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Sperring to lead Riley Hospital for Children

Jeff Sperring, MD, assistant professor of clinical pediatrics, has been named [president and CEO](#) of Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health. Dr. Sperring joined IU Health in 2002 and has served as chief medical officer of Riley at IU Health since 2009.

As president and CEO, Dr. Sperring will be responsible for providing overall strategic direction and leadership for pediatric services throughout IU Health, including direct operational and strategic oversight of pediatric programs, services and facilities at Riley at IU Health, along with shared program oversight for pediatric programs based in the community hospitals. Dr. Sperring will serve on the senior executive team for IU Health.

Dr. Sperring joined IU Health as director of the pediatric hospitalist program at Children's Pavilion at IU Health Methodist Hospital, a part of the Riley Children's Health Partnership. He led the expansion of the program to IU Health North in 2005 and then to IU Health West and Riley Hospital in 2007. He

also was appointed associate chief medical officer at Riley at IU Health and assumed the position of chief medical officer upon the retirement of Dr. Richard L. Schreiner.

Marilyn Cox, who served as interim president and CEO, will return to her role as chief nursing officer and senior vice president for Nursing and Patient Care Services.

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IUSM researcher earns ACS Scholars Grant

Samy Meroueh, PhD, assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, has received a Research Scholar Grant from the American Cancer Society to study a protein that promotes cancer metastasis.

[Dr. Meroueh](#) will receive \$720,000 over a four-year period to investigate uPAR, a cell surface receptor that has been the focus of his research for several years. The receptor exists only in cancer cells that metastasize, making it an excellent target for the development of therapeutics to block metastasis, the main reason that more than 90 percent of patients succumb to cancer. With prior funds from the NIH, Dr. Meroueh's lab has identified small molecules that attach to uPAR on the surface of cancer cells in metastatic tumors.

The prestigious grant is reserved for junior faculty members performing promising cancer research.

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AAMC president to address IUSM — Dec. 1

Darrell Kirch, MD, president and CEO of the Association of American Medical Colleges, is delivering two lectures on Thursday, Dec. 1. A presentation geared toward students, fellows and residents will be from noon to 1 p.m. in Walther Hall (R3), room 303/305. A public conversation will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the IUPUI Campus Center, room 450. A reception will precede this talk at 4:30 p.m.

Driven by the question, "Can Anyone Fix Health Care?," Dr. Kirch will discuss how IUSM and academic medicine at large can respond to this leadership imperative and accomplish true health care reform.

Dr. Kirch's visit is supported by the IUPUI Center for Teaching and Learning and the IUSM Office of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development. These events are free and open to the IUSM and IUPUI communities.

For information or to register, visit faculty.medicine.iu.edu.

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Cancer expert to present Beering Lecture

The 2011 Steven Beering Lecture will be from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, in the Riley Outpatient Center auditorium.

[Craig B. Thompson](#), MD, president and CEO of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, will present "Cell Growth and Survival: It's All About Metabolism." Dr. Thompson is also professor of

immunology and microbial pathogenesis and cell and developmental biology at the Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences and professor of medicine at University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Thompson also will deliver a lecture to graduate and first- and second-year medical students, pre-docs, postdocs and residents titled “Metabolic Regulation of Epigenetics” from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, in Emerson Hall, room 304.

Steven C. Beering served as the dean of the IU School of Medicine from 1974 to 1983, and then as the president of Purdue from 1983-2000. The Steven C. Beering Award for Advancement of Biomedical Science was established by several IUSM faculty in recognition of Dr. Beering after he left IUPUI.

A list of previous recipients is online on [this page](#).

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Dean's slides give update on state of the school

How is IUSM doing in landing research funding in this tough environment? How do IUSM students compare with national averages on the USMLE Step 1 exam? How do residents and fellows rate their experiences at the School?

The answers to these questions and many more can be found in “State of the School 2011” an updated slide presentation available for review on the web page for Craig Brater, MD, dean of the IU School of Medicine and vice president for university clinical affairs at IU.

To review the slides, which include the dean’s commentary, visit medicine.iu.edu/administrative-offices/iusm-dean and click on “State of the School 2011” in the menu on the right.

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Stash Bash to support Women’s Task Force

Second-year medical students at IUSM-South Bend have been growing moustaches all November. On Monday, Nov. 21, one of those stashes, and its owner, will be crowned king.

The whisker race is a student-run fund-raiser benefitting the Women’s Task Force of St. Joseph County. The event takes place at 6 p.m. in the Raclin-Carmichael Hall Atrium, 1234 Notre Dame Ave. The Moustache King is the student who raised the most money on behalf of the Task Force.

