



Weekly news for faculty, staff and students from  
the [Indiana University School of Medicine](#)

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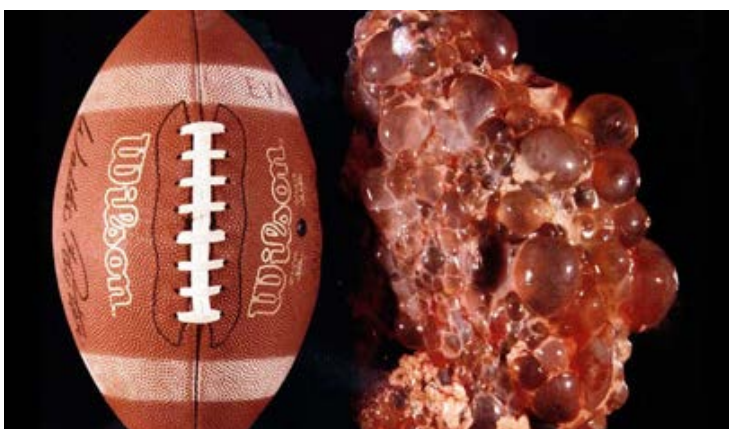
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### Top News

#### Ninth annual Martin Family Alzheimer's disease caregivers symposium is Oct. 2

The ninth annual Martin Family Alzheimer's disease caregiver symposium will take place Friday, Oct. 2, from 10 am - 4 pm at the [IU Health Neuroscience Center](#), Goodman Hall Auditorium.

The purpose of this symposium is to educate those who care for people with dementia and related neurodegenerative disorders. The symposium will provide both family caregivers and professional caregivers the information needed to learn more about the disease and identify what to plan for over the course of the disease.

[Darby Morhardt, Ph.D.](#), research associate professor in Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer's Disease Center, Feinberg School of Medicine, will give the keynote address, "Caregiver depression, anger and coping."

The event will also feature faculty and staff from the Indiana University School of Medicine, Indiana University, CICOA Aging & In-Home Solutions and Kitley Law Office.

To view a full list of speakers, register for the event and download the meeting agenda, visit the [Indiana](#)

[Alzheimer Disease Center](#) website.

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## Lamb appointed director of Stark Neurosciences Research Institute

Bruce T. Lamb, Ph.D., a neuroscientist at the Lerner Research Institute of the Cleveland Clinic has been named director of the [Stark Neurosciences Research Institute](#) at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Dr. Lamb will join the Stark Institute on Jan. 18, 2016. He succeeds Gerry Oxford, Ph.D., founding director of the Stark center, who is retiring.

Dr. Lamb's research has focused on the basic disease mechanisms of Alzheimer's Disease, including the genetic factors involved in the metabolism and buildup of the protein that makes up the plaque deposits associated with the disease. His work has shed light on how complex mechanisms associated with Alzheimer's have hampered efforts to find effective treatments in clinical trials. His lab also has studied the relationship between traumatic brain injury and Alzheimer's disease.

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## IUSM-SB student outreach clinic wins 2015 award for exemplary service learning

The Navari Student Outreach Clinic, a free clinic run by students of Indiana University School of Medicine-South Bend, has been named recipient of the 2015 Awards for Excellence in Service Learning, presented by [Serve Indiana](#).

Serve Indiana annually recognizes outstanding Hoosiers for their service to the community. Serve Indiana Awards for Excellence are the state's most prestigious awards for volunteer service.

Award honorees are recognized for outstanding volunteer contributions to causes that include health care, neighborhood revitalization, youth and senior activities, the arts, education, justice, housing, nutrition and social services.

The award will be presented during the 2015 Governor's Service Award Ceremony reception in the statehouse on Oct. 28.

The clinic opened in April 2014 on South Bend's west side. It provides free healthcare for low income and uninsured residents while providing supervised clinical experience to IUSM-SB students. Visit the official [Navari Student Clinic](#) website to learn more.

To register for the Awards for Excellence ceremony, [click here](#). Ticket sales end Oct. 25.

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## Research News

### BioStorage, IUSM and CTSI develop technology for medical researchers

BioStorage Technologies recently partnered with the Indiana University School of Medicine, Susan G. Komen Tissue Bank and Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute to develop technology that will enhance sample utilization and optimization by researchers.

