staff in Nuclear Medicine are IAMP Alumni.

Nuclear Medicine Program Director, Carolyn Jacobs, said "I remember Wera's application for admission into the program as being one of the most organized that I ever seen. In addition to her academic ability, which is always heralded, one can also recognize her kindness and compassion." Upon receiving the scholarship Wera expressed gratitude to the Mt. Sinai staff and IAMP.



Program Director John Hart presents a \$1,000 check to a happy Wera Kosiv.

## IAMP Alumni and Students at Mt. Sinani



(Back row right to left) Amnon Beniaminovitz, Nuclear Cardiology 4/03, Robert Riker, Student 4/05, Shauqun Huang, Student 10/05, Iosif Mershon, Nuclear Cardiology 4/02, Viktor Zaretsky Hot Lab 4/91, Micheal Muzinic, QA Manager 9/84 (Center Row) Iosif Kraydman, Nuclear Cardiology 10/02 (Front left to right) Alexander Reznikov, Student 4/05, Gagandeep Singh, Nuclear Medicine, 10/03, Krista Guma, Nuclear Cardiology, 10/04, Wera Kosiv, Student, 10/05. Not pictured: Titus George, Nuclear Cardiology, 9/83

**Congratulations** to Alexander Reznikov and Robert Riker, students who will graduate on April 20th and join Mt. Sinai's staff. Congratulations to Krista Guma, who passed the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification with Distinction. Krista graduated in October 2004.



**Krista Guma, Nuclear Cardiology**

## ACCREDITATON

Accreditation is a significant acheivement because of its recognition that a educational program and the clinical affiliates have met the standards and guidelines as defined by the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology. The Review Committe, assisted by on-site review teams, evaluates a program's compliance with the standards. Programs which meet or exceed the minimum standards are granted an accreditation status by JRCNMT. The extent to which any program complies with the standards determines its accreditation status.

A re-accreditation inspection of the Nuclear Medicine Technology program was conducted on November 4 & 5, 2004. The Program was awarded for a second time: **Continued Accreditation - 5 Year.**

# IAMP Florida Campus News



## Welcome Our New Program Director

IAMP welcomed Dr. Laurie Adams to the West Palm Beach campus on February 1st. Dr. Adams is the new Program Director for Radiation Therapy and comes to us from Birmingham, AL where she was the director of the Baccalaureate Degree program in Radiation Therapy for the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Laurie has a B.S. in Radiologic Sciences from the University of Central Florida, a Masters of Health Science in Health Promotion from the University of North Florida, and an Ed.D. in Educational Administration and Leadership from Georgia Southern University. This is Laurie's fourth position as a Radiation Therapy Program Director and she is excited about the challenge of developing a new program for the Institute. "It is nice to be able to start from scratch and get everything right the first time around." Laurie said.

Laurie is thrilled to be back in Florida where she grew up and has thoroughly enjoyed her first Florida winter in 18 years. Laurie has been busy locating clinical affiliates for the new program, a process that has allowed her to make new friends and renew old acquaintances at various cancer centers. When she is not here at work, Laurie is at home in Okeechobee with her husband, two toddler boys, and three dogs.



**St. Mary's Medical Center  
home to IAMP Florida**

## ACCREDITATION

The Accrediting Bureau for Health Education Schools (ABHES) was on campus conducting an accreditation site visit on March 21st. ABHES was here to evaluate us for institutional accreditation. The site team included a diagnostic medical sonographer who reviewed the specifics of the ultrasound program. A decision from the ABHES commissioners regarding our accreditation is expected sometime in late summer.

## GRADUATION

Congratulations and best wishes to the ten new sonographers who graduated on January 24th. This was the very first class graduating from the West Palm Beach Campus. The ceremony and celebration were held at the Atlantis Country Club in Lake Worth, and included a very nice Sunday brunch. The event was attended by President Thomas Haggerty, President Emeritus Dr. Eugene Vinciguerra, Program Director Dr. Victor Ortega, Admissions Director Jennifer McCann, Clinical Coordinator Kara Latham, and other faculty and staff members. The next class of students in the ultrasound program will graduate on May 6th.



**From left to right: Dr. Eugene Vinciguerra  
Kara Latham, Dr. Victor Ortega**

## WE ARE GROWING

The Commission for Independent Education approved three new programs for our campus at their January 27th board meeting. Certificate programs in Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Therapy, and Radiography were reviewed and approved without questions. Laurie Adams is already on board as the Radiation Therapy Director. Also, Julie Slusser has been hired as our new Program Director for Radiography. All three programs will begin classes before the end of 2005.

