The key features of the Human Imaging program:

-- Highly selective evaluation of MD candidates with the desire and talents to integrate research and clinical care into an outstanding academic career.

-- Graduate school education and residency training that are integral parts of clinical departments to promote efficiency and shorten the training period.

-- A minimum of one-year graduate degree credit given for already completed medical school course work.

-- A reduction of one year in clinical training prior to obtaining American Board of Radiology certification is achieved by using the ABR research “Holman” track.

-- A further year of time is saved by eliminating time lost in reorientation between clinical and research phases of other M.D./Ph.D. program designs.

-- Efficient curriculum schedule reduces the typical 4-year radiology residency and 5-year Ph.D. program from 9 years to a total of 6 years for the typical student.

-- Research training that is directly pertinent to the clinical research life style introduces participation in all aspects of the biomedical research culture.

-- Research dissertation produces peer-reviewed papers in medical journals pertinent to academic environment and future academic employment of graduates in medical school departments.

7/20/01
The graduate program in Radiological Sciences prepares students to participate in the development and transmission of scientific knowledge concerning the uses of radiant energy forms in the diagnosis and treatment of human diseases. Presently more than 45 faculty members work with 40 graduate students on a wide range of research topics and radiation applications. The Human Imaging resident/PhD students study and perform research within dedicated groups of medical physicists, biomedical imaging specialists and biomedical researchers from specialties using imaging as a research tool.

The Radiological Sciences degree offers three sub-specializations: 1) PhD or Master of Science degree in Medical Physics, 2) Master of Science degree in Medical Health Physics, and 3) PhD degree in Radiation Biology that includes the Human Imaging track. A key component of the Human Imaging curriculum is the integration of physicians into research teams at the very beginning of their medical specialty careers. This promotes a smooth transition into productive medical specialty research.

The research facilities available to faculty members and students at UTHSCSA extend beyond the University proper through a series of formal and informal research agreements with institutions in San Antonio and the surrounding region. Collaborative agreements such as the Southwest Research Consortium allow synergistic extensions of radiological research into broader areas of scientific, societal, and fundamental human importance. The Radiological Sciences lab for graduate students is fully equipped with computers, computer software, diagnostic quality assurance equipment and a departmental library.

The Research Imaging Center includes a fully equipped PET laboratory, a Magnetic Resonance Imaging laboratory, an evoked potential laboratory and a Biomedical Image Analysis laboratory for brain mapping. The Cancer Therapy Research Center includes an Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy facility, a PinPoint Brachytherapy facility and a dedicated Oncology PET Facility. Other research facilities include those at Brooke Army Medical Center and Wilford Hall Medical Center.