An industry pioneer of comprehensive sample management, this partnership leverages **BioStorage's ISIDOR® technology solution**, a transformational and scalable informatics platform which integrates research and sample data to advance bioscience discoveries. ISIDOR consolidates and integrates research samples and data for improved visibility and access to samples in storage. This technology also connects relevant data to these samples, and ultimately advances medical research.

"We identified synergies to innovate with a fellow Indiana-based life sciences organization, BioStorage Technologies, and create an environment where sample assets and data sharing across the enterprise will enhance opportunities to support and fast-track future research endeavors," said Anantha Shekhar, M.D., Ph.D., executive associate dean for research affairs, IUSM, and director, Indiana CTSI.

BioStorage Technologies and **IU Health** are now also in discussions regarding the next steps in advancing the project. The utilization of the ISIDOR technology solutions platform at IU Health allows for greater sharing and optimization of research samples and associated data across the enterprise.

Read more about this partnership [here](#).

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## Blood pressure drug could protect against malaria and Toxoplasma parasites

A long-established drug for treating high blood pressure could get new life as a weapon against the parasites responsible for toxoplasmosis and malaria.

Researchers at Indiana University School of Medicine reported that the drug guanabenz was effective against the latent cyst state of the *Toxoplasma gondii* parasite that takes refuge in the brain and is unaffected by the body's immune system or existing anti-parasitic drugs.

The *Toxoplasma gondii* research, published online in the journal **Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy**, was conducted in mice. But because guanabenz has been approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration for decades, it could be repurposed quickly as a new way to treat toxoplasmosis, said William J. Sullivan Jr., Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and toxicology at the IU School of Medicine.

An estimated 30-40 percent of the human population is infected by the *Toxoplasma gondii* parasite. The parasite, which reproduces in cats, is well-known for altering the behavior of infected mice, which lose their fear of cat odors, making them easy prey for cats. The parasite has also gained some notoriety due to speculation that its presence in the brain may alter human behavior.

Read the full news release at the [IUSM Newsroom](#).

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## IUSM researcher joins Clinton County program on teen pregnancy education

Teen pregnancy prevention education in Clinton County, Indiana, will get support from an \$86 million federal grant awarded to 50 teams nationwide to implement evidence-based sexual health education programs. The

evaluation will be led by an Indiana University School of Medicine adolescent medicine researcher.

Mary A. Ott, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics, will work with Health Care Education and Training Inc., an Indianapolis-based nonprofit organization that provides education, training, evaluation services and program development to non-profit organizations in the Midwest. The organization, which was awarded the \$3.7 million U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Adolescent Health grant, will coordinate the implementation of evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs in Clinton County in conjunction with Healthy Communities of Clinton County and other partners.

"The teen pregnancy rate in the U.S. is higher than any other high-income nation," Dr. Ott said, "and comes with significant health, social and economic costs."

The Youth RISE! Project will provide teen pregnancy prevention education to the students of Community Schools of Frankfort and their families, while also focusing on improving school performance, attendance, classroom behavior and healthy decision making. The education programs are directed at both boys and girls.

To read more about this initiative, visit the [IUSM Newsroom](#).

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## Faculty and Staff News

### IU Bioethics director elected fellow of prestigious Canadian academy

Eric M. Meslin, Ph.D., director of the Indiana University Center for Bioethics, and associate dean of Bioethics in the IU School of Medicine, has been elected a fellow of the [Canadian Academy of Health Sciences](#).

Considered one of the highest honors for Canadians in the health sciences community, CAHS Fellows are recognized for their innovative leadership, research excellence and commitment to advancing academic health science.

Founded in 2004, the CAHS provides timely, informed and unbiased assessments of urgent issues affecting the health of Canadians. The fellowship citation recognized Meslin's "exceptional contributions made to science policy and health research in Canada regarding ethical, legal and social issues (ELSI) of biomedical research, human genetics and genomics. Even while based in the US, his academic scholarship and senior advisory roles with Canadian funding bodies jointly contribute to a deeper understanding of ELSI issues and have positioned Canada to be a respected world leader in the ethical and policy issues in health research, stem cell science, genomic studies and global health."