## Three New Programs!



**Radiation Therapy**



**Radiography**



**Nuclear Medicine**



## Exam technique critical in liver ultrasound

The liver is the largest parenchymal organ in the abdomen. The normal liver has a homogenous parenchyma with high water content, providing an excellent medium for the propagation of ultrasound waves.

The body's master organ is also subject to a number of diseases, of course, many of which can be seen morphologically with various radiological modalities. In experienced hands, ultrasound is an excellent method of detecting and depicting various focal and general pathologies.

Until recently, ultrasound has been used mainly for screening purposes and for guidance in biopsies of known targets. One drawback has been the modality's rather low sensitivity to small focal lesions. Traditionally, only about 70% of liver metastases have been found with ultrasound, significantly less than the approximately 98% detected with multislice CT and contrast-enhanced MRI.

The outlook is changing, however, with the introduction of second-generation microbubbles. The modality's role is growing as reports indicate that contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS), in experienced hands, is yielding results in the same sensitivity range as CT and MRI for detecting focal liver lesions. Also, thanks to ultrasound's real-time capabilities, clinicians report highly accurate characterization of focal liver lesions with CEUS. In our clinic, focal liver lesions rarely go to CT or MRI for characterization anymore; on the contrary, the CT and MRI department quite often asks the ultrasound department for help with characterization of difficult lesions.

Documentation of ultrasound exams has traditionally been limited to still image "snapshots" of representative structures. While they are easily made, snapshots have only limited value for re-evaluation of an exam or comparison with older exams. With still images it is impossible to decide if a lesion has appeared since the previous exam, and the doctor must rely on the fact that it was not mentioned in the report.

Simply put, high overall quality and dependability will be required if ultrasound is to avoid simply being ignored as an advanced imaging modality. And it is not possible to demonstrate, spread, or teach about CEUS without widespread development and acceptance of storage and everyday use of dynamic clips. The technique is no obstacle anymore; at our clinic all ultrasound exams (more than 14,000 so far) have been dynamically documented and stored digitally for the past two years. The advantages for clinical presentations and discussions, comparison with CT and MRI, comparison with previous cine documented exams, the advantages in education, and the ability of retrospective findings and feedback have brought ultrasound to an entirely new level of confidence among clinicians and radiologists in our hospital.

This article and more industry news on [www.auntminnie.com](http://www.auntminnie.com)

## ARDMS Offers Three New Practice Examinations Online

Abdomen, obstetrics/gynecology and neurosonology specialty practice exams are now available. Each of the practice exams also includes a tutorial feature.

ARDMS is proud to announce the online availability of three new specialty practice examinations for abdomen, obstetrics/gynecology and neurosonology. The Ultrasound Physics & Instrumentation (UPI), Cardiovascular Principles & Instrumentation (CPI) and Vascular Physical Principles & Instrumentation (VPI) practice exams are also available online.

Individuals have the opportunity to simulate the ARDMS test-taking experience prior to the real exams by taking an online practice examination on their own time, in their own home.

Each practice examination costs \$25 to take and consists of 30 exam questions, along with five post-examination survey questions. The practice exams are very much like the real ARDMS tests – in the content areas covered, as well as the style of the questions included. The pace of the actual ARDMS test is also simulated in the practice examinations. Test-takers have exactly 30 minutes to finish the timed 35-question practice exam.

All practice examinations have a recently updated feature: a timed 15-minute tutorial detailing instructions on taking the practice exam. The 15-minute tutorial is in addition to the 30 minutes given to take the actual practice examination.

### Benefits of taking the practice examination:

- The practice examination is particularly beneficial for individuals who may not have much experience or feel comfortable with computers. The tutorial gives very detailed instructions describing the basic toolbar functions, along with a sample question to acclimate the test-taker with the test-taking format, pacing, features and functionality.
- The practice examination's tutorial is very similar to the tutorial one would receive when taking the actual ARDMS certification examination(s). Therefore, the tutorial is additional preparation for the test-taking experience.
- The questions included in the practice examinations are randomly selected from a database of test items, so no two exams will be exactly the same. Interested individuals can take the test multiple times (\$25 for each test).
- The test-taker's results are provided as soon as they finish the practice exam. The post-exam score report provides the number of questions answered correctly and highlights the content areas of the missed questions.

ARDMS is currently working to offer the remaining specialty examinations: breast, adult echocardiography, pediatric echocardiography, fetal echocardiography and vascular technology. ARDMS also offers content outlines for all of the ARDMS examinations, as well as sample questions. These resources, along with the practice examinations, are the best preparation future test-takers will find.

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