A BRIEF HISTORY OF INDIANA EMERGENCY MEDICINE

PRELUDE

It has been suggested that French military surgeon Dominique Jean Larrey (1766-1842) is the father of emergency medicine (EM). During the French Revolution he conceived of the rapid transport of wounded soldiers to centralized field hospitals. But formalized emergency medicine is outstandingly young throughout the world. While early emergency departments (ED) in the US were attended by hospital staff physicians of all disciplines, Dr. James DeWitt Mills with four colleagues established the model of dedicated ED physicians in Alexandria Hospital, Alexandria, VA, in 1961. Subsequently there was need and interest for emergency physicians to organize themselves leading to the creation of several groups:

- Emergency Medicine Residents Association-EMRA (1974),
- Society for Academic Emergency Medicine-SAEM (1989) the coalescence of the University Association for Emergency Medicine-UAEM and the Society of Teachers of Emergency Medicine-STEM and parent to the journal Academic Emergency Medicine (1994), and
- American Academy of Emergency Medicine-AAEM (1993) to advocate additionally for fair and ethical business practices in EM.

EM residencies appeared in 1970 with the first at the University of Cincinnati. In 1971 the University of Southern California was the first to establish an academic department. The American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) was incorporated in 1976 and in 1979 the American Board of Medical Specialties formally recognized EM as the 23rd medical specialty though the first years required conjoint oversight with other specialties. The first EM certifying board examination was given in 1980.
Now, to put this brief history into context it might be helpful to appreciate the longevity of internal medicine (IM). The American College of Physicians was begun in 1915 and has sponsored the Annals of Internal Medicine since 1927. The American Board of Internal Medicine has existed since 1936 and administered its first certifying exam then.

**INDIANA HISTORY**

Emergency Medicine in the state of Indiana first began in the old paradigm with the talented and brave physicians who were variously trained attending to patients in the emergency departments throughout the state.

**INDIANA AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS**

A group of interested physicians met October 27, 1971, to form an Indiana Chapter of ACEP (INACEP). J.D. McPike presided over the meeting and was elected President. The inaugural board included the following: Larry W. Simms, James M. Brantly (*Medical School/Postgraduate Training...*West Virginia University/ Methodist, Indianapolis, IM), Paul P. Van Kirk, Theodore R. Crawford, Edwin R. Eaton, Foreeset M. Kendall, Joseph R. Hoover, Carl D. Martz, and Martin J. Graber, Jr.

At the following meeting Feb 5, 1972, Jacob Van Druenan was elected to the Board. Barbara Schilling was hired as the first staff person serving as the Executive Director until December 1, 1978.

Nick Kestner was approved as the second Executive Director at the January 20, 1979 meeting and has served since.

Although INACEP actually started in 1972. The original incorporation papers were apparently lost, so in 1979 reincorporation was necessary.

Other important individuals in those early years included John Johnson (Indiana University School of Medicine/Methodist, Indianapolis, Family Medicine), Mike Bishop (University of Illinois/ Methodist Hospital, Dallas, Internship), and Bill Nice (Indiana University School of Medicine/Memorial Hospital, South Bend, Internship).
In addition, some of these pioneers provided leadership within both national ACEP and ABEM.

**ACEP**
- Mike Bishop Board (1995-2001)

**ABEM**
- Mike Bishop President (1993) and Board (1988-1996)

Of course, there are many, many others who have given their time and energies to promote EM in Indiana as clinicians, teachers, medical directors, patient and discipline advocates, and much more.

**ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE-INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

So, emergency medicine is certainly a relatively young discipline and the academic department within the Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM) is still younger. Its history is derived from the selfless contributions to students and EM residents by the volunteer (subsequently known as adjunct and now full-time) faculty at Methodist Hospital. The School’s academic department was established in July of 1999 by Dean Robert Holden. EM became the 19th clinical department in the School and the 58th academic department of emergency medicine in the country (there are now more than 80 among more than 125 allopathic medical schools).

The impetuses for the creation of the department were the following:

- IUSM Curriculum Council Topic Committee recommended to the Curriculum Council that there be an academic department to advocate for the discipline within the School’s curriculum and to provide EM role models on campus (1990);
• Wishard ED Associate Medical Directors for Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, and Surgery reached a consensus that the specialty-based triage could not meet the community standard of service and that it was time to shift the paradigm to EM (1995);

• And, following the creation of Clarian Health Partners (later dba Indiana University Health) it was apparent that there was need for a home for the EM residency in the academic community (1997).

