

IU GERIATRICS e-news January 2009

A newsletter from [IU Geriatrics](#) and the [IU Center for Aging Research](#)

Geriatric Academic Career Awards Boost Development of Local Geriatricians and Programs

While a [Geriatric Academic Career Award](#) is an individual faculty career development award, it requires that the recipient be an integral part of the school's clinical, research and academic programs. The GACA also requires that the awardee's career goals include training others in clinical geriatrics. Thus it's a win-win situation for individuals **Ella H. Bowman, MD, PhD**, and **Cathy C. Schubert, MD**, as well as multiple Indiana University programs and learners who reap the benefits of our faculty members' academic career development. Meet our awardees and learn about some of their GACA activities.

Dr. Bowman Creates Hospital-To-Home Clinical Teaching Model

Dr. Ella Bowman's background as a geriatric hospitalist, a board certified hospice and palliative care provider, and an academic, hospital-based, board-certified geriatrician fuels her passion for providing care to frail, ill older adults, especially those who would benefit from palliative care interventions.

At the interface of hospital-to-home, Dr. Bowman is creating an innovative program of healthcare delivery that will use an interdisciplinary clinical service to better transition complex, ailing, older adults being discharged from the hospital back to their homes. She will target the frailest patients she consults on the Acute Care for Elders (ACE) service, and arrange home-based services after discharge before they have successfully transitioned back to their primary care physician. For patients who are truly home-bound, she will offer them the opportunity to enroll in the House Calls for Seniors Program where she also practices that will enable her to become their PCP.

On the education front and in the spirit of introducing geriatrics to trainees earlier in the medical curriculum, Dr. Bowman designed, developed and implemented a curriculum around the invitation to third year medical students to attend Wishard Hospital ACE Bedside Teaching Rounds when geriatricians are asked to consult on the students' patients. This enables students to have first-hand experience about an ACE consult and an opportunity to participate in an interdisciplinary medical team to develop a comprehensive list of recommendations for their acutely ill, hospitalized elderly patients.

Through the GACA award, Dr. Bowman will build on her training in clinical geriatrics and early experiences in research by developing a specific skill set in academic leadership, teaching, health care administration, and program evaluation in order to design, implement, and evaluate the hospital-to-home transitional program.



Dr. Schubert Develops Comprehensive Care for Older Adults with Cancer

According to **Dr. Cathy Schubert**, "Older adults with cancer or blood disorders who have good performance status are able to tolerate commonly used treatment regimens when adequate supportive care is provided. However, age by itself isn't reliable in estimating life expectancy, functional reserve, or risk of treatment complications; and performance status scales currently in common use in hematology and oncology appear to under-detect functional decline in older adults."

With the goal of becoming a leader in establishing comprehensive care for older adults with cancer, Dr. Schubert is developing a comprehensive geriatric assessment for older adults to detect issues with function, comorbidity, polypharmacy, nutrition, geriatric syndromes, and socioeconomics. The goal is to improve the older adult's ability to tolerate treatment.

Clarian Health Partners and Dr. Schubert have created a new clinical venue, the Senior Health Center in the IU Simon Cancer Center. While she can conduct a geriatric assessment during inpatient or outpatient care, Dr. Schubert points out that the center hopes to see a patient soon after diagnosis so an interdisciplinary team can address any "tune-up" issues before starting treatment. The team also can co-manage the care of older adults with their primary oncologist or hematologist.

In addition to increasing her own knowledge of the literature and practice related to geriatric assessments in cancer patients, Dr. Schubert developed and implemented a curriculum for residents and fellows in the comprehensive care of older adults with cancer. She also created a geriatric interest group among staff working in the cancer ward to increase their involvement and education on geriatric concepts.

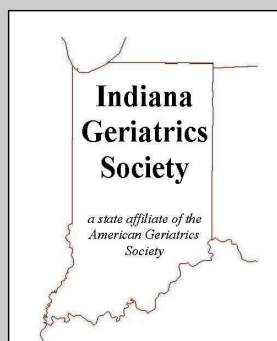


Dr. Bowman's Roles with IU Geriatrics

- Medical Director of Wishard's Acute Care for Elders (ACE) Unit & Consult Service
- Primary Care Physician in the House Calls for Seniors Program
- Member of Wishard's Senior Care Leadership Team, the Geriatrics Education Focus Group, and the Geriatrics Fellowship Executive Committee

Dr. Schubert's Roles with IU Geriatrics

- Medical Director of Acute Care for Elders (ACE) Consult Service at Indiana University Hospital
- Medical Director of IU Center for Senior Health & Healthy Aging Brain Center
- Member of Senior Care at Wishard Management Team and Senior Health Services at Clarian Leadership Team



JOIN the INDIANA GERIATRICS SOCIETY!

