

FOUNDATION NEWS

CELEBRATING SUCCESSES & SHARING STORIES



Photo: Radiologic Technology Scholars celebrate their Pinning Ceremony in August 2023. From left to right: Andrea Childers-Clinical Director, Jose Cheng, Rebecca Humburg, Kristin Dellavecchia, Cyhia Richardson, Hannah O'Neill, Adrienne Frances, Amanda Lucas-Professor, Amelia Crawford-Professor; (bottom) Michael Fuller, Lielie Jarvis-Program Director.

HELLO & WELCOME

According to new staffing survey data from the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT), medical imaging vacancy rates are hitting historic highs (vacancy rates represent the number of unfilled positions that are actively being recruited). All medical imaging disciplines reported their highest vacancy rate levels since ASRT started tracking staffing metrics in 2003. For example, the estimated radiographer vacancy rate this year is at an all-time high of 18.1%, an increase from 6.2% in 2021. Without a focused effort, our community and communities across the country will face an inability to provide timely radiologic imaging services because of the lack of trained imaging professionals.

The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation serves to promote better health and wellbeing now, and for future generations, by advancing access to medical imaging services and workforce development opportunities. It is our work to help fill this staffing gap while also helping to access jobs that provide sustainable living wages with the opportunity for continued growth and advanced certifications.

Through our Education Fund, we provide financial support, mentoring and job shadowing to individuals interested in a career in medical imaging sciences. We are also working to expand training opportunities, education and awareness within our community. I hope you will continue to support our efforts in this important work. Thank you.

Dr. Douglas Seiler
TRA Medical Imaging Foundation Board Chair

IN THIS ISSUE

- Hello & Welcome | p. 1
- Honoring Dr. Jackson | p. 2
- In Just a Few Years | p. 3
- CT Certification Program | p. 3
- Save the Date | p. 3
- Class of 2023 | p. 4-5
- Community Partnerships | p. 6
- Mentor Corner | p. 7
- Community Thank You | p. 8

Mission

To promote better health and wellbeing by advancing access to medical imaging services and workforce development opportunities.

TRA MEDICAL IMAGING FOUNDATION HONORS DR. WILLIAM B. JACKSON

April 29, 1936 ~ February 4, 2023



Dr. William B. Jackson was born in 1936 in Oklahoma and was proud of his heritage as an Okie, having worked on oil rigs in his youth. He graduated from Wake Forest School of Medicine in 1964 and took his residency in Diagnostic Radiology at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego. Dr. Jackson served his country during the Vietnam War and rose to the rank of Captain in the Navy.

At a time when very few radiologists were specialists, Dr. Jackson trained in Nuclear Medicine, the only subspecialty of radiology which existed at the time. He was one of the last radiologists in Tacoma who performed both diagnostic and therapeutic radiology before these two fields split in the 1970's. During his long career in Tacoma, he developed expertise in the new imaging techniques of ultrasound, CT, MRI and PET scanning.

Dr. Jackson joined Tacoma Radiology in 1972 as the sixth radiologist. He served as President of Tacoma Radiology for 17 years, a record which still stands and will likely never be broken. During his time with TRA, the group grew to more than 100 radiologists and more than 500 employees, becoming one of the largest private radiology groups in the country. To commemorate the 100th anniversary of Tacoma Radiology, Dr. Jackson extensively researched the local history of radiology, authoring and publishing a book titled: *The First 100 Years - The History of Radiology in South Puget Sound*.

He was president of the Washington State Radiology Society in 1984 and president of the Pierce County Medical Society in their Centennial year in 1988. He served as Chief of Staff at Tacoma General Hospital and of Puget Sound Hospital. Dr. Jackson was a Fellow of the American College of Radiology, an honor awarded to only 10% of radiologists. He was personally responsible for fluoridation of water in Tacoma which he felt was his duty to the children of Tacoma. Dr. Jackson was the quintessential people person! He loved his patients, his partners, his clinical colleagues and staff in the hospitals and offices. He was forever seeking out win-win situations which would benefit everyone, but especially his patients.

Dr. Jackson served on the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation Board and was continually dedicated to its mission to promote better health and wellbeing by advancing access to medical imaging services and workforce development opportunities. He believed in mentoring, supporting and guiding the next generation to continue to provide excellence in healthcare now and for years to come. It is our honor to announce that our scholarship program will be named **The William B. Jackson Scholarship Fund**.

