



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

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Top News

Deans’ office hours begin this month

Earlier this year IU School of Medicine Dean Jay Hess, Executive Vice Dean Steve Bogdewic, Executive Associate Dean Peter Nalin, and Senior Associate Dean Brad Allen visited the school’s nine campuses to meet with students, faculty, and staff, and share updates on IUSM’s progress on the Road to Reaccreditation and the revised curriculum. The visits gave the deans an opportunity to meet with learners, hear questions firsthand, and receive feedback on what is working well and what opportunities IUSM has to be the best medical school possible.

To continue this dialogue, members of the Deans’ Office will begin a pilot to hold office hours in the Medical Science Building on the Indianapolis campus. Each month, Dean Hess and his executive leadership team, as well as members of their teams, will hold office hours in MS 166. During this time, IUSM leaders will be

available for students, faculty, and staff to ask questions or offer comments and suggestions.

Dean Hess will host the first session on Thursday, April 21, from 1:30 to 5 pm in MS 166.

Future office hours will be posted outside MS 166 and on MedTV. Individuals are welcome to stop in on a first-come, first-served basis during these office hours. Depending on demand, options for similar pilots on the regional campuses will be explored. Additional regional campus visits are planned for this fall.

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Celebration nears for Class of 2016

Commencement weekend for the IU School of Medicine class of 2016 is just three weeks away. Here is important information and reminders for events on Friday, May 6, through Sunday, May 8.

Senior Banquet

When: Friday, May 6; reception: 6 pm, dinner: 7 pm, program: 8 pm

Where: JW Marriott Grand Ballroom, 10 S. West St., Indianapolis

IUSM students, family, and friends will gather to celebrate accomplishments at the school's annual Senior Banquet. Keynote speaker is Gary L. Dunnington, M.D., Jay L. Grosfeld Professor and chair, Department of Surgery. Class of 2016 students may attend the banquet free of charge, but must [RSVP](#) by Friday, April 22. Family, friends, faculty, and staff can [purchase tickets](#) for \$50 each. Discounted parking is available at the Indiana Government Center Parking Garage for \$10 with coupon flyer (Check the [Medical Student Education](#) web page in the coming days for coupon.)

Commencement

When: Saturday, May 7; doors open at 8:30 am, commencement begins at 10 am

Where: Sagamore Ballroom, Indiana Convention Center, 100 S. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis

Keynote speaker at this year's IUSM commencement is Aaron Carroll, M.D., professor of pediatrics and associate dean for research mentoring, IU School of Medicine. The Sagamore Ballroom offers capacity for 3,000 guests, so attendance is not limited; however, seats cannot be reserved.

The One America 500 Festival Mini Marathon will be taking place that morning, so allow for extra travel time to commencement. Due to increased traffic downtown, IUSM will provide up to two complimentary parking passes at the Indiana Government Center Parking Garage to each graduating student. Parking passes must be reserved by completing the survey (sent to the students) and will be available for pick up during the week of graduation (by the student). For more information, visit the [Medical Student Education](#) web page.

IUPUI Commencement

When: Sunday, May 8; 1 pm (Graduates should arrive no later than 10:30 am for line up.)

Where: Lucas Oil Stadium

All IUSM students are invited to participate in IUPUI's [university-wide commencement](#) program.

Reminder: Graduates may pick up parking passes, class composites, and honor cords the week before graduation in MS 160 during normal business hours. **Questions? Contact Rachael Urso at rurso@iu.edu.**

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Cell therapy firm licenses IUSM technology that creates blood vessels

Indiana University Research and Technology Corp., which protects intellectual property developed in the IU campus system, has licensed IU School of Medicine technology that creates human blood vessels to Cellular Dynamics International, a Fujifilm company based in Madison, Wisconsin.

The technology was developed by [Mervin C. Yoder, M.D.](#), the Richard and Pauline Klinger Professor of Pediatrics and professor of biochemistry and molecular biology at the Indiana University School of Medicine. He said a condition called peripheral arterial disease, caused by damaged blood vessels, diminishes blood flow to a person's lower extremities, with potentially serious consequences.

"About eight to 12 million Americans and 27 million people in Europe and North America are affected by peripheral arterial disease," Yoder said. "Treatment costs in the United States alone are greater than \$4.5 billion. Because their blood vessels have been damaged, patients may develop ulcers or gangrene. Twenty-eight percent require foot or limb amputation. The technology licensed to Cellular Dynamics International may be useful to restore the delivery of blood and avoid amputation."

The technology creates cells that are injected in a gel material directly into a limb to encourage the regeneration of small blood vessels. Users also can use 3-D bioprinting to make the cells necessary to create artificial blood vessels that can be transplanted into the limb.

