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## Dr. Shi-Jiang Li appointed Director of new Imaging Research Center

**Aug. 3, 2009 College News** - [Shi-Jiang Li, PhD](#), Professor of [Biophysics](#) and [Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine](#), has been appointed Director of the Medical College's new [Imaging Research Center \(IRC\)](#) by [Jonathan I. Ravdin, MD](#), Dean and Executive Vice President.

The Medical College of Wisconsin has a long and illustrious history of imaging-related basic and translational research, which is identified in the College's strategic plan as a fundamental enabling technology that is essential for promoting research across the College, especially in areas such as Neuroscience, Cardiovascular Medicine, Cancer and all Clinical Research.

Although Dr. Li's initial efforts will focus on developing and growing the MRI component of this center, the IRC will integrate imaging research science in a collaborative fashion in the areas of ultrasound, x-ray including CT, MEG, SPECT, and other nuclear modalities.

MCW goals are for the Center to:

- Forge new collaborative research programs together with high priority interdisciplinary Research Centers, including those focused on Cancer, Cardiovascular and Neurosciences research
- Provide imaging expertise to promote faculty research broadly across the College, especially clinical research through the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (including MCW's academic partners the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Marquette University and the Milwaukee School of Engineering)
- Successfully co-recruit research-intensive faculty in partnership with Interdisciplinary Centers and Clinical Departments to build translational research efforts
- Promote and support basic science research and applications utilizing or refining new imaging technologies
- Provide effective communication to all MCW researchers regarding the capabilities of the IRC and opportunities for research collaboration
- In collaboration with Centers and Departments, develop a greatly enlarged base of external funding from the National Institutes of Health for optimal utilization of the IRC.

"I wish to acknowledge the efforts of [Dr. Jeff Binder](#), who has served as Interim Director of the Imaging Research Center for two years and has been a tireless advocate of imaging research at MCW," said Dr. Ravdin. "Please join me in congratulating Dr. Li and working with him to advance imaging related research at the Medical College of Wisconsin."

Dr. Li received his PhD from Ohio State University in 1985 and performed his postdoctoral fellowship in MRI research at Johns Hopkins University. He joined the faculty of the College in 1988 and advanced to being a tenured Professor in the Departments of Biophysics and Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine in 2002.

He has participated in reviews at NIH Study Section and expert panels, has multiple NIH R01 grants in Functional MRI research in neuropharmacology, Alzheimers and drug abuse, and has mentored large numbers of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in Biophysics. Dr. Li is well-published and is leading the way in submission of new grants to

improve the College's infrastructure and instrumentation in this area as well as our 7Tesla MRI development project.

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