



MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY

Sound Byte

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

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What's Inside?

Professional Updates **1**

ARDMS Recertification **2**

Student Service **2**

Clinical Associate Benefit **3**

Curriculum Changes **3**

Guest Lecturer **3**

Congratulations **4**

Upcoming Events **4**



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PROFESSIONAL UPDATES

Recertification

ARDMS announced in September it was placing its recertification program that was to begin in 2019 on hiatus. For many, this relieves the anxiety of having to prepare for the recertification exam in each specialty. It is unknown how ARDMS will proceed in the future to be able to document continual competency once certification is earned. Sonographers must continue to maintain their 30 continuing medical education credits (CME) every three years. The announcement and more information can be found on the ARDMS website at www.ardms.org.

ARRT refers to their program as Continuing Qualifications Requirements (CQR) for radiologic technologists or sonographers who earned their ARRT credential after January 1, 2011. The process will require the technologist or sonographer to complete an extensive form detailing their clinical experiences then provide them with a series of short educational activities to complete to assess and document their current knowledge.

CCI is not requiring recertification, rather CMEs in the specialty of the credential the sonographer possesses.

Most important is your personal and professional integrity in keeping up to date on current technology and application in an effort to provide optimal patient care.

Work Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (WRMSDs)

In July 2017, the updated Industry Standards for Prevention of Work Related Musculoskeletal Disorders in Sonography were released. This updated document was the work of representatives of 26 sonography related organizations who met in May 2016 to provide information on the current challenges and trends in the profession that places sonographers at risk for WRMSDs.

The Industry Standards are divided into three sections; responsibilities of the manufacturer of ultrasound equipment and scanning workstation; employer (Administration) responsibility and thirdly, the sonographer's responsibility. Each of these sections are detailed in providing recommendations for room size, proper equipment, and support accessories to be used to keep the sonographer healthy and not be scanning with discomfort or pain. Please go to the webpage: www.sdms.org/resources/careers/work-related-musculoskeletal-disorders to download the Industry Standards document as well as a wealth of information that can be used to educate staff and administration on the importance of taking the necessary actions to prevent repetitive musculoskeletal injuries. Please protect yourself today to be healthy for years to come.

Recruiting for Part-time Instructors

The department is seeking experienced sonographers who have a desire to share their knowledge in the classroom and/or lab. Teaching is a very rewarding experience as it is a two way sharing of knowledge. I learn from my students equally as much as they learn from me.

The department is seeking sonographers who may be interested in being mentored into teaching, grading and using technology to deliver information and grading, both in the classroom and on-line.

Courses that may be of interest to you are our Introduction to Sonography course, Introduction to Sonography Lab, and lab assistants to help the lab course instructors.

If you are interested in entering into education, this is an excellent opportunity to be part of a highly reputable University and sonography program while being mentored in educational strategies.

Minimum qualifications are a bachelor degree and ARDMS credential in abdomen, ob/gyn and/or vascular.

Please feel free to come and observe a class or lab.

Please contact Sheryl Goss at sgoss@misericordia.edu or 570-674-6790 for more information. Interviews will be conducted in February and March.

Student Service Opportunities

As a program, one of our goals is to instill the charisms of Misericordia University in our students, in particular, service and volunteerism. We are happy to report that the current class of students have been actively involved in various charitable and service opportunities since enrolled in the program. Some current happenings that some of our students have participated in are:

- Fundraising auction gift basket for graduate Abby Koch, RDMS, RVT
- Cereal Drive
- Feed A Friend
- Toys for Tots
- St. Gabriel's Angels (collecting plastic bottles)

The program is very rigorous with several students being non-traditional; therefore it is wonderful to see that they are involved with opportunities affiliated with Misericordia University and others in the community. We thank all the students who participated in the various events promoting service and giving.



New Clinical Associate Tuition Benefit Process

The Clinical Associate Benefit (CAB) will continue to be offered to our clinical preceptors who desire to take college credit courses for professional development or earn a degree. The number of hours worked with the student determines the number of college credits available. The process is set to be entirely digital to begin in the spring of 2018. Hours will be uploaded at the end of each semester. Please be sure that your email address is current for our communication with you. Any changes in email address must be provided to Karen Klimas. There will be specific instructions to register for classes. If someone is interested in becoming a clinical preceptor for the program or there is a change at the site, please contact Karen Klimas at kklimas@misericordia.edu or 570-674-8013. Thank you for your continuing support of the program.

Curriculum Changes

Vascular sonography

Based upon feedback from our graduates and employers, the department has added a second vascular course to the curriculum to provide greater knowledge in vascular scanning and pathology. For the first time, Introduction to Vascular Sonography was taught in the summer followed by Intermediate Vascular, the new course, taught in the fall. Lab activities brought in public volunteers to provide the students with more realistic experiences for physiologic arterial, venous and venous insufficiency examinations. Demonstration of Transcranial Doppler occurred by alumnus Angelica Zurat,

BSDMS, RDMS, RVT who co-instructed the lab activities. Offering vascular earlier in the curriculum has enhanced the clinical experiences for the students creating more confidence as they prepare to transition from student to employee.

ARDMS Sonography Physics and Instrumentation (SPI)

With the curricular changes of providing the physics of Doppler in the summer semester, all 15 students sat for the SPI exam during the fall semester and all were successful with the exam. Congratulations to the students on their success and already having the physics exam completed.



Guest Lecturer for Interventional Sonography

The second level sonography students were treated to a lecture given by Dr. David Mariner MD, Director of the Vascular Lab at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center.

Dr. Mariner shares the evolution of vascular treatment and current options for the intervention of vascular pathology. Through interesting cases, he shares his value of the sonographers in providing quality examinations to aid in determination of best intervention for the patient. Often the vascular sonographer is the first to document the pathological process; therefore, quality and accuracy is essential for the patient and for the physician.



DR. MARINER AND THE CLASS OF 2018



College of Health Sciences and Education
Diagnostic Medical Sonography

**MISERICORDIA
UNIVERSITY**

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Visit us at
www.misericordia.edu/dms

Keep the Date on Your Calendar

February 20, 2018

RSVP due if attending the Class of 2018 Recognition Ceremony.

March 10, 2018

NEPASU Seminar at Misericordia University

March 11, 2018

Sonography Recognition Ceremony for Class of 2018
at Misericordia University in the Sandy and Marlene Insalaco Hall.
Please plan on attending. (1:00 pm)

March 24-28, 2018

AIUM Annual Conference, New York, NY

June 22-26, 2018

American Society of Echocardiography in Nashville, TN

July 15, 2018

Course registration due for fall semester.

August 2-4, 2018

Society of Vascular Ultrasound in San Antonio, TX

October 4-7, 2018

SDMS Annual Conference, Orlando FL

Congratulations

Class of 2017 All fifteen graduates passed and earned their RDMS credential in abdominal and 14 possess the OB/GYN specialty.

Aubrey Verdekal, MS, RT(R), RDMS, RVT earned her Masters of Science degree in Educational Technology on December 17, 2017 during our winter commencement. Aubrey is an adjunct faculty member for the program.

Megan Jackson, MS, RT(R), RDMS, RVT earned her MS in Organizational Management during the December 2017 commencement ceremony.

Amanda (George) Montgomery, MS, RDMS, RVT co-authored Pediatric Sonography Registry Review Book published by SDMS. This publication is edited by Sheryl Goss.

We are so excited for YOU!

