



Get to Know NYCPM's Faculty: **Randy E. Cohen, DPM ('77),** Professor of Radiology and Director, Radiology Section



Dr. Randy E. Cohen earned his DPM degree at the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine in 1977 following receiving a BS from Lehman College in 1973. After he served a surgical residency at Coney Island Hospital from 1977-78, he studied radiology at NYCPM on a one-year fellowship (1978-79); the latter set him on the course he still pursues today.

Why his love of radiology? "Radiology is problem-solving," he said. "Seeing leads to interpreting, solving logically." It's a diagnostic skill he wants his third-year students to acquire as they study with him. He says he sets out to teach them how to think and solve problems by challenging them, and hopes they will become radiologists too.

Dr. Cohen says that he has learned through experience; the training today is better than 30 or 40 years ago, when imaging was limited to X-rays and some CAT scans. Today, in addition to X-rays, Dr. Cohen teaches ultra-sonography, nuclear medicine, CAT scans (computer-generated and enhanced X-rays), PET scans (which use nuclear medicine to help analyze metabolic rate, used in evaluating osteomyelitis and tumors) and MRIs; students are taught how to evaluate all of these images.

In the future, Dr. Cohen thinks that there might be more 3-D imaging utilized in podiatry. He also thinks that podiatry has now become an intrinsic and important part of medical teams, and that eventually there will be a DPM-MD degree. Because of continued increases in the incidence of diabetes, podiatrists will become even more important in diabetic and wound care.

Dr. Cohen has practiced podiatry in addition to teaching radiology at NYCPM. In 1978 Dr. Cohen opened a private podiatry office; when he and his wife (alum Diana Barone, DPM, '85) moved to Staten Island in 1989, they opened a home podiatry office there that they closed last year.