The TRA's Medical Imaging Foundation's Education Fund provides financial support to individuals interested in developing their Imaging Sciences career through financial scholarships, mentoring and residency opportunities. Consistent with its mission the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation established a scholarship program for students enrolled in Tacoma Community College's Radiologic Technologist Program and Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) Program; and Advanced CT Certification and are placing significant emphasis on applicants from diverse backgrounds and needs.

If you would like to view a PDF of *The First 100 Years*, visit: <https://www.tranow.com/about/history>.

For more information about **The William B. Jackson Scholarship Fund**

visit: <https://www.tramedicalimagingfoundation.org/funds>

IN JUST A FEW YEARS

2019: The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation is launched.

2020: The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation accepts its first four scholars from the Radiologic Technologist Program. The time was Covid, and the need was essential.

2021: TCC, MHS and TRA partner in providing financial resources to expand the Radiologic Technology (RT) program from 20 to 40 students accepted annually.

2021: Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) Scholarship opportunities added to the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation Education Fund offerings.

2021: The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation accepts six new scholars, three in the RT program and three in the DMS program.

2022: The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation celebrates its first two graduate Scholars, Traci Hamilton and Tenisha Long.

2023: The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation offers both 1- and 2-year scholarships and accepts nine scholars.

2023: The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation celebrates nine new graduates, seven from the RT program and two from the DMS program.

2023: The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation offers scholarship opportunity for students in the new Advanced Certification in the CT Program at TCC.

Scholarships for both RT and CT will begin taking applications in the Fall of 2023. Eligible students at TCC are encouraged to apply. For more information about the Education Fund and scholarship opportunities visit: <https://www.tramedicalimagingfoundation.org/scholarships>

TCC ANNOUNCES NEW ADVANCED CT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Tacoma Community College Imaging Sciences Program is expanding. Lielie Jarvis, Program Director shares: "We are incredibly excited to offer our community the opportunity to advance in their careers with a post primary advanced certificate in Computed Tomography! This program has been years in the making and gives our faculty team at TCC the ability to help our students plan for their future career advancement."

Students who have successfully graduated from a Radiologic Technology program and have passed their ARRT exam are eligible to apply for the CT program. There are many benefits to advanced certifications. Advanced modalities increase a technologists' options in the workforce along with an increase in pay wages. Based on one's work experience, salaries for a CT Technologist in the Tacoma area ranges from \$70,098 to \$118,175 annual salary.

The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation is happy to announce that it is expanding scholarship opportunities to eligible students in the CT Advanced Certification program. Scholarships will help students with both financial support and continued mentorship. For the 2023-2024 cohort, applications will be accepted starting September 12, 2023 through October 2. For details on the application process visit: <https://www.tramedicalimagingfoundation.org/scholarships>.



SAVE THE DATE! 11/7/23 CELEBRATING SUCCESSES & SHARING STORIES

On behalf of the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation Board, please join us for **Celebrating Successes!** The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation invites you to celebrate and share the successes of our scholars, donors and community. Food and drink provided, casual attire.

Location: TRA Medical Imaging Corporate, Third Floor

Address: 1304 Fawcett St, 3rd Floor | Tacoma, WA 98402

Please RSVP by October 27, 2023

by email to Foundation@tranow.com or call: 253-680-3391.



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023!



ADRIANNE Radiologic Technologist Program—Adrienne shares, “As a first-year student, the mentoring program helped me feel like I had support. Starting clinicals in the middle of COVID was tough, as there were many burnt-out technologists in the field. We were given encouragement and were able to share our experiences as well as ask any questions. I felt like I had support and it helped build my confidence. The scholarship funds helped ease the financial burden and costs associated with making it through this program.” Today, Adrienne is a graduate of the program. Adrienne is continuing on to advance her career and has been accepted into the Mammography Residency Program at Carol Milgard Breast Center in Tacoma.



CATHY Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program—Cathy shares how her clinical experience at St. Clare Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital and TRA Medical Imaging helped her gain the experience and confidence as she enters the workforce. By getting both the hospital and clinical experiences, it helped with understanding the culture and dynamics of both settings. Cathy is excited to be a part of the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation Alumni Association. With the support of TRA Medical Imaging Foundation Mentoring Program over the last two years, Cathy says she wants to pay it forward.



CYHIA Radiologic Technologist Program—Cyhia went back to school at the age of 40 with the goal of graduating with a degree before she turns 45. Today, her four children are so proud of their mom. Cyhia shares, “I loved that we got to connect monthly and talk about our experiences, good and bad. These conversations gave me a push to keep going and I found comfort in knowing that others had some of the same struggles that I was dealing with. I also enjoyed the guest speakers and being able to ask questions. The follow up was amazing and I really appreciated all the hard work they put into this Mentorship Program.” Cyhia is continuing on to advance her career and has been accepted into the Mammography Residency program at Carol Milgard Breast Center.