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

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Race for the Cure is this Saturday

Pink will be the color of the day on Saturday, April 16, as thousands of women, men, and children flock to the IUPUI campus for the [25th Susan G. Komen Central Indiana Race for the Cure](#), an event that raises funds to support breast cancer research and heighten awareness of those battling the disease.

Approximately 15,000 people are expected to run, walk, or otherwise participate in this year's Race for the Cure, hosted by IUPUI and based in Military Park near Eskenazi Hall and Inlow Hall.

The race site opens at IUPUI at 6:30 am on race day. Registration will begin at 7 am at the registration shelter. Breast cancer survivors will begin gathering at the Survivors' Tent at 7:15 am in Military Park, with the opening ceremony scheduled at 7:30 am on the main stage near the fountain in Wood Plaza. That time period will also include the traditional Pink Parade of survivors. For more, visit [Inside IUPUI](#).

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InScope wants to hear from you

Have you received an award or recognition? Are you involved in a noteworthy project or service learning opportunity? The editors of InScope want to hear from you. InScope publishes news items of general interest to the medical school community: students, faculty, staff and, residents on all IUSM campuses. Send

your news to scopemed@iu.edu.

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Faculty and Staff News

Pili to speak at New York Academy of Sciences conference April 28

Roberto Pili, M.D., Robert Wallace Miller Professor of Oncology and professor of medicine and urology, will be a featured speaker on Thursday, April 28, at the New York Academy of Sciences conference “Epigenetics: Cancer and Beyond.” The symposium convenes leaders in the field to explore the therapeutic potential of pharmacologic modulation of the epigenome. Register for the conference webinar [here](#).

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Receive a cash incentive for health screening

All full-time IU faculty and staff on an IU medical plan are eligible for one health screening at the health center per fiscal year (July 1 to June 9), which includes an incentive to participate. Those who participate in the annual health screening are eligible for a \$100 (before tax) incentive. The offer also extends to spouses and partners on an IU medical plan.

Participants are administered a standard health screening to measure vital biometrics such as blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose levels, and body mass index. If the screening is performed at your campus health center, there is no cost.

To schedule an on-campus screening at IUPUI, IU Bloomington, IU Northwest, IU East or IU South Bend, call the campus health center. For all other campuses, watch for your email invitation to screenings on your campus in the spring and fall.

More information on this Healthy IU initiative is available [here](#).

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Student News

Correction: Five IUSM students recognized among IUPUI's Elite 50

Congratulations to the following IUSM students for being recognized in IUPUI's [Elite 50](#) this year:

- Kimberly Burgess
- Rikki Enzor

- Tyler Heavin
- Tirajeh Saadatzadeh
- Raquel Zemtsov

The purpose of the Elite 50 is to recognize and reward achievement outside the classroom among 8,100 graduate and professional students. The Elite 50 represent the top one-half of one percent of the graduate and professional student body at IUPUI. Since awards for academic accomplishments already exist, the Elite 50 mainly focuses on achievements outside of the classroom.

To see all 2016 Elite 50 winners,  [view the flyer](#).

Editor's note: The article published in last week's issue omitted one of IUSM's Elite 50 recipients. The editors apologize for the error.

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#InspireIUPUI: IUSM's Tony Brown

Nobody can dampen the spirit of IU School of Medicine MS4 student Mason Anthony "Tony" Brown and his dream to treat "and hopefully cure" brain cancer by the time he retires.

The School of Medicine has given him just such an opportunity through his work in transgenetics, a field he considers "the coolest thing in the world" and that appealed to him during his high school years. Brown's IUSM studies have reinforced his belief that "the brain is the most interesting organ in the body, because it defines who an individual is."

View Brown's #InspireIUPUI [video](#).

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Find ways to engage at the Community Service Connection Open House

Learn about local community engagement opportunities at the Community Service Connection Open House on Thursday, April 21, from 2 to 5 pm, in the Van Nuys Medical Science Building Atrium. The event, sponsored by the Office of Medical Service Learning in partnership with students from the Children and Adults with Disabilities and Child Advocacy student group, is designed to introduce IUSM students to local community service and volunteer opportunities. With questions, contact cadsig@iupui.edu or christyl@iu.edu.

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Research News

IUSM-led researchers identify objective predictors of suicidality in women

Researchers have identified blood-based biomarkers and developed questionnaire-based apps that may help clinicians identify which of their female patients being treated for psychiatric disorders are at greatest risk of suicidal ideation or behavior.

In the article "Towards understanding and predicting suicidality in women: biomarkers and clinical risk assessment," IU School of Medicine researchers reported development of effective blood tests and questionnaires that are personalized for women.

The study, reported April 5 in the Nature Publishing Group's leading journal in psychiatry, *Molecular Psychiatry*, follows similar research published in 2015 that identified blood-based biomarkers and questionnaires that could accurately predict which men were most likely to begin thinking of suicide or to attempt it.