Sponsored by the American Medical Women’s Association, the ceremonies also include dinner and a presentation by a Women’s Task Force cancer survivor. A \$2 donation is requested.

This is the second year male medical school students have pitched in to help the annual AMWA chapter by growing moustaches. This year, the chapter received a \$250 grant from the AMWA national to support the fund-raiser, which aims to raise \$3,000 for the Women's Task Force.

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Harvard cell biologist to speak — Nov. 21

The Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology will host a seminar from 4 to 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, in the VanNuys Medical Science Building, room 326.

Daniel Finley, PhD, professor of cell biology at Harvard University, will present “Regulation of the proteasome by ubiquitin chain editing.”

Refreshments will be served at 3:30 p.m. in the same room.

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Public health seminar on waterborne disease

The Department of Public Health is hosting a seminar from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, in the Education and Research Institute Building, room 220.

Kristina Mena, PhD, will present “Waterborne Disease: From the Developing World to the World of Outer Space. *What Is the Risk?*” Dr. Mena is associate professor and director of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences in the Division of Epidemiology, Human Genetics and Environmental Sciences, University of Texas-Houston School of Public Health. Her research areas are quantitative microbial risk assessment, water quality and food safety.

In addition to her work conducting studies related to environmental microbiology and human health along the United States-Mexico border, Dr. Mena has collaborated for the past five years with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to address flight crew health associated with water and food quality at the International Space Station.

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Ob/Gyn Grand Round lecture — Nov. 23

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology will present a grand rounds lecture from 8:15 to 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23, in Walther Hall (R3), room 203.

Rupal Shroff, M.D., a fellow in minimally invasive surgery at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, will present "Surgical Management of Adnexal Masses in Pregnancy."

Questions to smith823@iupui.edu.

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Epidemiologist to address pharmacogenetics

The Department of Public Health will present a seminar from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23, in Fairbanks Hall, room 1109-1111.

Bruce Psaty, MD, PhD, MPH, professor of medicine, epidemiology and health services, University of Washington, will present “Pharmacogenetics, progress and challenges: the view of an epidemiologist.”

This event will be hosted by Jennifer Wessel, PhD, MPH, assistant professor of public health and medicine, IUSM.

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Seminar to focus on computational biology

The Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics will present a seminar from 11 a.m. to noon Monday, Nov. 28, in the Health Information and Translational Sciences (HITS) Building, room 1110.

Sandor Vajda, PhD, professor of biomedical engineering at Boston University, will present “Fragment-based computational tools for the analysis of receptor-ligand interactions.”

This event will be hosted by Samy Meroueh, PhD, assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology.

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Simulation Center to offer teamwork seminar

A teamwork seminar for health care professionals will be available from 8 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Nov. 29, in the Simulation Center at Fairbanks Hall.

TeamSTEPPS is a teamwork course designed to help improve patient safety within an organization. This evidence-based system is designed to improve communication and teamwork skills as well as provide ready-to-use teamwork materials and curriculum. Developed by the Department of Defense's Patient Safety Program in collaboration with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, TeamSTEPPS is scientifically rooted in more than 20 years of research and lessons from the application of teamwork principles.

This is a free workshop. Questions to Kathy Johnson at 963-7606 or simulationcenter@iuhealth.org.

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Lecture to focus on Alzheimer's disease

The Stark Neurosciences Research Institute will host a seminar from 2 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, in Research II (R2) Building, room 101.

Shannon Leigh Risacher, a doctoral candidate in medical neuroscience, will present “MRI Measures of Neurodegeneration as Biomarkers of Alzheimer's Disease.”

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Symposium on bioinformatics tools — Nov. 30

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute and the Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics will present a symposium focused on bioinformatics tools from 1:30 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, in Research 4 (R4), room 101.

With NIH's mandate for depositing data into public databases, an increasing amount of research can be performed using publicly available data. This event will focus on the ways in which bioinformatics tools can be used in a variety of gene pathway analysis, drug discovery and repositioning, and accessing large-scale genomic public databases. Tools under discussion will include MetaDrug, Gene Go, GVK BIO, GEO, Connectivity Map and dbGAP, all of which are available to scientists at IU, Purdue and Notre Dame.

Biologists and bioinformaticians at all levels of experience are welcome. Registration is not required.

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Scholar to discuss the racial politics of health

IUPUI Committee on African and African-American Studies and the Medical Humanities and Health Studies Program will co-sponsor a lecture from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, in the IUPUI Campus Center, room 305.