Dr. Meslin was one of 35 new fellows, and the only U.S.-based, inducted at the CAHS Annual Meeting in Ottawa, Canada, on Sept. 17.  [Click here](#) to view a full list of the 2015 inductees.

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## Student Spotlight: National Hispanic Heritage Month

## Meet Paul Andres Salazar

When his family immigrated to the U.S. at 12 years old, Paul Andres Salazar had to learn a new language, new culture and new health care system. Inspired by his experience and heritage, Salazar is now in his second year at IUSM-Indianapolis. He's committed to becoming a physician so he can give back to the Hispanic/Latino community.

### **What inspired you to study medicine?**

Since I was a kid, all I ever wanted to do was touch lives in a way that no one else could. I always had the desire to impact lives, give hope to the hopeless and offer people a new chance at life. When I was a sophomore in undergrad, I saw an episode of the Oprah Winfrey Show called "A Face for Zinaida", where Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeon Peter Grossman, M.D., performed reconstructive facial surgery on a 12-year-old Pakistani girl, following a burn accident. Her father brought her to the U.S. to receive medical treatment and Dr. Grossman, over the course of six months, took her into his home and conducted 12 surgeries to reconstruct her face and neck. Most importantly, he gave her a new chance at life, a chance that shined through her eyes and her smile which had been nonexistent the previous seven years of her life as she lived as outcast because of her gruesome appearance. It was then and there that I knew I wanted to become a doctor and made the decision to study medicine.

### **Do you have a medical specialty in mind?**

I would like to become a Congenital Pediatric and Adult Cardiothoracic Surgeon.

### **Why did you pick the IU School of Medicine?**

I chose the IU School of Medicine out of five other medical schools. IUSM offers a vast range of opportunities. Having nine regional campuses provides the opportunity to see the different ways medicine can be practiced in various settings and provides the opportunity to work with different demographics. As I read about the different departments and faculty, I was amazed by the number of talented mentors I could learn from. I believe that if you want to be the best, you have to learn from the best. In talking with various physicians and fellow students, I learned that IUSM has a lot of weight in the medical field and felt assured that I was coming to a great medical school with a long history and great reputation.

### **Where did you attend undergrad and what was your major?**

I attended Florida International University where I majored in biology, biochemistry, public health and healthcare administration.

### **What are the challenges you've faced so far in med school and what have you learned from them?**

One of the biggest challenges yet has been handling coursework load. There's a lot to cover in little time, so it feels overwhelming. I'm just trying to learn as much as I can and by studying in small study groups, where we try to dissect the material and teach other to help learn and solidify the information.

### **Has your background and/or heritage informed how you view and practice medicine? If so, how?**

My family and I migrated to the U.S. when I was 12 years old. We came to a country with a new labor system, a new language and a different health care system. As a result, I grew up having little to no access to medical care until I was 15. Gaining access to medical and dental care was a struggle. Prior to coming to IUSM, I worked at a community hospital where we served 75 percent of the uninsured and low-income families of south Florida. Through my work there, I came to understand just how big the gap is in health care between different races and ethnic groups in the U.S. I now feel challenged to become a great physician, not just for me, but for my Hispanic/Latino community. Not only do I represent them and serve as their voice, but



I, as a fellow Hispanic/Latino, have the opportunity to be able to connect with them and inform them about all the different health care and medical care that is available. I will also be able to provide them with medical care they need. As I have lived and experienced many of their struggles medical care, I can now go back and lend a hand.

### **What are your hobbies or interests outside of medicine?**

I am an amateur weight training competitor. This past summer I won second place out 50 competitors in the first South Florida College Weight Lifting competition. I also enjoy playing soccer, following politics and international relations, as well as playing jazz, cooking and learning different cultures/languages.

Keep up with Salazar at his [Tour the Life student blog](#).

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## **Meet Analisia Stewart**

Analisia Stewart grew up witnessing the disparities in the availability of medical care for the Hispanic/Latino Community in her hometown. Now in year one of medical school at IUSM-Indy, she hopes to one day be a part of the solution.

### **What inspired you to study medicine?**

I grew up in a rural town in southeastern New Mexico. I initially became interested in medicine because health care was not extremely accessible where I grew up, and I wanted to be a part of fixing that problem.