HANNAH Radiologic Technologist Program—Hannah’s work experience started at the age of 16 as a veterinary assistant. She took a hiatus to join the Army, then returned to radiology working at Summit Veterinary Hospital as a technician. This is where she realized she wanted to become an X-ray technologist for people. Today, Hannah has graduated from the RT Program and has accepted a position at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. She is excited to use her skills and be closer to family. Hannah is happy to share her knowledge and future experiences as she becomes a part of the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation Alumni Association.



JOSE Radiologic Technologist Program—As a recent graduate, Jose hopes that his culturally diverse background (speaks Spanish and Cantonese) may help others with language barriers adding to compassionate patient care. Jose shares about the Mentorship Program, “I really liked the confidence and support that was provided to me. It was big advantage to have someone experienced like Mike Burgess, a technologist and the radiologist answer our questions. The mentors always going the extra mile helping us make connections, meetings and cheering us up in difficult times. And lastly, thanks to the donors for the financial resources that takes a huge burden off our backs.” Jose has accepted a position at Good Samaritan Hospital, and will also be a part of the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation Alumni Association.



KRISTIN Radiologic Technologist Program—Kristin shares that she has always wanted to be in the medical field and help people. As a child, her mother was often sick and encouraged her to go into healthcare. Kristin also has a special interest in iMRI and fMRI—a technique for measuring and mapping the brain and intends to research the different modalities and associated opportunities. As a recent graduate, Kristin has accepted a position at St. Francis Hospital. She is extremely excited to complete the program and share her Pinning Ceremony moment with her 6-year-old daughter. Kristin hopes to be able to give back and mentor in the future.



MICHAEL Radiologic Technologist Program—Michael received his Bachelor's degree in 2019 from Linfield College in Oregon. During the next two years he did an extensive internship in a radiology department at Willamette Valley Medical Center, thus turning his interest into a passion. Today, Michael is a graduate from the RT Program and has accepted a full-time position at Good Samaritan Hospital, and Per Diem at both St. Clare Hospital and TRA Medical Imaging. Michael shares about the mentorship provided by the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation, "I enjoyed the time we had to talk in groups with everyone. We all were able to listen to each others experiences and questions other student would have that I did not think of asking."



NIA Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program—After 20 plus years as a massage therapist, Nia decided to pursue a career as a Sonographer. "With my experience for the last 20 years, I am able to offer my expertise and help to create the best possible experience for each patient." Today, Nia has graduated from the DMS program and is excited to begin her career as an Sonographer/Ultrasound Technologist. Nia shares "I found the mentors to be very supportive, positive and offered great advice. Their willingness to help anytime we had questions was a huge benefit beyond the meeting times."



REBECCA Radiologic Technologist Program—Rebecca is a single mother of four and proud of achieving her goals towards her new career in radiology. During the 2-year program, Rebecca had a wide variteey of clinical rotations that included MultiCare OCEDs at various locations, St. Clare Hospital, Kaiser Permanente in Olympia, and St. Pete's Hospital, Olympia. Rebecca has accepted a full-time position at Good Samaritan Hospital. She plans to continue on to a higher modality, such as MRI.

IMAGING SCIENCES ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCES

Jose Cheng, High Honors ~ RT
Kristin Dellavecchia, Honors ~ RT
Cathy Ealy ~ DMS
Adriane Francis, Honors ~ RT
Michael Fuller, Honors ~ RT

Rebecca Humburg, Honors ~ RT
Hannah O'Neill, Honors, Phi Theta Kappa ~ RT
Cyhia Richardson, Honors ~ RT
Nia Wainwright, High Honors ~ DMS

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Healthcare Careers Academy | High School Bridging Program

The future health of our community depends on preparing tomorrow's workforce. Healthcare Careers Academy is a unique collaboration of Tacoma Public Schools, healthcare industry, higher education and nonprofits that prepares high school students for a wide-range of careers in the healthcare industry. This four-year, part-time high school program is offered at Stadium and Mount Tahoma High Schools. Students engage in four years of healthcare skill building and experiences that enhance student learning that lead to college preparation and a family livable wage.

Ninth and tenth grade is dedicated to exploring passions, earning 5 certifications, learning about healthcare pathway choices from colleges and professionals, and engaging in exploratory coursework that is both rigorous and experiential. Both high schools have healthcare labs outfitted with training equipment where students engage in hands-on activities, like those performed in colleges. Students dive more deeply into college and career exploration and intense coursework in eleventh and twelfth grade. Students are connected to college partners to learn about healthcare programs, admissions, scholarships, and more. For more information on HCCA visit: <https://www.tacomaschools.org/departments/cte/healthcare-careers-academy>.

