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[View more events »](#)

Top News

New policy promotes student success in medical education

With student success in mind, the Indiana University School of Medicine Office of Medical Student Education has introduced a system to identify early opportunities for students to improve their skills in areas of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) core competencies, on which the IU School of Medicine curriculum is based.

The Curriculum Council Steering Committee (CCSC) recently approved the Satisfactory with Concern (SWC) policy. This  **process** will enable the early detection of student behaviors or skills that could potentially affect successful completion of their coursework or clerkship. Recognizing these issues early ideally will help ensure student success during all phases of training at IU School of Medicine.

“The SWC designation is simply a trigger of a concern and does not have any penalty attached to it. This is meant to help our faculty and advising staff assist students in identifying potentially harmful behaviors before they adversely impact their grade or OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination) score,” said Bradley Allen, MD, PhD, senior associate dean for medical student education.

The SWC notification will initiate a customized development plan with coaching by the student's lead advisor. This notification will not be included in their permanent transcript or in the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE), unless the issue is not resolved satisfactorily, escalates to a failure, or constitutes a serious violation of student conduct.

The new policy provides information on procedures for the communication, intervention and tracking of the SWC notification during preclinical courses, required clinical rotations and outside of coursework.

When a SWC notification is reported, the assistant dean of academic advising, lead advisors, competency committee, course/clerkship director and center director are notified. The assistant dean of academic advising will then contact the student's assigned advisor, who will then inform the student about the SWC notification and course of action.

To monitor the progress of the SWC intervention, a real-time SWC Intervention Plan Tracking Form (SWC-IPT) will be used. Lead advisors will assist with the development plan and facilitate opportunities for improvement. The plan will be completed as quickly as possible, at least within 90 days from the start of the intervention.

Contact the **competency directors** for more information about the policy and procedures.

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Views from the Road to Accreditation

The importance of collaboration across all nine IU School of Medicine campuses is the focus of a message Dean Jay Hess, MD, PhD, MHSA, sent to the school community Friday, Oct. 28. As IU School of Medicine prepares for its LCME reaccreditation site visit in April 2017, Dean Hess stressed that input from faculty and students statewide allows the school to identify best practices and initiate improved programs and processes to benefit all students. Receiving the best possible education, Dean Hess stated, means students will be able to take advantage of all the school has to offer, including a clinically diverse patient population, large network of partnerships and robust research programs.

The message includes a link to the final **video** in the “Views from the Road to Accreditation” series,

highlighting the school's collaborative efforts.

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Research News

IU School of Medicine researchers dive into DNA to predict adverse drug reactions

Two Indiana University School of Medicine scientists are exploring uncharted genetic pathways in search of tools to predict whether patients will react well or poorly to drugs, in research supported by a new \$1.69 million, three-year grant from the National Cancer Institute.

Yunlong Liu, PhD, associate professor of medical and molecular genetics and of biostatistics, and Todd Skaar, PhD, associate professor of medicine, are focusing on differences in people's reactions to chemotherapy drugs paclitaxel and clofarabine, but say they expect their techniques will be applicable to assessing other drugs' toxicities as well.

Drs. Liu and Skaar were among five research teams to receive grants in a [program overseen by the National Human Genome Research Institute](#), all of which were designed to evaluate genetic variants that have been discovered in less-traveled sections of the genome. Most researchers have focused on the sections of the DNA that are directly involved in the process of producing proteins, Liu said. But those sections of DNA -- the gene coding regions-- make up only about 2 percent of human DNA, he said.

Other scientists receiving the recent NHGRI grants will focus on portions of the DNA that work as regulatory mechanisms, such as controlling when the coding regions turn on and off.

For more on the research, visit the [IU School of Medicine Newsroom](#).

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IU research reveals link between mechanisms in prostate cancer and Ewing's sarcoma

Medical researchers at Indiana University Bloomington have found evidence for a link between prostate cancer, which affects millions of men age 50 and older, and Ewing's sarcoma, a rare form of cancer that affects children and young adults.

The results of the study, [reported in the journal Cell Reports](#), suggest that the molecular mechanism that triggers the rare disease Ewing's sarcoma could act as a potential new direction for the treatment of more than half of patients with prostate cancer.

"This research shows that the molecular mechanism involved in the development of most prostate cancers is very similar to the molecular mechanism known to cause Ewing's sarcoma," said Peter Hollenhorst, PhD, an associate professor in the Medical Sciences Program at IU Bloomington, a part of the IU School of Medicine. "It also suggests that this mechanism might be used to explore a common treatment for both diseases, one of which is not often pursued by drug companies due to its rarity."

For more, read the [full news release](#) in the IU School of Medicine Newsroom.

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Faculty and Staff News

IU open enrollment for 2017 benefits runs through Nov. 11

Indiana University employees have a chance to re-evaluate their insurance and benefits needs for the upcoming calendar year. Open enrollment for 2017 benefits began on Monday, Oct. 31, and continues through Friday, Nov. 11. Information booklets arrived in campus mail last month, and open enrollment information is also [available online](#).

Employees and family members may attend [campus information sessions](#) and [interactive webinars](#) to learn more about 2017 benefits and enrollment. The final webinar is Monday, Nov. 8. This [Inside IUPUI article](#) highlights next year's benefits and summarizes what's new for 2017. For assistance with open enrollment, email enews@iu.edu.

