



**Spring, 2014**  
**Message from the CTRC Director**



Rapid growth in the Clinical Research Center and the CTRC Imaging Center highlight the activities of the past couple of months. Continued expansion of the CTRC research enterprise continues with the recruitment of two new faculty whose research programs are based at the CTRC.

Timothy F. Murphy MD  
Director, UB Clinical and Translational  
Research Center

**News Updates & Upcoming Events**

**New 3T MRI Installed in CTRC**

The CTRC Imaging Center continues to grow with the delivery on April 12 of a Toshiba Vantage Titan 3 Tesla MRI. The 7 ton magnet was lifted 7 stories by crane and transferred along a specially reinforced path to the Imaging


**CTRC INVESTIGATORS**


[Cevher Ozcan Wins NIH K08 Award for Research on Atrial Fibrillation](#)

Dr. Cevher Ozcan has been awarded a K08 Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. The work focuses on elucidating molecular mechanisms of atrial fibrillation and has enormous translational potential in identifying potential therapeutic targets for the most common heart rhythm disorder.



*Cevher Ozcan MD*

 [See this link](#) for more about the grant

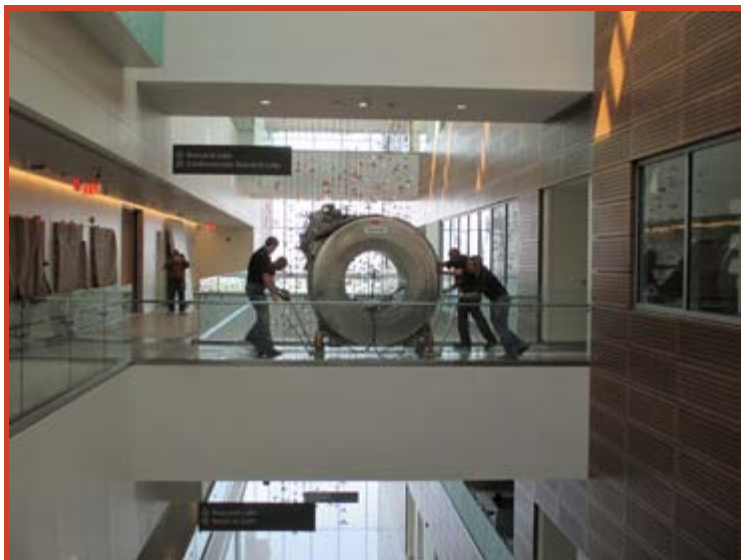
 [See this link](#) for Dr. Ozcan's faculty profile

Center. This imager is exclusively for clinical and preclinical research and is available to investigators in the Buffalo Translational Consortium.

Check out these UB stories for more details and photos:

[Special Delivery: 7-Ton MRI to Aid Groundbreaking Research at UB](#)

[UB's New CTRC Imaging Center Advances Translational Research](#)



*3T Magnet being transported to CTRC Imaging Center*



*3T Magnet being hoisted to 7th floor of CTRC*

**Research Match is Gaining Traction in Buffalo**

[Ferdinand Schweser, MRI Expert, Joins CTRC Imaging Center](#)

Ferdinand Schweser PhD has been recruited to UB as Assistant Professor of Neurology after recently earning his PhD at Friedrich Schiller University in Jena Germany. He is an expert in neuroimaging and neurodegenerative disorders. Dr. Schweser's work focuses on understanding MRI contrast mechanisms and developing innovative imaging and reconstruction techniques that will improve the sensitivity MRI. He will spend approximately half of his time based at the CTRC Imaging Center.



*Ferdinand Schweser PhD*

[!\[\]\(e3275251d0893157c3584e20c81dc3ba\_img.jpg\) See this link](#) for Dr. Schweser's faculty profile

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**Carroll (Mac) Harmon, International Leader in Obesity Research Joins CTRC**

Carroll McWilliams (Mac) Harmon MD PhD has been

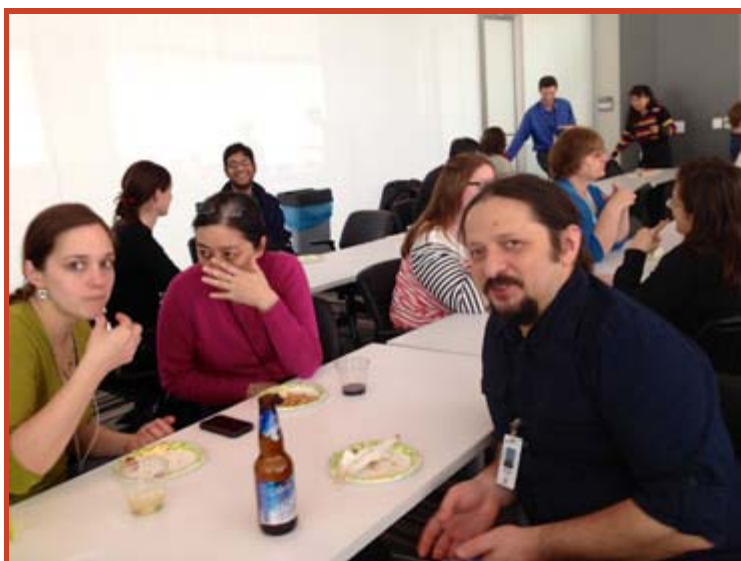
Since UB joined Research Match, a national registry for clinical research volunteers one year ago, the number of volunteers in the Buffalo area who have registered has increased more than 5-fold to 456. The Buffalo News featured UB's participation in Research Match in the cover story of a recent edition of their weekly health-related section Refresh. Clinical researchers have access to this resource through [this link](#).

See the story in the Buffalo News about Research Match: [\*A Web of the willing looks to help find cures, expand\*](#)

See this recent story on Research Match at UB: [\*ResearchMatch is 'Powerful Tool' for Clinical Trial Recruitment at UB\*](#)

### Monthly CTRC Seminar Series Continues to Grow

The monthly seminar series, which features state-of-the-art presentations by investigators based at the CTRC, is attracting a growing and diverse audience. Our quarterly Wine and Cheese get-togethers (or Beer and Sushi as they are better known) before the seminars are providing an extremely popular networking opportunity for faculty, trainees and staff at the CTRC. These networking events are made possible by support from the Principal Investigators in the CTRC.



recruited to UB as Professor and Chief of Pediatric Surgery. He is a leader in minimally invasive surgery and in the treatment of adolescent obesity. Dr. Harmon is one of the Principal Investigators of a \$10 million NIH-funded multicenter clinical trial on the longitudinal assessment of bariatric surgery in adolescents. Dr. Harmon was most recently Professor of Surgery at University of Alabama at Birmingham. He is also Pediatric Surgeon-in-Chief at Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo and is Director of UB's accredited pediatric surgery fellowship.

Dr. Harmon has a laboratory-based translational research program in which he studies melanocortin receptors on adipocytes. Dr. Yingkui Yang works with Dr. Harmon and directs the laboratory. Dr. Yang was most recently Assistant Professor of Pediatric Surgery at University of Alabama at Birmingham and has longstanding interests and expertise in melanocortin receptors.



*Get-together before seminar by Dr. Bruce Troen on May 1*

### Forum Features Medical Student Research

The Annual Medical Student Research Forum was held in February at which UB medical students gave 34 poster presentations of mentored research in a broad range of disciplines. This venue affords medical students an outstanding opportunity to develop their research interests as they explore the career option of physician scientist.

Read about the event and the award winners in this UB story:

[Medical Students Share Original Research Results](#)



*Carroll McWilliams (Mac) Harmon MD  
PhD*