The Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences

There has never been a better time to prepare for a future as a healthcare professional. In 2008, The Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences opened a new facility to prepare qualified students for exciting careers through five accredited Programs:

- Clinical Pastoral Education
- Nursing
- Paramedic Education
- Radiologic Technology
- Surgical Technology

The new campus is more than an investment in our students. It represents a commitment to our community as we provide a cohesive and comprehensive education for the men and women who will become the future providers of patient care through The Reading Hospital and our affiliated practices.

Clinical Facilities

Serving as a regional center for the care of patients in numerous subspecialties, The Reading Hospital and Medical Center offers students outstanding facilities for clinical experience in the field of diagnostic radiology. Throughout the Program, qualified clinical staff and instructors supervise students during their many varied clinical experiences.

The Reading Hospital and Medical Center Department of Radiology performs more than 250,000 diagnostic procedures and therapeutic treatments annually. The Department of Radiology is divided into four functional sections.

Section One – Diagnostic Radiology

General Radiology: encompasses radiography of the chest, abdomen, spine, pelvis, head, and extremities in inpatient and outpatient settings. Mammography, trauma radiography, fluoroscopy, cystoscopy, urography, operating room radiography, and mobile (portable) radiography are also sections of General Radiography.

Computed Tomography: CT scan uses x-ray energy to obtain cross-sectional "slices" of anatomical structures located at different levels within the body. These computer-generated images permit visualization of anatomy within structures, rather than solely on their surface.

Ultrasound: utilizes high-frequency sound waves to image organs, tissues, and blood vessels in the body. Returning echoes generated by these anatomical structures are interpreted by a computer, which in turn, produces an understandable image.

Section Two – Nuclear Medicine

Employs radioactive materials (radiopharmaceuticals) to image both the structure and function of organs, tissue, and bone. Specialized cameras detect emissions from the radiopharmaceuticals, and record their travel and concentration throughout the body.

Section Three – Interventional Radiography

Performs diagnostic radiographic studies of the circulatory system and provides a visual "roadmap" of the bloodstream. Additionally, under x-ray guidance, curative procedures may be performed throughout the body, often providing patients an alternative to surgery.

Section Four - Radiation Oncology

Uses high-energy radiation for the treatment of disease, primarily cancer. The Department of Radiation Oncology at The Reading Hospital and Medical Center offers specialty services including:

- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
- Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT)
- High Dose Rate Brachytherapy(HDR) for gynecologic, breast, thoracic, esophageal, and biliary tumors.

Department of Radiology professional staff includes:

26 AMA Board-Certified Radiologists (MD)
3 AMA Board-Certified Radiation Oncologists (MD)
5 AMA Board-Certified CAQ – Vascular, Neurology, and Interventional Radiologists (MD)(DO)
5 Specializing Radiation Physicists (BS, PhD)
1 Interventional Neuroradiologist
4 Physician Assistants
2 Radiology Assistants
233 Board-Registered Technologists

- 87 specializing in Diagnostic Radiology (RT(R))
- 38 specializing in Computed Tomography (RT(R)(CT))
- 24 specializing in Magnetic Resonance Imaging (RT(R)(MR))
- 14 specializing in Radiation Oncology (RT(T))
- 14 specializing in Nuclear Medicine (CNMT)
- 18 specializing in Mammography (RT(R)(M))
- 17 specializing in Ultrasound (RDMS)
- 13 specializing in Interventional Radiography (RT(R)(IR))
- 8 specializing in Management and Administration (RT(R), BS, CRA)

Continued Professional Development

The emergence of multiple satellite imaging areas has provided radiographers with many opportunities for continued career development. Mammography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, nuclear medicine, radiation oncology, ultrasound, cardiovascular imaging, and interventional radiography are examples of imaging areas available to graduates interested in pursuing professional career development outside general radiography. Students enrolled in the Radiologic Technology Program will be provided opportunities to observe in these areas. Should a student wish to develop the skills required to work in any of these sections, additional education or job-site training following graduation from the Radiologic Technology Program is required.

Student Resources

Students have access to all available resources of the School of Health Sciences Radiologic Technology Program. Resources include the Hospital's Library Services, Computer Lab, Energized and Non-Energized Radiographic Skills Lab, and Student Health.

Library Services at The Reading Hospital houses a section dedicated to radiographic imaging. Reference materials, professional books, and imaging journals are available. The privilege of borrowing these materials is extended exclusively to Radiologic Technology students. Radiologic Technology students also have access to nursing, medicine, and other allied health reference materials. Computers programmed for research, word processing, Internet, and e-mail are available in the Library as well.

Policies and Procedures

The Student Policy Handbook is available on our website at: *www.readinghospital.org*. Students are required to comply with all Policies and Procedures established by the School of Health Sciences, Radiologic Technology Program, the Department of Radiology, and The Reading Hospital and Medical Center.