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Nominate a colleague for emerging leaders program

The IU School of Medicine Emerging Leaders Program is now accepting nominations for its 2017 cohort. The program promotes professional growth and leadership skills for emerging leaders within the school. Faculty members, department chairs and supervisors are encouraged to nominate individuals with the potential to lead IU School of Medicine in the future. The program's curriculum runs for one year with the group meeting monthly. Goals of the program include empowering staff members to take on leadership roles; building career plans and progression; and providing concrete tools for members to put into action.

The nomination deadline is Friday, Nov. 11. The form can be found on SharePoint. For more information, contact Rick Patrick at repatric@iu.edu. Completed forms should be emailed to Dawn Wright at drodney@iu.edu.

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Sign up for Nov. 15 Faculty Development in Simulation Day

Learn the latest simulation technology at Faculty Development in Simulation Day from 8 am-4 pm, Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the Simulation Center at Fairbanks Hall, 340 W. 10th St., Indianapolis. Designed for health care educators, the curriculum includes introduction to simulation education, case development and running a simulation. Six hours of CE and CME credit will be offered. For more information,  [view this informational flyer](#). To register, visit faculty.medicine.iu.edu/sim.

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Student News

Nearly 75 percent of students complete ISA 2.0 survey

The second independent student analysis survey, known as ISA 2.0, garnered an overall response rate of 74 percent across all campuses, with more than 80 percent of MS1 and MS2 students recording their feedback. Prepared by IU School of Medicine students, this is a follow up to the **first ISA**, which was conducted in Spring 2015. ISA 2.0 focused on gathering student feedback about topics related to academics and learning environments. Additionally, this second survey will help evaluate the effectiveness of improvements implemented since the first survey was conducted.

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Bloomington curriculum student forum for MS1s and MS2s is Nov. 16

Bloomington students: join Maureen Harrington, PhD, associate dean, medical student education in foundational sciences, at the next new curriculum student forum on Wednesday, Nov. 16. The open platform sessions for MS1 and MS2 students offer students a chance to check in and give feedback on the Phase 1 and Legacy curricula. The final forum is scheduled for Nov. 30 in Muncie.

Date	Time	IU School of Medicine Campus	Location/Room
Nov. 16	5:30 pm Eastern	Bloomington	Jordan Hall 009
Nov. 30	5:30 pm Eastern	Muncie	E.F. Ball Med Ed Building, Room 226, 221 N. Celia Ave., Muncie

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Student office hours for Dr. Allen

Have questions or comments for Dr. Allen? Bradley Allen, MD, PhD, senior associate dean, Medical Student Education, will hold office hours in the Medical Science Building, MS 166, on the Indianapolis campus in November and December. Visit during these times to check in and share your thoughts:

Wednesday, Nov. 9; noon-1 pm

Monday, Nov. 14; 11 am-noon

Monday, Nov. 21; 11:30 am-12:30 pm

Wednesday, Nov. 30; noon-1 pm

Friday, Dec. 9; noon-1 pm

Monday, Dec. 12; 11:30 am-12:30 pm

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Opportunities

IU Health Values Fund proposals due tomorrow

The deadline to submit proposals for the four 2017 Indiana University Health Values Fund grant programs is Friday, Nov. 4. Application materials, eligibility information and descriptions of the grant programs are available on the [CTSI HUB grant system](#). You may also receive materials by contacting Peter M. Michael at 317-962-2373 or pmichael@iuhealth.org.

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Indiana CTSI predoctoral training awards available

Funding is available from the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) for predoctoral graduate students interested in translational research. The research may involve applying discoveries made during work in a lab, developing clinical trials and studies in humans, or carrying out research aimed at enhancing best practices. Candidates must have completed at least one year of a predoctoral training program, but cannot have completed more than their third year. Funding is for two years. Benefits include a stipend, as well as health insurance and partial coverage of tuition and fees.

Completed applications must be submitted by Dec. 12, and awards will start July 1, 2017. Interested candidates must be prescreened for eligibility by submitting copies of their CVs to Colleen Gabauer at ictsi@purdue.edu. More information is available at indianactsi.org.

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Year-end deadline for most Alpha Omega Alpha award nominations

Plan now to submit nominations for the Indiana chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society 2017 awards. The submission deadline for most awards is Dec. 30.

Awards include:

- Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research
- Edward D. Harris Professionalism Award
- Fellow in Leadership Award
- Medical Student Service Leadership Project
- Moser Award
- Postgraduate Award
- Robert J. Glaser Distinguished Teacher Award

- *Pharos* Student Poetry Contest

For award descriptions and application information, visit alphaomegalpha.org. Questions? Contact Richard Gunderman, MD, PhD, at rbgunder@iu.edu.

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Next Friday is deadline for alumni association award nominations

Nov. 11 is the deadline to submit nominations for the IU School of Medicine Alumni Association awards. Nominations are being accepted for the Distinguished Alumni Award; George W. Sorrells, Jr., MD, Community Physician Award; Glenn W. Irwin, Jr., MD, Distinguished Faculty Award; and the Early Career Achievement Award.

Award descriptions and nomination details are available at medicine.iu.edu. Questions? Contact Ryan Bowman, director of alumni relations, at rsbowman@iu.edu.

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