

Weekly news for faculty, staff and students from the Indiana University School of Medicine

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View more events »

Top News

Video: Students talk about how new curriculum prepares them for the future

Learn more about the benefits of IU School of Medicine's new curriculum from those who helped shape it -- IUSM students. In the latest video available on the curriculum renewal microsite, IUSM students from around the state discuss how earlier interaction with patients, self-directed and peer-to-peer engagement, and enhanced preparation for residency -- all supported by the new curriculum -- will lead to a more robust educational experience at IUSM.

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IU School of Medicine commencement ceremonies are May 7 and 8

IU School of Medicine will award graduate degrees at its annual commencement ceremony at 10 am, Saturday, May 7. The ceremony will be held in the Sagamore Ballroom at the Indiana Convention Center. Aaron E. Carroll, M.D., M.S., IUSM professor of pediatrics and associate dean for research mentoring, is the 2016 commencement speaker.

Find more about the May 7 commencement at medicine.iu.edu/student-affairs. Additional details, including parking information, will be shared and updated on the website in the coming weeks.

All IUSM students are invited to participate in IUPUI commencement at 1 pm, Sunday, May 8. For the first time, IUPUI's commencement ceremony will take place at Lucas Oil Stadium in downtown Indianapolis. Following the main university ceremony, undergraduate students will participate in a post-commencement graduation convocation in the 500 Ballroom of the Indiana Convention Center. The convocation is scheduled to begin at 4:30 pm based on when the commencement ceremony is expected to conclude. For more information on the May 8 commencement events, visit medicine.iu.edu/hpp.

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Indiana Musculoskeletal Symposium is June 1-2

Indiana University School of Medicine, in partnership with the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, will host the Indiana Musculoskeletal Symposium on June 1-2, 2016 at Hine Hall.

The symposium, "Repair and Regeneration of Musculoskeletal Tissues: Academia, Industry and the Battlefront," will offer a forum for investigators throughout the state of Indiana in both academia and industry to present current work that is translatable and deliverable to the critical needs of soldiers at the battlefront and for all wounded warriors with acute or chronic musculoskeletal disorders.

Invited, but not yet confirmed, speakers include Jonathan Woodson, M.D., Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, Col. Todd Rasmussen, Professor of Surgery, United States Combat Casualty Care Research Program and Josh Wenke, Ph.D., Program Manager, U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research.

The symposium will also offer a poster session for investigators who would like to present work. Details on how to submit an abstract and a poster will be available soon.

Tentatively-scheduled IU School of Medicine and Indiana CTSI speakers include:

- Teresa Zimmers, M.D.
- Brian Mullis, M.D.
- Melissa Kacena, Ph.D.
- Stephen Trippel, M.D.
- Keith March, M.D., Ph.D.
- Ben Zarzaur, M.D., M.P.H.
- JaiPal Singh, Ph.D.

To download the full tentative meeting agenda, register for the symposium and stay up-to-date on the latest details, visit IU School of Medicine's research topic hub.

This symposium is free to attend. Click here to register.

🟂 Download the tentative meeting agenda.

Questions? Email info@indianactsi.org

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Faculty and Staff News

Allen is featured speaker at congressional briefing on opioid epidemic

Bradley Allen, M.D., Ph.D., senior associate dean for Medical School Education, was a key presenter at a congressional briefing in Washington D.C. focusing on how medical schools and teaching hospitals are

addressing the opioid epidemic. The Jan. 28 briefing was sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges and the Congressional Academic Medicine Caucus.

Emphasizing the importance of an interprofessional approach, Dr. Allen described IUSM's response in the context of the recent HIV outbreak in southern Indiana and how this event has led to real-time changes in how practicing health professionals and trainees deliver care. He also discussed IUSM's required modules during resident training in several disciplines that include screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment training, funded through a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Dr. Allen provided details about how IUSM is addressing the opioid epidemic at the undergraduate medical education-level through lectures and small group sessions.

To read about the briefing, visit the AAMC newsroom. To view a video of the entire briefing, visit Vimeo.com.

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Faculty needed to participate in oncology summer program

Laboratory mentors, lecturers, and clinical faculty are invited to participate in a joint summer translational oncology program among IU School of Medicine, IU Simon Cancer Center, and Johns Hopkins. The program -- Cancer in the Under-Privileged Indigent or Disadvantaged (CUPID) – is designed to promote the field of oncology to medical students interested in addressing both rural and urban health care disparities.

IUSM will host four to six students for the program, which will be held from June 13 to July 29. Faculty conducting cancer-related research are encouraged to consider hosting a student in their labs, giving a lecture related to oncology, or providing a shadow experience in their clinics. Faculty mentors hosting a summer student in their labs will receive \$1,000 to cover lab-related expenses.

For more information, view the CUPID program website. Contact Richard Zellars, M.D., at rzellars@iu.edu with questions or to volunteer.

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Look for new 2015 health coverage tax form

Under the Affordable Care Act, most Americans are required to have minimum essential health coverage or pay a penalty on their income taxes. Tax Form 1095-C provides supporting documentation for you regarding offers of health insurance from Indiana University.