Kia Lilly Caldwell, PhD, associate professor of Afro-American Studies at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, will present "The Racial Politics of Health in Post-'Racial Democracy' Brazil."

For more information, see the [event flyer](#).

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Feminist bioethics topic of lecture

The next Medical Humanities-Health Studies seminar will be from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, in the IUPUI Campus Center, room 305.

IUPUI Professor Peg Brand, PhD, associate professor of philosophy and women's studies, will present "Why Feminist Bioethics?" This lecture will discuss how feminist bioethics has contributed to mainstream discussions of care, autonomy and power within American health professions as well as the international scene over the past 15 years. Far from being confined to a special set of "women's problems," a feminist approach to bioethics utilizes the study of women's experience and women's bodies to broaden the basis of medical study to more fully inform us about human experience.

To RSVP, email Jennifer Smedley at jensmdl@iupui.edu. For more information, see the [event flyer](#).

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Open Enrollment ends today

Open Enrollment, the annual opportunity for IU employees to enroll in or make changes to medical and dental plans, personal accident insurance or tax saver benefit (TSB) reimbursement accounts, will end **Friday, Nov. 18**.

Employees are also asked to complete the tobacco-free affidavit during this period. Completing this affidavit will reduce medical plan cost by \$25 per month for an individual or \$50 per month for an individual and spouse or domestic partner (\$25 per person) who does not use tobacco.

Open Enrollment is available via OneStart at onestart.iu.edu. All changes will take effect as of Jan. 1.

For more information, visit [this page](#).

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Super Bowl impact on campus info

Traffic and parking, as well as some classes, are expected to be affected Feb. 3-6 due to Super Bowl XLVI in Indianapolis. All IUPUI classes, with the exception of the schools of medicine and dentistry, will be canceled Feb. 4-5, and some administrative and academic offices will be closed on the weekend.

Staff members are also being asked to work with their supervisors to consider alternate work options — such as flex time, compressed work weeks or telecommuting — during this period to reduce the level of activity on campus.

For more information and updates about the effect of the Super Bowl on IUPUI, see the FAQ at www.iupui.edu/superbowl.

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Help med students travel with the HOST Program

HOST, or Helping Our Students Travel, is designed to help medical students save money and create alumni connections during their travel for educationally related programs.

Students participating in the program benefit from free housing and/or meals, mentor relationships and local insight into the medical community from IUSM Alumni. This program has been successful due to the generosity of alumni across the country, and has helped save students thousands of dollars in educationally related travel expenses over the past five years.

For more information on HOST, or to register as a student or an alumni host, visit www.alumni.iupui.edu/medicine/host.htm.

Questions to Cora Griffin at iusmalum@iupui.edu or 274-8828.

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Arthritis Foundation run volunteers needed

Volunteers are sought for the 2011 Arthritis Foundation Jingle Bell 5K Run/Walk Saturday, Dec. 10, at Conseco Fieldhouse.

Event duties will include checking in volunteers, greeting and registering participants, staffing tables, providing route guidance, managing the food table, designing costumes and assisting with the “Santa Race.” Volunteers also are needed for the week running up to the event to stuff goodie bags and manage packet pick-ups.

To volunteer, visit [this page](#). To sign up, select “Team Volunteer” and use the promo code, “Donner.” Questions to Cyndi Herrera at cherrera@iupui.edu.

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Student Health 101 Magazine

Student Health Services is offering students, staff and faculty a free monthly subscription to *Student Health 101 Magazine*. *Student Health 101* is an interactive online magazine focusing on health and wellness for college students.

The November issue tackles topics such as, “Exercises You Can Do by Your Desk,” “Smoking: How to Put Out the Fire,” “Nutrition: What’s on Your Plate?” and “How to Deal with Loneliness.” To see the November issue, visit readsh101.com/iupui.html.

To subscribe, email Emily Werner at wernere@iupui.edu.

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No Scope next week — Nov. 25

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, *Scope* will not publish Friday, Nov. 25. The next issue will be released Friday, Dec. 2.

In addition, no *Scope* issues are scheduled Dec. 23 or Dec. 30. Please remember to consider this limited publication schedule when submitting items with events and deadlines in December.

For details about how to submit info to *Scope*, visit scope.medicine.iu.edu/#submissions.

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This week on Sound Medicine

This week on *Sound Medicine*, guests will discuss how bed netting creates a protective barrier against malaria-carrying mosquitoes that bite at night, and how an Indianapolis teenager is playing a role in the battle against this deadly disease. Also, bioethicist Eric Meslin discusses a physician who led the South African apartheid government’s chemical and biological warfare program, and a look at an anti-gravity treadmill. *Sound Medicine* airs at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, on WFYI, 90.1FM.

