The Department of Radiology is implementing simulation training as a formal part of the curriculum for radiology resident training rotations in all radiology subspecialty areas. Simulation training precedes and supplements resident work with patients. Computer aided simulation is used in endovascular and interventional procedures of all varieties. Cadaver simulation is used in spinal, musculoskeletal and some chest and abdominal interventional procedures.

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center has an outstanding Simulation Laboratory capable of providing training and experience in medical simulation in several specialties. The 30,000 square foot laboratory uses state of the art simulation equipment and computer technology. Extensive experience is possible in endovascular diagnostic and interventional procedures, in surgical endoscopic procedures and in the management of a wide variety of obstetric presentations. There are numerous scientific papers in the medical literature on some aspects of simulation in Radiology but to our knowledge there is no specific text dealing with the extensive use of simulation in the Radiology residency curriculum. Therefore, Dr. Hugh Robertson, Dr. John Paige (Dept. of Surgery), and Dr. Leonard Bok will edit a book on Simulation in Radiology. Each chapter will be written by staff radiologists working in the specific Radiology subspecialty areas. We hope to include expert chapters on engineering overview of computer use in simulation, the science of simulation including accreditations and future uses, the ethics and regulations of cadaver use in simulation and simulation use in the Radiology residency curriculum. There will be an estimated 10 or more videos on procedures using simulator equipment for a website, as part of the book. Illustrations have been selected to assist and supplement the text in the book. These will include some radiologic images, photographs and possibly an occasional line drawing.
An imaging algorithm reduced the number of CT angiography and CT perfusion studies performed on patients with aneurismal subarachnoid hemorrhages, a form of stroke. The study was performed by New York Presbyterian Hospital — Weill Cornell Medical enter researchers and included 60 patients. With the new algorithm, the mean number of CT examinations per patient dropped from 7.8 to 5.8 and the number of CT perfusion exams per patient decreased 32.1%. The overall cumulative radiation exposure decreased by 12.1%.

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High dopamine levels are linked to a greater level of such psychopathic traits as manipulativeness, egocentricity, aggression, and risk-taking, a study by Vanderbilt University researchers has found. Using PET and fMRI studies, the researchers looked for changes in the dopamine reward circuitry. After volunteers were given a dose of amphetamine, they were scanned with PET to measure dopamine release. People with high levels of psychopathic traits had almost four times the amount of dopamine released in response to amphetamine.

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The brains of 24 retired NFL players with known cognitive impairment show signs of damaging atrophy, according to advanced MRI studies described at the 2009 RSNA annual meeting. The findings were drawn from ongoing research conducted by Kevin Guskliewicz, Ph.D. and colleagues at Univ. North Carolina’s Center for the Study of Retired Athletes to study the relationship between football-related concussions and cognitive and behavioral problems that emerge long after the men’s playing days are over.

Source: Diagnostic Imaging

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**Department Bulletin Board**

The Department welcomed four new residents in July 2010. Pictured from Left to Right: Robyn Deranger, Andrew Mai, Anshu Duggal, John Yang, Joe Park and Mignonne Morrell.

Dr. Michael Morin hosted the “Quiz Bowl” at the Spring Radiological Society of Louisiana Annual Meeting held in New Orleans on June 19, 2010.

Dr. Michael Maristany and Dr. Stephanie Casey successfully lead another year of “Junior Radiology,” a 2-week course held in June each year for 3rd year medical students.

Dr. David Smith has assumed the responsibilities as Coordinator for Medical Student Education, which oversees the new 3rd year medical student elective and the 4th year medical student elective.

Dr. Aran Toshav has been named the Academic Director of Abdominal Imaging.

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**New Faculty**

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Jane Clayton back to the department as a part-time Associate Professor. She was the Acting Radiology Chairman at LSUHSC from 1991-1992, Mammography Section Head from 1995-2006 and Assistant Radiology Residency Program Director from 2000-2004.

Dr. Sameer Gadani will join the faculty as an Interventional Radiologist (tentative date Nov. 2010). Dr. Gadani comes to us from the University of Minnesota Medical Center in Minneapolis, where he has completed fellowships in Vascular Interventional Radiology and Neuroradiology. His current research projects include: Evaluation of role of DTI in patient with temporal lobe epilepsy; and Imaging evaluation of the Trautman’s triangle in patient with Meniere’s Disease.

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**Recent Visiting Professor Lectures**

On July 1st, Dr. Sameer Bhatia, presented a visiting professor lecture entitled, “Illustrative Cases in Interventional Radiology.”

Dr. James Caridi, from the University of Florida, presented a visiting professor lecture on August 20th, entitled, “Update on local regional therapy of liver tumors.”

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**Contributions**

If you would like to donate to the Department of Radiology, you may contribute through the Foundation for the LSU Health Sciences Center by:

- Sending your check made payable to the LSUHSC Foundation to: 1542 Tulane Avenue, Room 353 New Orleans, LA 70112
- Going to: www.lsuhscfoundation.org, and clicking on “How To Give.”

- Calling (504) 568-5717 to make a gift with your credit card.

Please designate your gift for the Department of Radiology.