You will be receiving a 1095-C statement from IU if you were determined to be a full-time employee for one month or more in 2015 or if you were enrolled in one of IU's health plans in 2015.

For more information, visit inside IU.

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Research News

Low reflective ability is risk for professionalism lapses during med school

A new IU School of Medicine, Regenstrief Institute study is one of the first to provide quantitative evidence to support anecdotal claims linking reflective ability of medical students and professional behaviors of future physicians.

"It is important to identify students at risk for professional lapses and to provide them with the help and training they need to avoid lapses in professionalism in the future," said Regenstrief Institute investigator and Indiana University Professor of Medicine Richard M. Frankel, Ph.D., senior author of the study, published in Academic Medicine, the official journal of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

"Medical students know right from wrong but don't always reflect on the short- and long-term consequences of their actions," Dr. Frankel said. "For example, cutting and pasting sources from the Internet without attribution, which some students believe is permissible, is actually a form of plagiarism as is cutting and pasting patients' electronic medical records. Not seeing or reflecting upon the connection between these two types of behaviors can pose a risk for serious lapses in professionalism. By enhancing students' training in reflective practice, we can boost their awareness and vigilance regarding professionalism."

Focusing on students who attended medical school between 2001 and 2009, the study found that those with lower reflection scores, as determined by a narrative writing assignment on professionalism during their third year of medical school, had an increased likelihood of having been cited for professionalism lapses by faculty. Those students who received citations were required to appear before the school's student progress committee to show cause as to why they should be allowed to continue their medical studies.

"Reflection encourages students to think about the consequences of their behaviors and consider others' perspectives. This helps enhance their capacity for empathy, compassion and patient-centeredness, and is important for their professional development," said study first author Leslie Hoffman, Ph.D., of IU School of Medicine-Fort Wayne. "Students with low reflection scores may need additional mentoring to ensure they develop appropriate professional attitudes and values."

For more, read the full news release in IUSM Newsroom.

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Cognitive training effects differ by older adults' education level

The first study to investigate the effects of cognitive training on the cognitive functioning of older adults by education level has found that individuals with fewer than 12 years of schooling benefit more from cognitive training than their more highly educated counterparts.

While the effects of reasoning and memory training did not differ by educational attainment, the effect of speed of information processing training differed significantly. Cognitively normal older adults with less than a complete high school education experienced a 50 percent greater effect from speed of information processing training than college graduates.

The advantage gained from speed of information processing training for those with fewer than 12 years of education was maintained for three years after the end of the training.

"Individuals who have had less education may have less cognitive reserve to overcome pathologies in the brain and may exhibit functional limitations earlier in the pathological process" said Daniel O. Clark, Ph.D., IUSM associate professor of Medicine, who led the new study. "Those starting out at lower education levels had more room for improvement."

For more on Dr. Clark's study, read the news release in IUSM Newsroom.

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Student News

Romine receives American Academy of Neurology medical student essay award

Jennifer Romine, MS3, is the recipient of the 2016 Medical Student Essay Award -- Roland P. Mackay Award, presented by the American Academy of Neurology (AAN). Romine's essay on the history of polio was recognized for outstanding achievement in research. As an award winner, she will present a poster on her work at the AAN Annual Meeting in Vancouver, BC, Canada, on April 18.

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Alternative spring break in Nicaragua: apply by Feb. 19

Looking for something worthwhile to do on spring break? Graduate students in medicine are encouraged to apply for Alternative Spring Break (ASB) 2016. In Nicaragua, diarrhea is a leading cause of death in infants and school-age children. Participants in ASB 2016, sponsored by ENLACE (Enhancing Latin American Care Experiences), will work to combat this dismal reality by building composting latrines in Zacataloza, a rural village where most homes -- and even the school -- do not have a latrine.

This week-long trip combines service, discovery, adventure, and interprofessional learning. From the moment you land in Managua, you will be immersed in the rich history and culture of Nicaragua. Homestays with host families and the chance to shadow Nicaragua health care providers round out this immersion experience.

To apply, visit go.iupui.edu or iabroad.iu.edu and search for Nicaragua: ENLACE Project Spring Break. The deadline for applications is Friday, Feb. 19. For more details, contact Kathleen Fenerty at kfenerty@iupui.edu or Emily Potts at epotts@umail.iu.edu.

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Opportunities

Patient Safety Day is March 18; proposal deadline is tomorrow

Clinical leaders, faculty, educators, trainees, and students will gather March 18 for the second annual Patient Safety Day -- an event focused on advancing quality and patient safety efforts across IUPUI and Indianapolis. Proposals for posters and presentations, due Friday, Feb. 5, are sought in the following areas:

Improving Value through Clinical Transformation and Implementation Science

- Innovations in Healthcare Education in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety
- Student & Trainee Initiatives in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety
- Team Based and Interprofessional Approaches to Quality Improvement and Patient Safety

Submit completed abstract proposals to iupatientsafetyday@gmail.com. Authors will be notified in late February of their acceptance status. Patient Safety Day is hosted by the IUSM Graduate Medical Education Patient Safety Council.

