

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SCIENCES CENTER

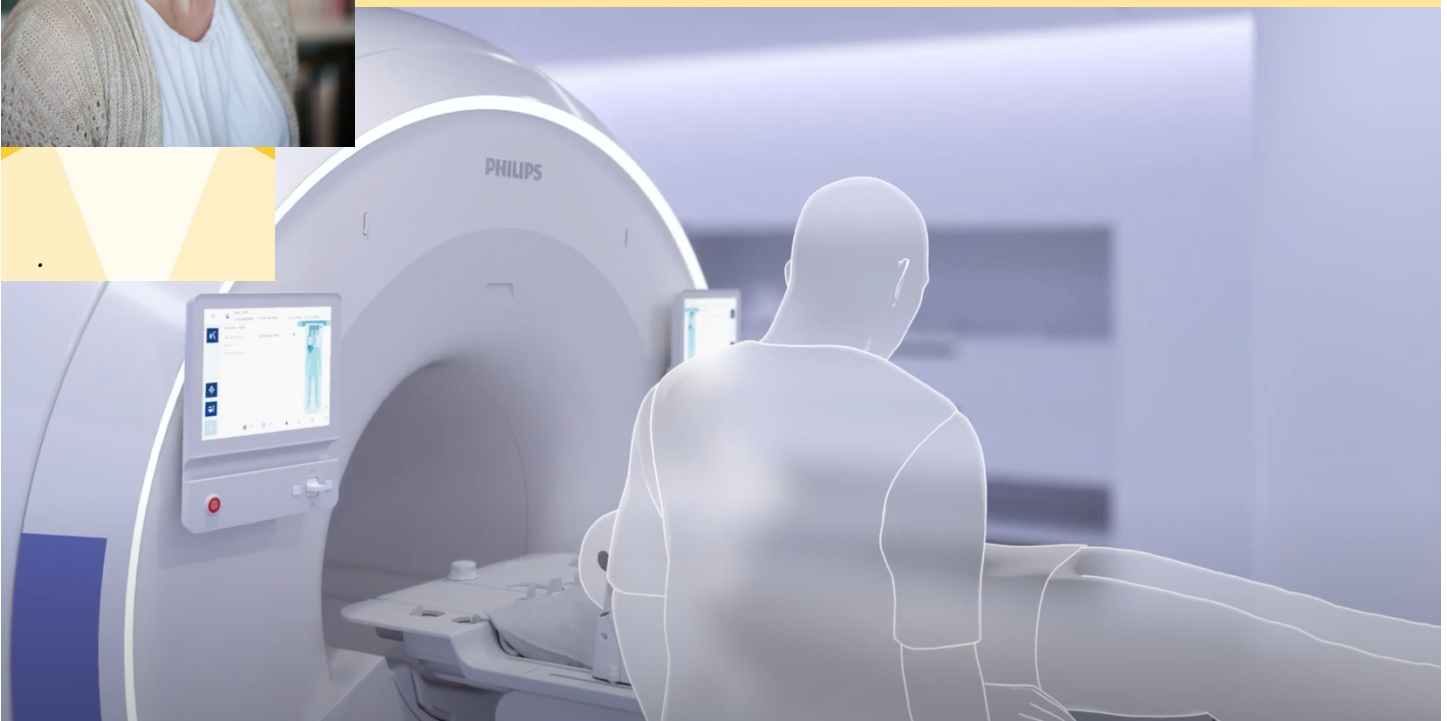
Imaging Researcher of the Month



Dr. Ellen Schur

Professor,
School of Medicine
Clinical Research Director, UW Diabetes Institute
Director, UW Nutrition and Obesity Research Center
Director, Clinical and Translational Research Services Core

Website: <https://uwmdi.org/labs/schur-laboratory/>



What is the primary scientific focus of your research?

We perform interdisciplinary research on eating behavior and obesity in humans. We are particularly interested in elucidating neurological factors that drive food consumption and how structural remodeling in body weight regulating areas of the hypothalamus might alter eating behavior and metabolic disease risk.

What is the relevance of your work to the public health?

By prevalence alone, obesity and type 2 diabetes are arguably the most important public health issues of our time. By advancing understanding of the underlying mechanisms driving food consumption, we seek to help the millions of Americans who struggle to manage their weight and help them to achieve sustained weight loss and cardiometabolic risk reduction.

How has DISC helped you achieve your scientific and public health goals?

As a physician-scientist, collaborations with the DISC have been instrumental to building my scientific research program--starting with receiving their assistance to develop and implement my first the functional MRI paradigm during my career development award. The DISC provides a supportive, collegial infrastructure that allows researchers outside radiology or neuroscience to ask critical questions that advance the science of their respective fields.