While women have a lower rate of suicide completion than men -- likely because they tend to use less violent means -- they have a higher rate of suicide attempts, noted the study's principal investigator, Alexander B. Niculescu III, M.D., Ph.D., professor of psychiatry and medical neuroscience at IUSM.

Nonetheless, he said, "Women have not been adequately studied in research about suicide, and we did not know how well we would be able to define objective predictors of suicide in women.

"It was important to determine whether biomarkers and app-based questionnaires could be used to make predictions among women, and whether such tests can be adjusted for gender to be more accurate," said Dr. Niculescu, who is also attending psychiatrist and research, and development investigator at the Richard L. Roudebush Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

"These results suggest that the best way to proceed would be to use gender-tailored approaches," he said.

For more details on the study, visit the [IUSM Newsroom](#).

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Study: Low-cost workforce extends primary care to older adults' homes

A new study from the IU School of Medicine and the Regenstrief Institute has found that person-centered dementia care, which involves both patients and their caregivers, can be effectively provided by an engaged low-cost workforce -- care coordinator assistants.

Under the close supervision of clinical professionals, care coordinator assistants, known as CCAs, work as integral health care team members conducting home and phone visits with dementia patients and family caregivers. CCAs, who typically have at most two years of post-high school education, are selected through a rigorous and innovative screening process. Once hired and trained, CCAs are assigned tasks focused on patient engagement and caregiver support that require less training and expertise than that of nurses or social workers.

As the number of older adults increases and health care resources cannot keep pace, the question of how to provide good care for this growing population has become increasingly pressing.

"We have shown that with good management, supervision, and support, CCAs can be effective primary care extenders enabling many tasks important to providing best practice care for older adults to be 'shifted' down," said social psychologist and Alzheimer's disease educator Mary Guerriero Austrom, Ph.D., who led the study and is the Wesley P. Martin Professor of Alzheimer's Education at IUSM. "The key is screening to

select the right people -- people who are comfortable with older adults with cognitive issues -- and then teaching and training them [CCAs], and giving them the resources and support they need to do the job. If you take care of your people, they will do an excellent job of taking care of patients.”

For more details on the study, visit the [IUSM Newsroom](#).

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Opportunities

Apply for IUSM internal grant programs by May 2

The application deadline for the following IUSM internal grant programs is **5 pm, Monday, May 2**.

- Biomedical Research Grant
- Research Enhancement Grant

For application forms and further information, [click here](#).

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May 1 is deadline for creative arts journal submissions

Time is running out to submit art for Reflections, the IU School of Medicine's student-run creative arts journal. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to submit works of art, including essays, photographs, stories, poems, paintings, and digital media by Sunday, May 1. Reflections is published both in print and online. Print copies will be distributed at this fall's white coat ceremonies at each campus. Works that are published in Reflections count as peer-reviewed publications and can be added to students' CVs and resumes.

Submit artwork for consideration at medicine.iu.edu. Multiple submissions and anonymous submissions are accepted. For more information, contact the editors-in-chief, Carla Arellano at caarella@iupui.edu and Stefani Tica at stica@iupui.edu.

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Partner News

Annual Eskenazi Health Stride is May 14

Join the Eskenazi Health Foundation for the sixth annual Eskenazi Health Stride on Saturday, May 14. This year's event features both a 5K and 5-mile course that will begin and end at the Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital and Eskenazi Health campus in downtown Indianapolis.

Registration and packet pick-up is at 7 am, with the opening ceremony and race events starting at 8:15 am. The event will conclude with an awards ceremony at 9:45 a.m.

Eskenazi Health Stride supports community health through awareness and education, emphasizing the importance of exercise, wellness, and healthy lifestyles. To register, visit EskenaziHealthStride.com.

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Around Campus

Bloomington – This weekend’s Little 500 races raise money for scholarships

Hundreds of hours of preparation by members of the 65 teams competing in IU’s Little 500 will culminate with intense competition in the two bike races Friday and Saturday, April 15 and 16, at Bill Armstrong Stadium on the Bloomington campus.

The women's Little 500 begins at 4 pm, Friday, April 15. On Saturday, the men's race will begin at 2 pm. Tickets for both races can be purchased online through IU Athletics.

The Little 500 raises money for scholarships for working IU students and provides professional development for many students who work off the track and behind the scenes to make it a success. In total, the IU Student Foundation has raised more than \$2 million to fund scholarships for IU students who are working their way through school.

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Indy – Holocaust remembrance program is April 19

Join IUPUI's Holocaust Remembrance Program on Tuesday, April 19, at 1:30 pm, in the Campus Center Theater.

The program will include a performance by the University Choir; remarks by Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Karen Dace; and a memorial candle-lighting by survivors, their families, and IUPUI students and faculty. Mark Roseman, the director of IU Bloomington's Jewish Studies program, will deliver the keynote address, "Remembering to Forget? Commemoration and the Meaning of the Holocaust."

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