Bucknell-Geisinger Faculty Evening and Bucknell Senior Design Expo scheduled for March 3

Two events, each of which promotes increased collaboration between Geisinger and Bucknell will be held March 3 in the Henry Hood Center for Health Research.

The first event, the annual Bucknell Senior Design Expo, will run from 3:30 to 5:30. The Expo provides an opportunity to talk with students and their Bucknell and Geisinger mentors about their design projects and to see the prototype devices in action. Immediately following, Geisinger will host an Evening for Faculty, celebrating the recipients of the Geisinger Bucknell Research Initiatives awards and fostering new collaborations by means of a poster session and formal presentations.

A request for poster abstracts will be sent out in early January and further details about both events will be announced closer to the events.

Dr. Still named clinical co-editor of obesity journal

Christopher D. Still, DO, Director of the Geisinger Obesity Institute has been named Clinical Co-Editor of the peer-reviewed journal Bariatric Times.

Bariatric Times is published monthly on obesity trends and developments, the latest clinical and research findings, and current developments in all aspects of the treatment of patients with obesity and metabolic disorders.

Still joins Clinical Editor Raul J. Rosenthal, MD, who is interim chief of staff and chairman for Department of Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic, Weston, Florida.

Still, who is also Director for the Center for Nutrition and Weight Management, and the medical director of Employee Wellness at Geisinger, will bring his extensive expertise in the field of medical weight loss to the journal. Obesity Medicine is a rapidly growing field, and Dr. Still is internationally regarded as one of the top clinician and researcher in his field.

Verify effort when certifying

Effort certification continues to be a hot button issue and institutions continue to face allegations of wrongdoing during federal audits and investigations.
Recently, Columbia University entered into a $9 million settlement and admitted to have failed to use suitable means to verify if employees actually performed the work that was charged to a grant (http://www.justice.gov/usao/nys/pressreleases/October14/ColumbiaICAPsettlementPR.php).

Certifying the effort worked on projects is a federal requirement and all employees working on sponsored projects should certify their effort monthly. This certification should be based on actual effort spent on each project, which may be different from the committed effort shown on the screen when certifying your effort.

It is important to ensure that the percentages entered are based on effort spent. When certifying your effort, please verify that all projects you worked on are listed on the screen.

If any project is missing or you do not see the committed effort percentage, you can enter this information while you certify your effort. Do not rely only on what is listed.

It is also important to remember that certain activities, such as writing a proposal for a new project or for a new competitive segment, cannot be charged to sponsored projects.

Please remember that effort certification is subject to the False Claim Act. Please contact Yustine Sickora at 570 214 9246 or email her at ynsickora@geisinger.edu if you have any questions.

Research MRI Core Facility now open in Lewisburg

Imaging, whether by itself or as a complement to other data, is becoming an increasingly important research measure. To meet the imaging needs of the research community, Geisinger Research, Radiology and System Leadership and Bucknell University have partnered together to acquire a state of the art Siemens 3Tesla magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner.

This powerful research appropriate MRI has advanced clinical and research imaging protocols for both structural and functional imaging with dedicated research time and a dedicated research technologist.

An MRI simulator (mock scanner) is also available to help acclimate individuals to the
MRI scanning process. The MRI is housed in the Radiology Suite of Susquehanna Valley Imaging in Lewisburg. The research MRI core facility is managed by the Autism & Developmental Medicine Institute (ADMI) and will function like a core facility with charge back. The scanner is available for research scans four afternoons a week. Please contact Richard O’Donnell (rcodonnell@geisinger.edu) for more information.

New NIH biosketch format required on grant applications

The National Institutes of Health have announced a new biographical sketch format to be used in all grant applications with due dates on or after May 25, 2015. The new format extends the page limit from four to five pages, and allows researchers to describe up to five of their most significant contributions to science, along with historical background that frames their research.

Investigators can outline the central findings of prior work and the influence of those findings on the investigator’s field of interest. Each description can be accompanied by a listing of up to four relevant publications or non-publication research products, such as audio or video projects; patents; databases; models; protocols; software or netware that are relevant to the described contribution.

Researchers can also include a link to a full list of their published work as found in publicly available digital databases, such as MyBibliography or SciENcv. The Science Experts Network (SciENcv), which serves as an interagency system designed to create biosketches for multiple federal agencies, will be updated and available within a few weeks to support the new biosketch format.


In addition, the NIH has removed the requirement to identify substantial scientific changes in the test of a resubmission by bracketing, indenting or change of typography. Instead, the changes can be outlined in the introduction attachment, which also includes a summary of substantial additions, deletions and changes to the application.

IRB, Research Compliance, OSP holiday closures

The IRB, Research Compliance, and OSP will be closed on Friday, December 26th and Friday, January 2nd.

In the event of an emergent IRB or OSP need, please call Geisinger Operations (dial "0" internally or 570-271-6211) and ask them to contact IRB staff on call.
New faculty and staff

New faculty and staff starting in January:

**Marylyn D. Ritchie**, PhD, Senior Investigator and Director of Biomedical and Translational Informatics Program
**Brandon Fornwalt, MD, PhD**: Investigator II, Imaging Sciences, Research
**Christopher Haggerty PhD**, Research Scientist I, Imaging Sciences
**Jonathan D. Suever, PhD**: Research Scientist I, Imaging Sciences
**Linyuan Jing, PhD**: Postdoctoral fellow, Imaging Sciences
**Allyson Haggerty**, Project Manager 3, Institute for Advanced Application

November 2014 Publications


8. Fihn SD, **Blankenship JC**, Alexander KP, Bittl JA, Byrne JG, Fletcher BJ, Fonarow GC, Lange
In the interest of keeping the community informed, we issue this periodic publication.

For questions or concerns, call 570.214.4887 or email rafogaley@geisinger.edu


On a monthly basis, we inform our community of new awards and recent publications. If your award or publication is missing from this list, please let us know.