

# KEATS SOCIETY

UVA DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY

AND MEDICAL IMAGING ALUMNI SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2025



**IN THIS ISSUE:**

CLINICAL ADVANCES

GLOBAL HEALTH

MATCH DAY

UVA AT SIR

# THE KEATS SOCIETY

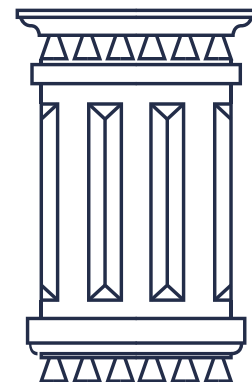


*Dr. Theodore Keats was appointed the fourth chairman of the Department of Radiology at the University of Virginia in 1963. Drawing on his professional experiences in Sweden, Dr. Keats restructured the department to promote the development of radiologic subspecialties in response to the growing demand for comprehensively trained radiologists capable of performing a wide range of diagnostic and interventional procedures. This strategic reorganization significantly enhanced the capabilities of both the department and the broader medical center. Over the course of his 29-year tenure, the department experienced a threefold increase in imaging study volume and expanded to offer the full spectrum of radiologic services.*



*Dr. Theodore Keats*

*In recognition of his enduring contributions to the field and to the institution, the Keats Society was established within the Department of Radiology and Medical Imaging at UVA. The Society fosters a sense of community among current and former residents, fellows, and faculty through scientific and social reunions. Its principal mission is to support the educational advancement of current trainees via the Educational Endowment Fund, which provides financial resources aimed at enriching their academic and professional development.*





# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings from the Keats Society!

Later in this newsletter, you'll get an inside look at our department's Spencer B. Gay Radiology Resident International Education Program and Global Health Leadership Track (GHLT). As it celebrates its 10th anniversary, the program has recently started exciting new initiatives (you'll have to read about those yourself!).

You might be surprised to learn that there's a substantial link between international education and former Department Chair Ted Keats, MD. In 1963, Dr. Keats delayed his first year as chair to go on sabbatical at Sweden's Karolinska Institute. At the time, the institute was at the cutting edge of radiology, including early innovations that would become the foundation of interventional radiology. But while there, what most struck Dr. Keats was how radiology served as a centerpiece of the health system. Its department was located on the first floor of the hospital for easy access to patients and daily rounding; meanwhile, UVA's limited radiology services were still relegated to the hospital basement. When Dr. Keats returned to Charlottesville, he used these lessons to help build our department.

The Global Health Leadership Track is only 10 years old. But it's inspiring to think that the values of the program - of nurturing an international exchange of ideas - have been part of UVA Radiology for a long time. And I hope they continue for the years to come.

Thank you for your continued support and for being a part of the Keats Society!

Best wishes,  
Jenni Pierce, MD



# AROUND THE DEPARTMENT



## *MRI Suite Expansion Opens for Patients*

On Monday, April 14, a small group convened within the University of Virginia's University Medical Center to witness a special event: a ceremonial ribbon-cutting and tour of the long-awaited MRI suite expansion.

"It really is a spectacular facility," said Colin Derdeyn, MD, chair of UVA's Department of Radiology and Medical Imaging. "It's going to have a great impact."

One particularly meaningful upgrade is the incorporation of a fourth MRI scanner within the hospital. Before the expansion, the MRI suite contained just three scanners for the entire medical center. For nearly four years, the department has uti-

lized an additional trailer-based MRI scanner behind the hospital – though this has created inefficiencies with staffing and patient flow.

Now with the fourth MRI scanner located in the hospital, patient imaging workflow "will significantly improve," said James Carnes, UVA Radiology's medical center administrator. Plus, the expansion includes a "shell space" for a potential fifth MRI scanner in the future, which would increase capacity even further.

Besides scanner space, the MRI suite expansion offers other benefits. These include additional preparation and recovery space for patients, as well as a designated anesthesia support area for patients

This project has been a long time coming. The expansion occupies space that formerly held the Interventional Radiology suite, which moved to the South Tower in early 2020. But although planning began nearly six years ago, construction met an unexpected roadblock.