Sound Medicine is an award-winning radio program co-produced by IUSM and WFYI Public Radio. It is underwritten by IU Health Physicians and IUPUI. Reports on Primary Health Care topics are sponsored by Wishard Health Services.

For more information on this episode, visit the [IUSM Newsroom](#). To listen online, see the *Sound Medicine* [website](#).

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Program Project Planning Awards — request for applications

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, with support from the IU School of Medicine, is offering a new funding mechanism to support the submission of Program Project Grant (PPG)-type extramural applications and similar multi-PI funding opportunities.

Indiana CTSI Program Project Planning (P3) Awards will range from about \$75,000 to \$100,000. P3 Awards are designed to support PPG-type projects spanning bench to bedside T1 research and clinic to population-based T2 studies at IUSM. PPGs eligible for P3 award support are broadly defined as any multi-PI, multi-project extramural grants with annual direct budgets of \$600,000 or more in direct costs per year, including NIH P series, U series or other unique mechanisms from federal government agencies.

The applications may be submitted throughout the year. For more information, see the complete application guidelines at www.indianactsi.org/site/grants/p3-guidelines.pdf. To apply, visit www.indianactsi.org/grants and log in using your university ID.

Questions to the Indiana CTSI at 278-2874 or ictsi@iupui.edu.

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Rural health conference seeks speaker topics — Dec. 15

The Indiana Rural Health Association invites individuals with an interest in rural health to submit concurrent session ideas for presentation at the IRHA's 15th Annual Conference, "Rural Health: Partnering for Better Communities," June 14 and 15 at the JW Marriott Indianapolis.

Presentations will be selected based on the need for the topic as it relates to rural health and the speaker's knowledge and expertise on the subject. The 2012 IRHA conference will offer keynote speakers and plenary sessions. Concurrent breakout sessions will provide an opportunity for deeper explorations of topics. The conference planning committee will announce its final selections in January.

The deadline for speaker proposals is **Thursday, Dec. 15**. To download the official RFP, [click here](#).

To submit a proposal, email Tina Elliott at telliott@indianarha.org.

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Nominate a speaker for the IUPUI Last Lecture series

All IUPUI faculty, retired faculty, staff and students are invited to submit nominations for speakers at the Last Lecture. This annual lecture is an opportunity to hear reflections on life's lessons and meaning from a retired or current IUPUI colleague of exceptional merit.

The lecturer will be asked to share with students, staff, faculty and the general public the wisdom she or he gained through academic pursuits and life experiences and to distill a life of inquiry, reflection and service into guidelines and advice for successive generations. Speeches should be 30 to 40 minutes.

The Last Lecture will be Friday, March 30, at IUPUI. All current and retired IUPUI-based faculty and staff are eligible. Nominators should submit a brief summary justifying why the nominee deserves consideration. The successful nominee will receive \$1,500.

Send nominations to Golam Mannan, IUPUI Senior Academy, 355 N. Lansing St. - AO 109, Indianapolis, IN 46202 or email to gmannan@iupui.edu. Submission deadline is **Sunday, Jan. 15**.

The Last Lecture is co-sponsored by the IUPUI Senior Academy, the IUPUI Administration and the IU Foundation.

Questions to Golam Mannan at 228-0324 or gmannan@iupui.edu.

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Research Funding Update

The IU Office of the Vice Provost for Research and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research offer weekly digests containing information about funding opportunities including those that limit the number of allowable pre-proposal or proposal submissions.

Funding updates categories include sciences, limited submissions, technology and multidisciplinary:

- [Sciences](#)
- [Limited Submissions](#)
- [Multidisciplinary](#)
- [Technology](#)

To subscribe to these updates by email, visit [this page](#).

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Dexter earns honor in health IT

Paul Dexter, MD, associate professor of clinical medicine, has been named one of America's leading clinical informaticists by *Modern Healthcare*.

Dr. Dexter, chief medical information officer and director of clinical applications at Wishard Health Services, supervises the programmers responsible for the Regenstrief Medical Record System and the Gopher Order Entry System. He focuses his research on the development and evaluation of computer technologies and their effects on physician responses and has conducted multiple trials related to computerized clinical reminder systems. He also is a Regenstrief Institute investigator.

Modern Healthcare, a leading source of health care business and policy news, research and information, selected 25 medical professionals for its Top Clinical Informaticists list. To develop the list, the magazine reviewed how the individuals excel in using patient care data to improve both the clinical and financial performance of their health care organizations.

