

# IU GERIATRICS e-news for JUNE 2005

The IU Geriatrics Program and the [IU Center for Aging Research](#) congratulate **Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH**, who has been awarded a prestigious Paul B. Beeson Career Development Award in Aging Research. Read more in GRANTS...

Check out the website for the international and interdisciplinary [2005 Aging and Speech Communication Conference](#) to be held October 9-12, 2005 in Bloomington, Indiana. The conference will bring together researchers working around the world in the areas of cognitive processing and sensory perceptual processing, especially hearing, to share their latest research findings with regard to aging and speech communication. [Larry E. Humes, PhD](#), Professor in the IUB Department of Speech & Hearing Sciences, is chair of the conference advisory committee.

## GRANTS

**Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH**, has joined the Beeson Scholar class of 2005-2008 as the recipient of a [Paul B. Beeson Career Development Award in Aging Research](#). The award is presented to outstanding junior and mid-career faculty committed to academic careers in aging-related research, training and practice. Applicants from the nation's top medical schools and research institutions vie for the award that brings \$600,000-\$800,000 to the Scholar for a 3-5 year period.

Malaz's Beeson research project is titled "Enhancing Care for Hospitalized Older Adults with Cognitive Impairment." The project brings together multiple research interests with IU Geriatrics including gero-informatics, improving the safety and quality of care for hospitalized older adults, and developing new models of care for common geriatric syndromes. His local Beeson mentor is **Chris Callahan, MD**, a Scholar from the Class of 1996 and the only other Indiana University investigator to be named to the Program. Co-mentors are **Steve Counsell, MD**, and **Hugh Hendrie, MB, ChB, DSc**.

Malaz and Chris attended the 10th anniversary Beeson Annual Meeting June 10-14 in La Jolla, California.

**Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH**, received an [Educational Research & Development Grant](#) funded by the IU School of Medicine's Office of Medical Education and Curricular Affairs. The grant funds two projects that infuse strategies for effective communication with older adults into the existing required medical school curriculum and offer opportunities to practice this effective communication during the first year of medical school statewide. The projects, "Buddies between Elders and Students (BEST)" and "Council of Elders (CoE) Experiences: Enhancing Communication with Older Adults," are funded for the 2005-2006 academic year.

## AWARDS

**Robin Beck, MD**, received a Fellows Teaching Award from the IUSM Department of Medicine for her extensive involvement and excellent teaching evaluations as faculty for the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program.

**Linda Williams, MD**, was honored in April with the University of Rochester (New York) Department of Neurology Distinguished Alumni Award. Linda completed a neurology residency at the university.

## PUBLICATIONS

Maidment ID, Fox C, **Boustani M**. [A review of studies describing the use of acetyl cholinesterase inhibitors in Parkinson's disease dementia](#). Acta Psychiatr Scand. 2005 Jun;111(6):403-9.

Wolinsky FD, **Miller DK**, Andresen EM, Malmstrom TK, Miller JP. [Further evidence for the importance of subclinical functional limitation and subclinical disability assessment in gerontology and geriatrics](#). J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci. 2005 May;60(3):S146-51.

Buchanan AH, Skinner CS, Rawl SM, Moser BK, **Champion VL**, Scott LL, Strigo TS, Bastian L. [Patients' interest in discussing cancer risk and risk management with primary care physicians](#). Patient Educ Couns. 2005 Apr;57(1):77-87.

Keeffe B, **Subramanian U**, Tierney WM, Udris E, Willems J, McDonell M, Fihn SD. [Provider response to computer-based care suggestions for chronic heart failure](#). Med Care. 2005 May;43(5):461-5.

Beglinger LJ, Gaydos B, Tangphao-Daniels O, Duff K, Kareken DA, Crawford J, **Fastenau PS**, Siemers ER. [Practice effects and the use of alternate forms in serial neuropsychological testing](#). Arch Clin Neuropsychol. 2005 Jun;20(4):517-29.

Ouslander JG, Griffiths P, McConnell E, **Riolo L**, Schnelle J. [Functional Incidental Training: Applicability and feasibility in the Veterans Affairs nursing home patient population](#). J Am Med Dir Assoc. 2005 March/April;6(2):121-7.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Yansheng Du, PhD**, was first author of the abstract "Treatment with purified human anti-Abeta antibodies alters beta-amyloid levels in the serum, CSF and brain of APPV717F transgenic mice," which was presented at the 57th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Neurology held April 9-16, 2005 in Miami Beach, Florida. The abstract was judged in the top 7% of the program and thus presented in the Scientific Program Highlights Plenary Session. Co-authors were Xing Wei, Liming Zhao, and **Martin Farlow, MD**, from the Department of Neurology.

Drs. Du and Wei were co-authors, along with first author Norman Relkin, MD, PhD, from Cornell University, on a second abstract presentation, "Dose-ranging study of intravenous immunoglobulin in Alzheimer's disease." A report on the research was featured on NPR's [Morning Edition on April 13, 2005](#).

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

**Steve Counsell, MD**, was a Visiting Professor in Geriatrics and provided Acute Care for Elders (ACE) program development consultation on June 8, 2005, to the Section of Geriatrics and Gerontology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School and the UW Hospital and Clinics. His Grand Rounds presentation was entitled, "Improving Hospital Care for Older Adults: The ACE Model." Dr. Counsell met with UW current and former geriatric medicine fellows and with former IU Geriatrics faculty and IUCAR scientist, Amna Buttar, MD, MS who is starting an ACE unit at UW Hospital.

**Frederick W. Unverzagt, PhD**, was nominated and accepted as a Fellow in the [National Academy of Neuropsychology](#). The academy is a professional society that includes clinicians, scientist-practitioners, and researchers interested in neuropsychology which involves the study, evaluation, and treatment of known and suspected brain disorders using the methods of psychology.

**Steve Lind, MS, LCSW**, and the Senior Care at Wishard social work staff sponsored a training session by the Social Security Administration on May 25, 2005 regarding the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program. Joe Everett, SSA Public Affairs Director and Coordinator of the local Medicare Outreach Program, presented an overview of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, including the new Part D Program and premium.

Mr. Everett is eager to meet with community groups, church groups, and professionals about the outreach program. Contact him at [joseph.everett@ssa.gov](mailto:joseph.everett@ssa.gov) and at 317-532-0067, extension 3107.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tom Zunica, MD, will present "Podiatry Care in Older Adults" on June 29 at the IU Geriatrics Conference held in Wishard T2008 A&B from 7:30-8:30am.

**Chris Callahan, MD**, will present "An Internist's Guide to Caring for Older Adults with Mood Disorders" at Medicine Grand Rounds July 13, 2005, at 8:30-9:30am in Myers Auditorium in Wishard Memorial Hospital.

The IU Geriatrics Conferences held on Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30am, will take a hiatus during the months of July and August.