### **Do you have a medical specialty in mind?**

Right now, I am undecided on a specialty.

### **Why did you pick the IU School of Medicine?**

Going to undergrad in Indiana helped me decide to come to IUSM. I knew quite a few people from Notre Dame who came to IUSM after undergrad, and I heard great things about the program. I felt like I already had a personal connection here before I even attended.

### **Where did you attend undergrad and what was your major?**

I attended the University of Notre Dame and majored in pre-med and anthropology.

### **What are the challenges you've faced so far in med school and what have you learned from them?**

So far, the biggest challenge of medical school has been finding efficient ways to study. There is so much information, and studying the same way for every class doesn't work. It's been difficult for me to break the routine of how I've always studied, but I'm figuring out specific things that work for each class.

### **Has your background and/or heritage informed how you view and practice medicine? If so, how?**

My heritage and background have definitely informed the way I view and will practice medicine. I grew up in a biracial household; my mom was born and raised in Chihuahua, Mexico, and my dad is from Texas. The two sides of my family are culturally different from one another, and this taught me the importance of diversity. I want to carry this understanding with me and learn to practice culturally effective medicine.

**What are your hobbies or interests outside of medicine?** Outside of medicine, I am also interested in anthropology. I have a master's in Medical Anthropology, so I am hoping to still be able to do research even as I practice medicine. My hobbies include reading, playing tennis and cheering way too intensely for Notre



Dame football.

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## Student News

### Two IUSM-South Bend students receive Hofman scholarships

Kyle Lewellen and George Kolettis have been named recipients of 2015 Emil T. Hofman scholarships.

The scholarships honor the late **Emil T. Hofman**, a legendary University of Notre Dame chemistry teacher and instructor who mentored thousands of students into medical school. Hofman died this summer at the age of 94.

The scholarship is supported by University of Notre Dame donors, primarily physicians, and is awarded by Notre Dame to Notre Dame graduates matriculating at Indiana University School of Medicine-South Bend.

Lewellen is a first-year student; Kolettis is a second-year student.

The awards were presented Saturday, Sept. 19, in conjunction with the **annual Emil T. Hoffman lecture**, "Rules of engagement: The principles of underserved global health volunteerism."

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### IUSM biomedical gateway graduate program student receives Stark fellowship

Jenya Chumin, a student in the Indiana University School of Medicine Biomedical Gateway graduate program, received the Paul and Carole Stark Fellowship award for the 2015-16 academic year.

Chumin is in his second year in the IUSM Biomedical Gateway program and will be pursuing a doctorate in the Medical Neurosciences track under the mentorship of Karmen Yoder, Ph.D., associate professor of radiology and imaging services.

This award is granted to only a select few students enrolled in Ph.D. and/or M.D./Ph.D. studies in neuroscience at the IU School of Medicine, and reflects Chumin's credentials and past achievements, as well as his potential for a successful career in neuroscience research.

The Stark Fellowship is made possible by a generous gift that endows this fellowship program in the names of the benefactors, **the late Paul Stark and his wife, Carole**. The award provides an annual stipend of \$25,000 plus coverage of tuition, fees, and health insurance for the upcoming academic year. Chumin will be designated a Stark Scholar, and will have opportunities to interact with recipients of other named fellowships during the year at IU School of Medicine functions.

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### Grad student wins highly competitive CTSI predoctoral training grant

Joey Annette Contreras, a Ph.D. candidate in Medical Neuroscience doing research in the Center for

Neuroimaging and the Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center, has been awarded a highly competitive Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute predoctoral training grant for translational research.

Translational research most commonly refers to research that goes from "bench to bedside;" the process by which research in the lab translates into patient treatment. The goal of the awarded project involves identifying and characterizing the subtle changes that occur in both structural and functional connectivity in the brain during the early prodromal to clinical stages of Alzheimer's disease.

Using network science and graph theory, Contreras will work on detecting abnormal connectivity in the diseased brain's connectome before and during the period when clinical symptoms begin to manifest. This will ultimately facilitate earlier diagnosis and improved prognostic prediction which are both critical for therapeutic development. Her mentors on this project are Andrew Saykin, Psy.D., and Joaquín Goñi, Ph.D.