As a community partner, the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation is currently working with HCCA to raise awareness of Imaging Sciences as a career path by providing in-person presentations to high school students enrolled in the HCCA. A TRA technologist shares real-life experiences with the students, explaining and showing examples of X-ray, CT, MRI and Ultrasound, discusses different work environments for a technologist, etc. The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation plans to launch a High-School Bridging Program in the next few months to help students interested in Imaging Sciences get from high school to being accepted into a program at TCC.

Students enrolled in the Healthcare Careers Academy will be eligible to apply for a the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation scholarship in their senior year of High School. The Scholarship Program will provide students funds and mentorship to help bridge the path from High School to acceptance into an Imaging Sciences program at Tacoma Community College.

Scholarships may be essential for many high school students. This type of financial assistance may be the only way a student can afford to attend a college. Without it, they may not be able to pursue their career goals. Providing a scholarship fund is a good way to give back to students in need. It's especially important when students have a high GPA, ambitious goals, and a drive to help others through a career in Imaging Sciences.

Mentoring may also be essential for many high school students to pursue their career dreams. A formal mentoring program is a structured, often one-to-one relationship, in a work, organization or academic setting. The purpose of TRA's Mentorship Program is to provide an additional source of support for the student to navigate their path from High School to acceptance into an Imaging Sciences program at Tacoma Community College. Mentoring is a non-evaluative opportunity for students to tap into existing knowledge, skills, and experience of a variety of professionals and leadership to learn, brainstorm, problem solve and network. Career planning and networking is an important goal for the mentoring program. TRA's mentorship program is designed to build confidence in students, form a strong relationship with a role model and build skills for future goals.



TRA FEATURED TECHNOLOGIST MENTORS



Nate Arland
CT Technologist

My healthcare interest started when my Grandma became sick with breast cancer. She was very sick and watching her go through the ordeal of cancer was difficult. I always told her I would take care of her one day. Unfortunately she passed when I was 16 and I was unable to fulfill my promise to her at that time. That's when I decided I was going to pursue a career in healthcare.

I completed my X-ray training and ARRT certification, followed by an advanced CT certification. I have been working at TRA Medical Imaging going on 15 years – loving every single day of my career. It's not a job if you love what you do, and I love what I do. It been a wonderful opportunity to work with the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation in mentoring students.

“A mentor is not someone who walks ahead of you to show you how they did it, a mentor walks alongside you to show you what you can do.”

Nate Arland



Amanda Haggland
Ultrasound Technologist

I'm Amanda, a graduate from Tacoma Community College's Diagnostic Medical Sonography program. I'm a sonographer for TRA Medical Imaging at the Diagnostic Imaging Northwest clinic in Puyallup. I have been working for TRA Medical Imaging since graduating in 2021. For 20 years prior to working as a sonographer, I was a veterinary technician working at a specialty hospital. In 2009, I graduated from Washington State University with a Bachelor of Science in Zoology and had dreams of becoming a veterinarian. It is extremely hard to get into veterinary school and I eventually decided I would continue working as a vet tech. After a number of years, I decided I wanted to move away from veterinary medicine and find something else to pursue. A coworker of mine, a fellow vet tech, introduced me to the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program at TCC. It took me some time, but I eventually went back to school to complete my prerequisites and the rest is history!

I love the people I work with! I am thankful for the opportunities TRA has given me to learn and expand my skill set. I appreciate the vast knowledge and experience that my fellow coworkers have that I am able to learn from and share with future technologists.

“I appreciate the vast knowledge and experience that my fellow coworkers have that I am able to learn from and share with future technologists.”

Amanda Haggland

A GIVING COMMUNITY ~ THANK YOU!

The TRA Medical Imaging Foundation Board of Directors thanks all donors for their generosity that helps us further our mission. It is our vision to have equitable access to medical imaging services for the diverse communities we serve, and possibly beyond. Your support is critical in this process.

Pillar \$25,000+

Rafoth Family Fund
Siemens Healthineers
The Bamford Foundation
Thomas Keskey, M.D. and Abbe Salk
TRA Medical Imaging

Visionary \$10,000+

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Heather Zaraski

Interested in learning more?

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you and share the vision of the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation. If you are interested in directly supporting the Education Fund, visit: www.tramedicalimagingfoundation.org for more information.

If you'd like to chat, call 253-761-4200 x 8613 or email foundation@tranow.com.