The inaugural Chair was Rolly McGrath (University of Kansas/IUSM IM/University of Southern California Critical Care Fellowship). He promptly recruited and hired Jamie Jones (Ohio State University/Wright State University) to provide guidance with the recruitment and hiring of a young faculty to effect the transition of the Wishard ED.

Lisa Braun was invited to serve as the first administrator for the new department and played an important role in its evolution, growth, and success.

Together these three imagined that the department’s initial goals must include the following:

1. Participate in the school’s curriculum development and realization, while creating an interface between EM and the other disciplines,

2. Facilitate EM related research programs,

3. Develop a faculty of clinician-teachers to effect and sustain the transition of the Wishard ED while enhancing patient care and the support of learners in the department.

The long term vision included a mandatory clerkship within the school of medicine which would be expected to become one of the schools most successful and
appreciated clerkship, incorporation of Wishard into the residency curriculum and ultimately making a substantial contribution to resident training, extramural support of research ventures which despite the wonderful early leadership of the Methodist based research programs had not been a priority or necessity, a unified faculty (Methodist and Wishard teaching physicians), and ultimately to become the nation’s finest academic department of emergency medicine.

Subsequently one of the finest groups of young clinician-teachers known to the discipline and to the School of Medicine was brought on board to begin the transition of the Wishard ED July 1, 2000.

The transition of Wishard was difficult, of course. The young group effected this transition with grace and excellence. They had been recruited to a vision and mission and were paid less than competitive wages to work through the staffing paradigm shift where there were many skeptics and only limited hospital resources.

By the end of the first decade the departmental organizational structure included two Vice Chairs: Jamie Jones for Academic Affairs and Chuck Shufflebarger for Clinical Affairs (IUSM/Allegheny General Hospital). There were six divisions identified (Education, Information Technology, Medical Toxicology, Out-of-Hospital Care or EMS, Pediatrics, and Research).

Butch Humbert (Ohio State University/Metro Health Case Western Reserve) was appointed the Wishard clerkship director and navigated university processes to move the clerkship from a separate clerkship elective, to an elective combined with the Methodist based clerkship, then a selective within the school, and finally a mandatory clerkship. It became one of the school’s most successful clerkships (objectively and subjectively) while being the largest mandatory EM clerkship in the nation. IUSM graduating classes have chosen the EM Clerkship as the best Clinical Clerkship in 2005,

The Emergency Medicine Residency Directorship evolved from the leadership of Frank Black 1976 (Vanderbilt/Methodist, Indianapolis, IM), Bob Prosser 1986 (University of California Davis/University of Colorado Surgical Internship), cooperatively Bill Cordell (IUSM/Methodist, Indianapolis) and CT Fletcher 1988 (IUSM/Methodist, Indianapolis), Carey Chisholm 1989 (Medical College of Virginia/Madigan Army Medical Center), Kevin Rodgers 2013 (Medical College of Virginia/Brooke Army Medical Center) and Butch Humbert 2015. The EM & Pediatrics program was realized in 1990 and was initially directed by Carey followed by Jen Walthall (IUSM/IUSM EM & Pediatrics) 2013 and currently Debra Rusk (IUSM/IUSM IM & Pediatrics, EM) 2015.


The program size has evolved from 8 residents annually in 1992 to 19 today. So, in addition to being one of the finest EM residencies in the nation IU EM became its largest 3-year program. In addition, there are now fellowships in Critical Care (based in the Pulmonary & Critical Care Division of the Department of Medicine), Disaster Medicine, EMS, Research, Toxicology, and Ultrasound.

The early research program included successes through the personal efforts of Dan Rusyniak (Wake Forest University /IUSM/IUSM Medical Toxicology Fellowship) who was awarded a K08 in 2005 for “Ecstasy and the Dorsomedial Hypothalamus” and then in
2010 the department’s first R01, “CNS Circuitry and Receptors Mediating the Effects of MDMA.” In 2008 Kevin Terrell (Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine-Midwestern University/IUSM) won a K23 with “Transfers Relative to the Acute Care of Elders (TRACE).”

The Methodist and Wishard based faculties were able to unite in a single corporate structure in 2007 to create one of the largest and, of course, most talented academic groups in the nation.

There had been countless other important initiatives to include but not limited to the Academic, Advocacy, and EMS Tracks within the residency; development and implementation of an Ultrasound Curriculum; evolution and incorporation of Simulation; transitions of the University and Riley ED’s with incorporation of the latter into the residency curriculum; continued extraordinarily strong clinical venues; and much, much more.

Fast forward—today the team (students, residents, faculty, administrators, coordinators, and more) can be found involved in virtually every aspect of the community, hospitals, school of medicine, university, and national organizations.