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## Opportunities

### Innovation in cardiovascular disease and stroke lecture & 5K

The 2015 Campbell Lecture, "Innovation in Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke" will be presented by L. Nelson Hopkins, M.D., on Wednesday, Oct. 28, at the IU Health Neuroscience Center, Goodman Hall Auditorium.

Hopkins is professor of neurosurgery at the University of Buffalo, after serving as chairman from 1989-2013. Hopkins was named State University of New York Distinguished Professor, the highest academic award in the SUNY system. In his time at the University of Buffalo, he has established the department of neurosurgery as one of the most respected in the nation.

As part of this lecture series, on Saturday, Oct. 11, Goodman Campbell Brain and Spine will host the Brain Bolt 5K to benefit the Brain Aneurysm Foundation and the Neurosurgery Foundation at Goodman Campbell. To register for this event, [click here](#).

The Campbell Lecture is presented by the Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Neurological Surgery. To learn more, visit <http://medicine.iu.edu/neurosurgery/>.

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### Biostatistics for health care researchers: A short course

The Department of Biostatistics will offer a short course on basic concepts of statistical methods commonly encountered in healthcare literature on Nov. 10, 11 and 12, from 1 - 5 pm. The course will be open to faculty, fellows and residents, as well as other interested students and staff.

At the conclusion of this course, participants should be able to recognize common study designs and statistical methods used in medical research, discuss complex study design and analysis with a statistician, describe basic concepts of data management, identify appropriate use of statistical procedures when given a common study design and implement simple statistical analyses under the guidance of a statistician.

Enrollment will be limited to the first 30 registrants. [Click here](#) for a detailed brochure and registration form. For additional information, contact Ann Lyon at [annlyon@iupui.edu](mailto:annlyon@iupui.edu).

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## CTSI Postdoc Challenge: Funding to use CTSI-designated Core Facilities due Feb. 29, 2016

The Indiana CTSI is seeking applicants for special postdoctoral training awards in translational research and use of core facilities. CTSI-designated Core Facilities are cores that undergo a yearly accreditation process through the Indiana CTSI for all partner institutions. The Postdoc Challenge offers postdoctoral research associates at Indiana University, Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame valuable proposal writing and reviewing experience in areas related to translational research through the use of one or more of the CTSI-designated Core Facilities at these universities. This is a competitive opportunity for two 1-year awards of \$5,000 each per institution in the form of an expense account for use of core facility services. Funding is to be used only for services provided by the core facilities. Indiana CTSI-designated Core Facilities are listed [here](#). If you are interested in participating, you must discuss your proposal with your advisor prior to beginning the application process to ensure your participation will be approved.

Submissions are due Feb. 29, 2016, at 5 pm. To view more information about this grant or submit a proposal, [click here](#).

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## CTSI - IU Kelley MBA core and project business management assistance due Nov. 20

Indiana CTSI requests proposals for business planning assistance. Cores, resources and units providing a central service to CTSI investigators are eligible. A core/unit may submit multiple proposals. Priority will be given to proposals that will (1) lead to improvements in organizational efficiency, speed of service and/or quality; and (2) has the potential to be extrapolated and benefit other cores, resources or units. Submissions are due Nov. 20. [Click here](#) to learn more about this grant or submit a proposal.

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## 2015 MESH Grand Rounds Series at the VA Medical Center

On Thursday, Oct. 8, Matt Kiernan, Ph.D., R.N., senior lecturer, Northumbria University, U.K., will present "Veteran Homelessness: Addressing the Epidemic" at the Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center.

Dr. Kiernan's interests and expertise are in the areas of homelessness and mental health, with a focus on the U.K. military veteran population. Dr. Kiernan is a registered nurse, specializing in both general and mental health specialty areas, who retired as Lt. commander from the Royal Navy, U.K., following service in Iraq and Afghanistan as commanding officer of the Force Mental Health Team for U.K. forces. He had previously deployed to Bosnia and Kosovo.

Grand rounds admission is free and open to the public. A free continental breakfast will be served beginning at 7:30 am, with a presentation following from 8-9 am.

Continuing Medical Education credits will be offered, and a certificate of attendance is available upon request.

[Click here](#) to register.

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