

# MRI specialist recruited for advanced Biomedical

**HAMILTON** — McMaster University is establishing a new state-of-the-art medical imaging laboratory and has recruited a top international scientist to run it. The research facility will be part of the new School of Biomedical Engineering and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Mark Haacke, a native of Canada who also holds citizenship in the United States, will direct research in cardiovascular, neurological and oncological imaging at the new research laboratory. A particular area of focus will include developing MRI techniques for research into the human brain and conditions such as stroke, trauma, tumor identification and Alzheimer's disease. Prof. Haacke holds the position of adjunct professor with the School of Biomedical Engineering, the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and with the Brain-Body Institute at St. Joseph's Healthcare in Hamilton.

"Bringing knowledge and expertise such as Mark Haacke's back into Canada immediately moves us to the forefront of imaging



Professor Mark Haacke

research," said John Brash, Director of the new McMaster School of Biomedical Engineering and a Professor of Chemical Engineering at McMaster. "It opens the door more widely to international collaboration, attracting researchers, students and public and private sector interest."

Prof. Haacke is the founder and director

of The Magnetic Resonance Imaging Institute for Biomedical Research and a Professor of Radiology at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. He was born in Canada and earned his undergraduate, M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in physics at the University of Toronto. He left Canada in 1978 to pursue his research in theoretical high energy physics at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He also joined the Radiology Department several years later and remains associated with Case Western Reserve as an adjunct Professor of Physics.

"Working with leading professionals from the engineering and health sciences faculties at McMaster, as well as the many top research hospitals in the area, is a definite attraction," said Prof. Haacke. "Establishing the new school to bring all this knowledge together shows the university's commitment to being at the leading edge of the most recent developments in health, science and engineering. It makes it viable to pursue certain ideas that would not be possible without this level of collaboration and accessibility."

The Medical Imaging Laboratory is the third of seven laboratories to be announced by the McMaster School of Biomedical Engineering. Previously, MDA Robotics announced the establishment of a Robotics Research Laboratory and Bell University Laboratories announced the establishment of an Integrated Systems Laboratory.

"I am excited to participate in what promises to be a dynamic translational biomedical imaging environment, taking new ideas into the clinical and industrial realms," said Prof. Haacke. He has previously designed a biomedical imaging curriculum and will bring that concept with him to help establish a more formal imaging program at McMaster. "There is a great need for enthusiastic and bright students and researchers in this field."



## Business Bestsellers

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## Moderate hiring climate expected for Burlington/Oakville

**BURLINGTON/OAKVILLE** — Burlington and Oakville area employers expect a modest hiring pace for the fourth quarter of 2005, according to the latest Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.

Survey data shows that 18 percent of employers plan to hire for the upcoming quarter (October to December), while 13 percent plan to reduce their workforce, stated Deborah Bakti of Manpower's Burlington office. Another 62 percent of the city's employers expect to maintain their current staffing levels and seven percent are unsure of their staffing intentions.

"Burlington and Oakville's fourth quarter Net Employment Outlook of five percent is a slight increase from the same time last year when the Net Employment Outlook was two percent," said Bakti. "However, it is a decrease from the previous three months when the Net Employment Outlook was 27 percent indicating a subdued hiring climate for Burlington/Oakville."

Of the ten surveyed sectors, Mining sector employers report the most dynamic results for the fourth quarter of 2005 with a Net Employment Outlook of 49 percent. Employers in the Construction sector anticipate a brisk three month period with a Net Employment Outlook of 32 percent.

"Nationally, this quarter's seasonally adjusted and raw Net Employment Outlooks of 20 and 16 percent, respectively, are the strongest projected fourth quarter results since 2001," said Lori Procher, spokesperson for Manpower Canada. "These are encouraging results for a quarter that usually features a more restrictive hiring climate."

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