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Advancing Education in Radiology

Michael A. DiPietro: 
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During his career at the University of Michigan, Michael DiPietro, MD, has played a leadership role in graduate, resident, and medical student education. “Education is extremely important to me,” he explains, “though I also enjoy the clinical service and research aspects of my career.”

Talking at length about his teaching philosophy, Dr. DiPietro explains that his primary goal as a teacher is to nurture intellectual curiosity. “I try to convince students that they can learn something interesting from every case; I also encourage them to get in the habit of asking: what is or what should be the clinical question and is this the best study to answer it?”

By all accounts, Dr. DiPietro has succeeded at stimulating students’ curiosity. Numerous fellows and colleagues have described him as an inspired and inspiring educator, who always takes time to answer questions and to search for explanations.

For his exceptional teaching skills, Dr. DiPietro became the fifth radiologist to receive the Society for Pediatric Radiology’s prestigious Jack O. Haller Award for Excellence in Teaching.

“There is no such thing as ‘just another case’ when working with Dr. DiPietro as a trainee. Instead, every case, whether it is as ‘simple’ as a portable chest radiograph for line placement or as complex as a CT examination, becomes a teaching opportunity. Dr. DiPietro has a particular fondness for what he refers to as ‘tell me a story’ cases. These are imaging examinations . . . which a patient’s complete medical history can be elicited. It is in this reading room setting surrounded by trainees that Dr. DiPietro particularly excels.”

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Assistant Professor, Pediatric Radiology, University of Michigan

“His principal clinical research interests are pediatric spinal canal, brachial plexus, and musculoskeletal sonography. He has helped organize and teach Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Society courses in collaboration with international colleagues for the past 22 years.”

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During his time at U-M, DiPietro has assumed several prominent roles within the department, including acting and associate director of the Section of Pediatric Radiology. Currently, he is the director of Medical Student Education in Radiology, a role that enables him to pursue his passion for improving medical education. He also holds the distinction of being an American Academy of Pediatrics fellow and former chair of its Radiology Executive Committee.

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The University of Michigan Tradition

To honor the importance of Dr. DiPietro’s contributions to medical education at the University of Michigan, the Department of Radiology is pleased to announce a new campaign to establish the Michael A. DiPietro, Lectureship in Radiology.

Each year, an accomplished radiologist will be invited to U-M to share his or her knowledge and to exchange ideas with the radiology faculty and trainees. The Lectureship will inspire trainees, broaden understanding, and move the field of radiology forward, both at U-M and throughout the country.

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A radiologist by day, Dr. DiPietro devotes his nights and weekends to sharing his love of music with the university community. For more than 20 years, he served as the principal bassoonist for the U-M Campus Symphony. Currently, he performs with the Life Sciences Orchestra.

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LECTURESHIP IN RADIOLOGY
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