The Department of Radiology, chaired by Dr. Jules Sumkin, at the University of Pittsburgh is seeking a Director for their Magnetic Resonance Research Center (MRRC). The MRRC is a world-renowned center that supports innovative research of more than 50 investigators from Bioengineering, Psychiatry, Neurosurgery, Neurology, Psychology, Medicine, Epidemiology and Public Health, Anesthesiology, and Children’s Hospital. Projects predominantly involve human brain studies from newborn imaging to aging as well as patient studies. The MRRC has 3 Siemens Prisma scanners, a molecular PET MR system, a 7T whole body system a scanner, and neuropsychological testing facilities. A new 7T Siemens Terra has recently been purchased in collaboration with the School of Bioengineering.

The 3T scanners support a variety of innovative projects which include large initiatives such as: ABCD and Lifespan HCP. The 7T applies advanced Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopic Imaging, anatomical, functional, diffusion, and vascular imaging supporting a range of groundbreaking projects such as developmental changes in GABA glutamate, tumor assessment, and vascular changes in aging and psychosis. We are excited for a new director to support these approaches, but also to diversify our areas of interest and to bring innovative methods to the ongoing and new MRRC projects.

There are 6 MRRC faculty who support user operations in a collaborative manner, 4 who have independent lines of research investigating, MR spectroscopy as applied to tumor assessment, TBI, and epilepsy; as well as physiological imaging (e.g., perfusion imaging), and rapid imaging methods. In addition, the Director has an operations coordinator, who assists in all aspects of operations, a support specialist who helps users set up paradigms including support for clinical trials and needed equipment, a dedicated financial administrator, more than 6 technologists, and access to the IT department staff. Additional personnel will be considered as needed to support the new Director.

Responsibilities:

Direct MRRC Operations

1. Provide support and guidance to PIs using the MRRC from proposal of grants, including advanced methods, to optimal implementation of funded projects.
2. Oversee policies with MRRC operations coordinator including scheduling policies and billing.
3. Work with Radiology regarding budgeting and strategic issues of major purchases including grants.
4. Interact with the MR Advisory Council of representative users to support the Director with optimizing center operations.
5. Oversee all technologists to ensure optimal project implementation and work with lead technologist on scheduling, duties, and issues that arise regarding best practices.
6. Conflict resolution between MRRC users as well as MRRC staff/faculty
7. Oversee coordination of hardware across vendors including utilization, repairs, and upgrade.
8. Overseeing installation of a new 7T and creation of an integrated high field program in conjunction with strategic partners including, but not limited the School of Biomedical engineering.
9. Play an integrative role in 7T operations including maintaining and coordinating implementation service with appropriate vendors as well as develop novel methods for 7T (acquisition, hardware, software) and assist implementation through collaborations with users.
10. Work with IT staff regarding IT infrastructure improvements.
11. Interact with CMU, Children’s Hospital, University of Pittsburgh Brain Institute, Cancer Institute, and Magee-Womens Hospital to support collaborative approaches and facilitate overall development of MRI in the Pittsburgh MR Research community.

MRRC Faculty
   1. Facilitate and assist junior faculty with program and professional development.

Faculty Program
   1. Establish an independently funded program.
   2. Facilitate technical developments from their independent program to be integrated in user’s projects as appropriate.

Preferred selection criteria are high-level expertise across MR approaches and platforms, a history of directorial administrative duties of an MR Facility, productivity and collaboration, and an ability to enhance an interactive and dynamic University of Pittsburgh MR research community. Although a senior level faculty is preferable, an earlier stage faculty with exceptional potential will also be considered. Candidates must have a PhD, MD/PhD, or equivalent degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Physics or Related Field, and with postgraduate or postdoctoral training and research experience since obtaining their PhD, preferably at least multiple years combined.

The University of Pittsburgh is an urban, state-related institution located in a metropolitan area with a population of approximately 2.3 million. The University is comprised of sixteen schools, four regional campuses outside of Pittsburgh, and four University centers (including UCIS) which serve the entire University community. The UPMC Department of Radiology is one of the largest academic departments in the country comprised of over 170 radiologists, 42 research faculty, 66 residents and fellows. The UPMC imaging service center has over 2,000 staff and a very large portfolio of imaging devices including 80 clinical magnets which perform approximately 3.7 million exams annually. The University of Pittsburgh is committed to fostering diversity and inclusion and does not discriminate.

The Department of Radiology is committed in investing competitive resources to ensure a successful recruitment.

Candidates are being considered starting September 2021. Please send CV and cover letter to Dr. Ashok Panigrahy - ashok.panigrahy@chp.edu.

EEO/AA/M/F/Vets/Disabled