For more information, visit the [IUSM Newsroom](#).

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Faculty books

Jingwu Xie, PhD, Jonathan and Jennifer Simmons Professor of Pediatrics, is the editor of *Hedgehog signaling: activation in human cancer and its clinical implications*, recently released by Springer Press.

The hedgehog pathway, discovered by two Nobel laureates, Drs. E. Wieschaus and C. Nusslein-Volhard, is a major pathway regulating cell differentiation, tissue polarity, stem cell maintenance and cell proliferation. It is known by now that activation of this pathway occurs in a variety of human cancers, including basal cell carcinomas, leukemia, and gastrointestinal, lung, ovarian, breast and prostate cancers. For more information, see [this page](#).

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IUSM art show reception — Dec. 1

The IUSM art exhibit, “Scientific Inquiry, Artistic Expression,” will remain on display at the IUPUI Campus Center Cultural Arts Gallery until Dec. 2. A “Meet the Artist Reception,” which is open to all, will be at the gallery from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1.

The exhibit, which opened Oct. 19 in the VanNuys Medical Science Building atrium, includes the People’s Choice Award winner and first- and second-place runners-up: Min Li’s sculpture titled “Mini Thinker”; Arpita Mondal’s “Anschauung” and Ruben Sandoral’s “RMS Glomerulus.”

For more information on the annual exhibition, visit medicine.iu.edu/art.

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Union Drive to close for construction

The Eskenazi Health (formerly Wishard Hospital) construction project will again expand on or after Nov. 29.

This expansion will encompass much of the parking west of Union Drive, which will close to through traffic at this time. A comparable number of parking spaces will be made available in the new Eskenazi Garage that sits directly west of the Union Building, and is accessible from Michigan Street.

B and E parking spaces will be available in the new garage beginning Nov 29. Transportation will be offered from the garage.

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At Your Fingertips

Continuing Medical Education

The Continuing Medical Education office launched a new and improved website at cme.medicine.iu.edu. In addition to online registration and listings of grand rounds, conferences and courses, the site provides in-depth tools and information for presenters and program developers. Included are forms, tips, links, contacts, maps, and a host of other handy resources to make it easier to participate in CME events, prepare a presentation or plan an event.

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Resources

Want to find a room that has a Polycom hook-up? Need official IUSM templates for your PowerPoint presentation or poster about a guest lecturer? Check out the new “Resources For” page on the IUSM web site. Resources For is accessible from the school’s home page (medicine.iu.edu) – look on the right-hand side of the page.

If you have suggestions of other resources that would be beneficial and could be added to this list, contact the Office of Public and Media Relations at medschl@iupui.edu.

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MedTV

The Office of Public and Media Relations now manages the MedTV screens on the medical school campus. This closed-circuit TV system, part of the IUPUI network, presents a wonderful opportunity for faculty, staff and students to communicate events and information of interest to others. It also serves as a source for broadcasting emergency information on campus.

The MedTVs are located in public areas of the HITS building, the VanNuys Medical Science Building atrium, the Daly Center, Research II, Walther Hall (R3) and the Cancer Research Institute (R4).

Announcements from departments and offices are welcome. To have your department or office announcements posted on MedTV, please read the MedTV guidelines: medicine.iu.edu/medtv. Questions? Phone 274-7722.

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Scientific Calendar online

A comprehensive listing on IUSM seminars, lectures and Grand Rounds can be accessed at the new [Scientific Calendar](#) website. To place items on the Scientific Calendar, please forward them to Kelli Diener at kas1@iupui.edu.

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Scope submission guidelines

Scope wants your news items.

The deadline for submission is 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays. *Scope* is published electronically and sent to faculty, staff, students, and residents on Fridays (except on holiday weekends when it is published on the following Monday).

There are three easy ways to submit story ideas or information to *Scope*:

- e-mail the information to scopemed@iupui.edu
- mail the information to Kevin Fryling, 1110 W. Michigan, LO 401, IUPUI
- fax your information to (317) 278-8722

Contributions submitted by e-mail should be forwarded in 12 point, plain text format. Word document attachments in lieu of fliers are encouraged.

In the interest of accuracy, please do NOT use:

- acronyms
- abbreviations
- campus building codes (use full, proper name of building and include the room number)
- Dr. as a preface before names (designate MD or PhD)

To keep the electronic version of *Scope* as streamlined as possible, only seminars and lectures of general or multidisciplinary interest will be included.

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