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Kudos

Governor appoints Nelson to serve on Indiana Medical Education Board

Indiana Governor Mike Pence has appointed Ann Marie Nelson, D.O., IUSM interim assistant dean for curriculum in the clinical sciences, and assistant professor of Clinical Family Medicine, to the Indiana Medical Education Board. Dr. Nelson will complete a three-year term through December 2017.

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Around Campus

South Bend - Donors honored at scholarship event

Donors and students celebrated the IU School of Medicine-South Bend's robust scholarship program with the annual named donor recognition event on Jan. 19. This event brings together scholarship benefactors with the recipients of their endowed and named scholarships.

This year's event provided an opportunity to thank the donors of funds for four new Dean's Council Scholarships that were awarded in December to four first-year students. These students will receive \$10,000 per year for each year they matriculate at the South Bend campus.

Underwriting these new scholarships were Midwest Cardiovascular Research & Education Fund; Elkhart Emergency Physicians, Inc.; the Vera Z. Dwyer Charitable Trust; and Barnes & Thornburg LLC. Their scholarships are held, respectively, by Danielle Bly, Joey Dynako, Jacob Hostetler and David Zimmer.

Student testimony about their scholarships provided the highlight of this event. Danielle Bly described how she heard about the scholarship in mid-December but kept it a secret from her family until Christmas, when she had her parents open the scholarship letter.

"I have never seen so much crying," said Bly of her overwhelmed family. She never got the letter back; her dad took it to frame it.

For more comments from students, visit medicine.iu.edu.

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Indy - Plan to attend the Frew Lecture -- Concussion: The Perfect Storm

Concussion advocacy and research is the topic of the 14th Annual Jack and Sabina Frew Lecture, which will be held from 5 to 6:30 pm, Wednesday, Feb. 24, in Goodman Hall Auditorium, 355 W. 16th St., Indianapolis.

The featured speaker is Richard G. Ellenbogen, M.D., FACS, chair, Department of Neurological Surgery, University of Washington (UW), director of the UW Medicine Neuroscience Institute, and co-chair, NFL Head, Neck and Spine Medicine Committee.

A reception will follow at The Alexander Hotel, 333 S. Delaware St. RSVP for the reception to Anna Hileman, ahileman@goodmancampbell.com or 317.396.1283.

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Indy - 25th annual IUSM Evening of the Arts is April 9

Come support the IU School of Medicine community at the Evening of the Arts: A Night with the IUSM Stars. Tickets are now on sale for the show, which will be held at 5 pm on Saturday, April 9, at Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet School.

A beloved IUSM tradition since 1992, this event showcases the creative talents of IUSM students, staff, and faculty.

Tickets are \$10 for students and \$12 for the general public. The ticket price includes the show, dinner, and a silent auction. All proceeds benefit local health care clinics, including the IU Student Outreach Clinic. To learn more, purchase tickets, or view a preview video, visit iusmeota.com.

The 2016 Evening of the Arts Committee:

Jeeha Hussain, MS4

Priyanka Parekh, MS4

Revathi Kollipara, MS3

Sonia Phadke, MS3

Christen Salyer, MS3

Zachary Walker, MS3

Wendi Li, MS2

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All - Mark your calendar for first IU Day, April 12

"What's IU Day?" you ask.

It's a nonstop, 24-hour celebration of Indiana University happening online and around the world. It's for all campuses, all students, all alumni, all faculty and staff, and all who love IU. The fun starts at midnight EDT on April 12.

So what's in store for the big day?

- 24 hours of exciting online IU content at iuday.iu.edu
- Social media challenges and contests
- On-campus and alumni-chapter events around the world
- IU faithful rocking their IU gear
- Special giving opportunities and challenges

Mark your calendar, and keep an eye on iuday.iu.edu for more information.

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Partner News

IU Simon Cancer Center joins others in endorsing HPV vaccine for cancer prevention

In response to low national vaccination rates for the human papillomavirus (HPV), the IU Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center has joined with the other 68 National Cancer Institute-designated cancer centers in issuing a statement calling for increased HPV vaccination for the prevention of cancer.

These institutions collectively recognize insufficient vaccination as a public health threat and call upon the nation's physicians, parents, and young adults to take advantage of this rare opportunity to prevent many types of cancer.

"We are often asked, 'When are we going to find a cure for cancer?' The truth is that the HPV vaccine is better than a cure. It can literally eliminate cervical cancer and a large subtype of head and neck cancers," said Patrick Loehrer Sr., M.D., director of the IU Simon Cancer Center, IUSM associate dean for cancer research and H.H. Gregg Professor of Oncology.

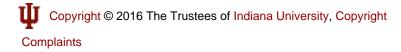
The NCI-designated cancer centers joined in this effort in the spirit of President Barack Obama's State of the Union call for a national "moonshot" to cure cancer, a collaborative effort led by Vice President Joe Biden.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HPV infections are responsible for approximately 27,000 new cancer diagnoses each year in the United States. Three vaccines are available that can prevent the majority of cervical, anal, and other genital cancers.

For more, read the full news release in IUSM Newsroom.

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