“The project was originally scheduled to commence in the fall of 2020 and the expansion to be open in 2022,” said Carnes. “But the pandemic intervened and the project was significantly delayed.”

Today, the expanded MRI suite is finally functional and seeing patients – thanks to the multi-year work of several individuals and teams. Among them: UVA’s

MRI team and off-site anesthesia team, UVA Capital Construction & Renovation, Siemens, UVA Radiology’s Director of Inpatient Imaging Rich Hooper, Carnes, and many other individuals across UVA Health and beyond. And although the project faced uncertainties, it now has the chance to impact patients and providers alike.

“I’m relieved and thankful that we’re finally able to open the expanded MRI suite to facilitate patient care and to improve workflow for our MRI team and the off-site anesthesia team,” said Carnes. “And [I’m] sincerely grateful to the organization’s support of the project.”



***UVA Radiology’s Rich Hooper, James Carnes, and Colin Derdeyn, MD at the ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the new MRI suite expansion at UVA’s University Medical Center.***



# *UVA Becomes First Hospital in Virginia to Offer Histotripsy for Liver Tumors*

In March, UVA Health became the first hospital in Virginia – and one of a handful of places nationwide – to offer histotripsy, a non-invasive liver cancer treatment.

The innovative procedure uses focused ultrasound to treat cancerous tissue. After a patient is put under general anesthesia, the ultrasound waves create resonant bubbles within tumors in order to make the cancer cells burst. By allowing the proteins of cancer cells to remain intact, the procedure can also allow patients' immune systems to identify these malignant cells and become stronger as a result.

The nature of the procedure offers several benefits for patients. For one, patients experience a shorter recovery time and can be discharged the next morning or even the same day. Histotripsy also has no radiation and dose limit and can be used in conjunction with other treatments like chemotherapy. And because histotripsy is non-invasive, it can be of particular service to patients who have health conditions that prevent surgery.

The procedure will be performed by the interventional radiologists within the Department of Radiology and Medical Imaging. Associate Professor Daniel Sheeran, MD serves as the director for UVA's histotripsy program.



## *Principal Investigator, Distinguished Alum*

In February, **Professor Ziv Haskal, MD** achieved two major milestones. First, he was named the national principal investigator for the multicenter RESORB trial: the first US study assessing the effect of genicular artery embolization (GAE) with Nexsphere-F microsphere to provide relief for knee osteoarthritis. And later in the month, it was announced that Dr. Haskal would receive the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine at Boston University, where he earned his medical degree. A formal ceremony for the award will be held in September.



# *Spotlight:* **GLOBAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP TRACK**



## *In Its 10th Year, UVA Radiology's Global Health Program Keeps Building*

*Olivia Richrdson, MD in Tanzania*

On December 3, 2024, the University of Virginia's Department of Radiology and Medical Imaging held its annual Alumni and Friends Reception in Chicago, IL. Across the room were familiar faces of current and former trainees and faculty. Most of the 70+ attendees had been part of the UVA Radiology community for years, even decades.

But that wasn't the case for Catherine Kavishe, a special guest at the reception. At the time, Dr. Kavishe was a final-year resident at the Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute in Dar El Salaam, Tanzania. Just a month prior, she had traveled more than 8,000 miles to Charlottesville, Va for a visiting radiology rotation as part of a new initiative within UVA Radiology's Global Health Leadership Track Program.

*"This is a dream," said Dr. Kavishe.  
"This year is ending really well."*



**Catherine Kavishe, MD**

*Continued on next page.*



# The Power of a True Exchange Program

For the past decade, UVA Radiology's Global Health Leadership Track (GHLT) and the Spencer B. Gay Resident International Education Fund have given UVA Radiology residents the opportunity to visit Uganda and Tanzania. Over a dozen UVA residents have traveled to these medical institutions in order to expand their medical knowledge and maintain an international educational exchange.

But Dr. Kavishe's visit to Charlottesville marks the beginning of the GLHT becoming a "true" exchange program. She's the first international resident to come to UVA as part of the program; and as the GHLT celebrates its 10th anniversary, the department aims to regularly host radiology residents from developing countries at UVA.