In 2011 Cherri Hobgood (University of North Carolina/University of North Carolina) was recruited to become the 2nd academic chair. Her challenges were clear: continue and enhance the progress and success already realized, BUT accelerate the academic processes with a more robust, competitive, and even premier research program.

The early evidence is that she has begun to do just that.

Cherri has recruited nationally recognized investigators who have taken the lead in creating a powerful research enterprise.
One of the first was Jeff Kline (Medical College of Virginia/Carolinas Medical Center/Carolinas Medical Center Research Fellowship) who now serves as the Vice Chair of Research. Jeff brought/established a research fellowship which had been one of the early dreams of the first investigators. Together, Jeff and Cherri, recruited additional faculty more than doubling the number of tenured faculty in the department. In this short period of time departmental NIH funding increased more than two fold and related ranking among academic departments of emergency medicine improved.

Megan Palmer (PhD Higher Education Administration IU) was appointed the first Vice Chair of Education and Chuck Shufflebarger’s title was changed to Vice Chair of Clinical Operations. Dan Rusyniak was placed in the role of Vice Chair of Faculty Development, a role assumed by Carey Chisholm in 2015, and Joey Woodyard the Vice Chair of Finance and Administration.

Incidentally, the academic department is fortunate and pleased to have two fully endowed professorships. This is distinctly unusual for such departments and is still more evidence of its outstanding stature. The Sally Reahard Endowment sits within the Methodist Health Foundation and supports the clinical leadership at Methodist. The Rolly McGrath endowment in the IU Foundation was made possible by contributions from the initial academic faculty practice plan (University Emergency Medical Associates), the Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County, and the Dean of the School of Medicine. This endowment then supports the academic chair.

There is a third endowment which was created in 1981 through the energy and passion of John Johnson. This, though not as generously funded, is in the name of former Indiana Governor, Otis Bowen, MD (Otis R. and Elizabeth Bowen Professorship in Emergency Medicine).
Although those realizing roles in national leadership are not necessarily any more talented and important than those who work full time as clinician teachers in one of the three academic ED’s it is noteworthy here to reiterate the high profile of the departmental faculty:

ACEP
   Cherri Hobgood, Board (2007)
SAEM
   Carey Chisholm, President (2004-2005) and Board (1998-2006)
   Jeff Kline, President (2010-2011), Board (2004-2012), AEM Editor in Chief (2015)
   Cherri Hobgood, President (2012-2013) and Board (2004-2006)
ABEM
   Jamie Jones, President (2013) and Board (2005-2015)
AAEM
   Kevin Rodgers, President (2016-2017) and Board (2011-)
AACEM (Association of Academic Chairs of Emergency Medicine)
   Rolly McGrath, President (2009-2010) and Board (2007-2011)
CORD (Council of Residency Directors)
EMRA
   Cherri Hobgood, President (1997-1998)

In addition, a number of EM faculty held or hold formal roles in the IUSM:

Megan Palmer, Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professional Development (2008)
Butch Humbert, Assistant Dean for Curriculum in the Clinical Sciences Medical Education (2012)
Julie Welch, Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professional Development (2013)
Sheryl Allen, Associate Dean for Medical Student Affairs (2013)
Antoine Leflore, Associate Dean for Diversity Affairs (2014)
Finally, although it is not possible to acknowledge every effort and faculty responsible a number of individuals have made important contributions.

Region

Brent Furbee (IUSM/Methodist, Indianapolis/Good Samarian, Phoenix, Medical Toxicology Fellowship), Medical Director, Indiana Poison Center (1992-2015)

Dan Rusyniak, Medical Director, Indiana Poison Center (2015-)

Jen Walthall, Deputy Health Commissioner, Director for Health Outcomes for the Indiana State Department of Health (2014-)

State

Mike Olinger (University of Colorado/San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium), EMS Medical Director, State of Indiana (2014-)

Health Care Systems

Chris Weaver, Chief Medical Officer, Eskenazi Health (2012-)

Dylan Cooper, Director, Simulation Center at Fairbanks Hall (2015-)

Community

Charlie Miramonti (University of Texas, San Antonio/IUSM/IUSM Out of Hospital Care Fellowship), Chief, Indianapolis EMS (2010-)

Geoff Billows (University of Cincinnati/Methodist, Indianapolis) Medical Director, Indianapolis Motor Speedway (2006-)

Mike Olinger, Medical Director, Indianapolis Racing League (2006-)

There have been many other contributions by and a number of prestigious awards given to the department and its members.

It remains clear it may be possible to become the most prominent and respected academic emergency medicine department in the country. Work remains to meet the expectations for the improved diversity and enhanced culture of scholarship. But these visions will similarly be realized.

July 16, 2015
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