Within radiology, Dr. Kavishe has a particular interest in musculoskeletal imaging and interventions (MSK). But while she's trained in general radiology, there are limited opportunities to specialize in MSK within Tan-

zania. At UVA, she trained with several MSK radiologists including Jennifer Pierce, MD, the director of the Global Health Leadership Track and the division chief of MSK. It was a productive experience.

"[I saw] a ton of procedures that I wanted to see," said Dr. Kavishe. "A lot of arthrograms, a lot of joint injections – something that back home, the orthopedic surgeons really want. So I think it has been a very successful process."

After her training at UVA, Dr. Kavishe sees the opportunity to create meaningful change at her home institution.

"We have everything there: We have fluoroscopies. We just lack the skills and the exposure," she said. "And I think with a little help, we can have our MSK fellowship there."

And maybe, she said, "I can be the first MSK fellow."



*Donate  
here*

"Our partnership with Mbarara University of Science and Technology provides a grounding and intangible experience of the radiological practice abroad. The knowledge, creativity, and humility our colleagues practice in Uganda are exemplary characteristics I learned from and hope to hold with me in my practice."

– Connor Sleeth, MD

Technology was a truly formative experience that I will carry with me for the rest of my career. Collaborating with members of multiple residencies within the university and learning about the global practice of radiology was an invaluable opportunity for both personal and professional growth, and a true highlight of my training."

– George Cheeseman, MD





# *Connecting Through Interventional Radiology*

In April 2024, Olivia Richardson, MD traveled more than 8,000 miles eastward to eventually arrive at Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar El Salaam, Tanzania (about 15 meters away from Muhimbili Orthopaedic Center). As a second-year resident within UVA Radiology's Global Health Leadership Track, Dr. Richardson immediately felt supported.

"The collaboration was something that felt very similar to UVA," said Dr. Richardson. "Waking up, knowing that people on your team were motivated to help people: [even] that they knew nothing about, from another country."

Her visit signaled another important first for the Global Health Leadership Track. Dr. Richardson is an Interventional Radiology (IR) resident, specializing in minimally invasive, image-guided procedures. Her trip was UVA's inaugural collaboration with Road2IR, an outreach and education program with a mission to bring IR to underserved African areas.

Dr. Richardson's trip was made possible through collaboration with Road2IR.

"UVA is one of the few institutions who have made it possible for IR to participate in a Global Health Leadership Track," said Dr. Richardson. "I think this is a unique aspect of our training program: to provide residents with the tools and leadership skills needed to identify and solve complex problems, promote unity in culturally diverse settings, and ultimately drive global transformation in IR."

The trip offered valuable insights for Dr. Richardson. Muhimbili National Hospital is an ocean away from UVA Hospital; it also contains approximately 1,500 beds, compared to UVA Hospital's 659. There were also differences in medical resources, with regards to operational expenses and limited tools.

"I don't think this was a negative," said Dr. Richardson. "It gave me an appreciation for what can be done with less."

However, her biggest takeaway doesn't have to do with differences, but rather similarities.

"Hearing the stories from the different trainees of what drove them to IR was not very different from myself: the love for innovation, problem solving, and helping patients when other hope is not possible," said Dr. Richardson. "Finding that kind of motivation is what sustains me, and so it was very inspirational to see so many other people share in that same desire from across the world."

For Richardson, this sort of common ground is what allows hospitals to thrive, whether in Dar El Salaam or Charlottesville.

"I'm a firm believer that the most important aspect of any successful operation is having a great culture," said Dr. Richardson.



*Photo credit: Coe Sweet*

## ***It's a Match!***

March 21 was Match Day - a day of celebration for students at UVA's School of Medicine – as well as our Department of Radiology and Medical Imaging! Below are the 11 future residents who will join UVA Radiology in July 2025.

### **Diagnostic Radiology Residency:**



**Richard Dagher**

*American University of Beirut Faculty of Medicine*



**Alexander "Zander" Eckstrom**

*Old Dominion University Eastern Virginia Medical School*



**Tyler Foley**

*University of Iowa Roy J. & Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine*





**Travis Hall**

*East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine*



**Shanna Mayorov**

*University of Virginia School of Medicine*



**Thanh Phuong Nguyen**

*University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health*



**Charles "Charlie" Rash**

*University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine*



**Anuj Shah**

*University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine*

### **Interventional Radiology Integrated Residency:**



**Ashley Barry**

*Rush Medical College*



**Franklin Iheanacho**

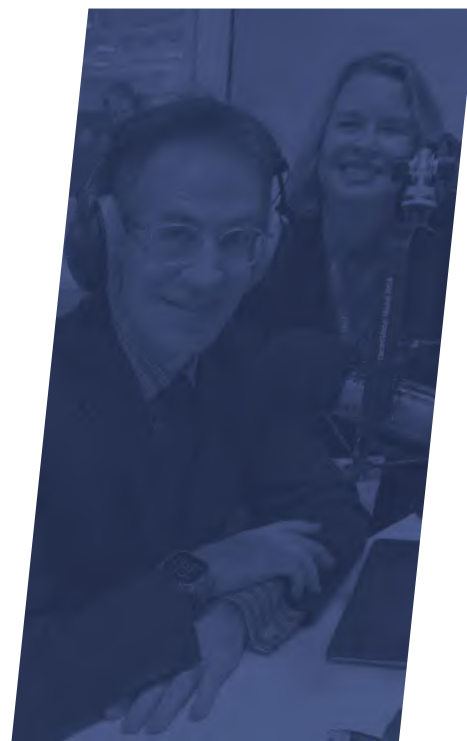
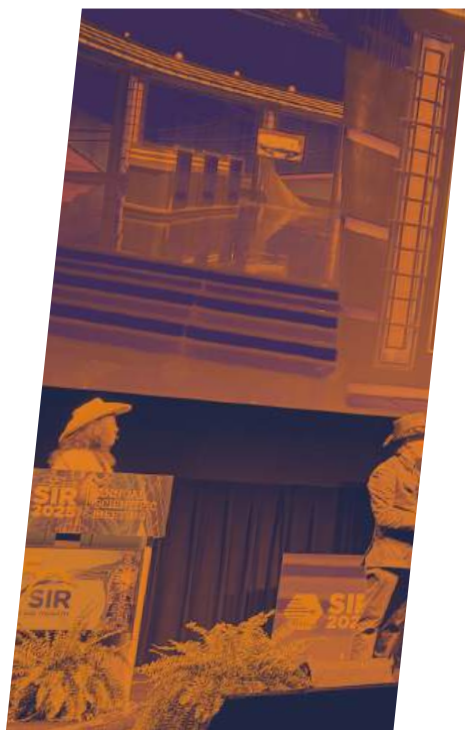
*The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University*



**Viknesh Kasthuri**

*The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University*

# *UVA AT SIR*



A strong cohort from the University of Virginia's Department of Radiology and Medical Imaging headed west to contribute to the Society of Interventional Radiology's 2025 annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.

From March 29 to April 2, faculty members and trainees contributed to a variety of events: panels, presentations, and even a few rounds of IR Jeopardy. Below is a list of department presenters:

## **Trainees:**

**Shahrzad Azizaddini, MD (PGY-6, IR-Independent)**

**Warren A. Campbell, MD (PGY-2, IR-Integrated)**

**Vishnu M. Chandra, MD (PGY-6, IR-Integrated)**

**Christina Dalzell, MD (PGY-3, IR-Integrated)**

**Torikai Hideyuki, MD (Fellow, Pediatric Radiology)**

**Viknesh Kasthuri (incoming PGY-1, IR-Integrated)**

**Megan K. H. Powell (UVA medical student)**





**Faculty Members:**

J. Fritz Angle, MD

Ziv J. Haskal, MD

Alan H. Matsumoto, MD, MA

Daniel Sheeran, MD

Amy C. Taylor, MD, MBA

Luke R. Wilkins, MD

*You've Got Mail!*

*A note for how to  
support the Keats Society  
is on its way!*





**Join our team!**

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