Receive quarterly newsletters, enjoy attending conferences such as the Spring Dinner Meeting, and connect with other professionals involved in the care of older adults. [2009 IGS Membership Form](#) - pdf.



IGS Members Receive Discount for Dinner

Indiana Geriatrics Society Spring Dinner

The Indiana Geriatrics Society will hold its Annual Spring Dinner Meeting on March 12, 2009 at 6:00 pm at the Fountains Banquet & Conference Center in Carmel, Indiana. Featured speaker J. Marc Overhage, MD, PhD, will present "Older Adult Healthcare - The potential of Health Information Exchange (HIE) and Health Information Technology (HIT)." [2009 Spring Dinner Meeting Information and Registration](#) - pdf

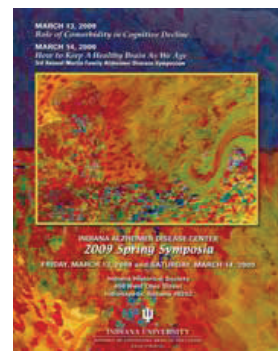
Dr. Overhage is president and CEO of the Indiana Health Information Exchange, the director of Medical Informatics at the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. and is the Regenstrief Professor of Medical Informatics at the IU School of Medicine.

Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center 2009 Spring Symposia

The Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center will present its 2009 Spring Symposia on Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14, 2009. Day one features presentations on the "Role of Comorbidity in Cognitive Decline." Day two features the 3rd Annual Martin Family Alzheimer Disease Symposium with presentations focusing on "How to Keep a Healthy Brain as We Age." The event will be held at the Indiana Historical Society.

IU-CAR Scientist **Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH** and Affiliated Scientists **Ann Marie Hake, MD** and **Arlene Schmid, PhD, OTR**, will make presentations.

There is no charge for attending, but space is limited. The cover of the [conference brochure](#), pictured right, features artwork by a person with Alzheimer disease.



IU Geriatrics Conference

Greg Sachs, MD, will lead an interactive discussion on "Ethical Issues in Dementia Care" at the IU Geriatrics Conference on Wednesday, March 4, 2009, 7:30–8:30am in Wishard T2008A/B. Dr. Sachs is Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics at IUSM. He is a scientist in the IU Center for Aging Research and the Regenstrief Institute, Inc.

Dr. Terrell Joins Research Groups

Kevin M. Terrell, DO, MS, has joined the IU Center for Aging Research as a center scientist and the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. as an investigator.



Dr. Terrell joined the IU Department of Emergency Medicine in 2000 and is a provider in the Wishard Emergency Department. In 2004 he completed the Clinical Research Fellowship/CITE Program, earned an MS in Clinical Research and received a Dennis W. Jahnigen Career Development Award supported by the American Geriatrics Society, the Hartford Foundation, and the Atlantic Philanthropies.

Dr. Terrell's research focus is to improve healthcare delivery to older adults who seek care in emergency departments. He currently is principal investigator of an NIA-funded K23 Mentored Patient Oriented Research Career Development Award, entitled "[Transfers Relevant to the Acute Care of Elders](#)."

Douglas K. Miller, MD, **Chris Callahan, MD**, Rolly McGrath, MD, **Greg Arling, PhD**, and **Siu Hui, PhD**, are Dr. Terrell's mentors as he develops his independent research portfolio and academic career.

Presentations and Professional Activities

Steve Counsell, MD, made several presentations during the final month of his sabbatical in Australia. They included:

- “Improving Hospital Care of Older Adults – A US Perspective” on December 1, 2008, at Medical Grand Rounds at his base, the Princess Alexandra Hospital and The University of Queensland in Brisbane, Queensland.
- “Australian Models of Coordinated Care: What Might Geriatricians Promote in Queensland?” on December 3, 2008 at the Australian New Zealand Society of Geriatric Medicine (ANZSGM) – Queensland Division in Brisbane, QLD.
- “Innovative Models for Providing and Coordinating Care for Older Australians” on December 10, 2008, as the [Packer Policy Fellowship](#) Final Report Presentation to the Australian Department of Health and Ageing in Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.

Douglas K. Miller, MD served on the External Advisory Panel for the [University of Florida's Claude Pepper Older Americans Independence Center](#) on January 27, 2009. Their mission is to assess the risk factors and better understand the biological reasons for physical disability in older adults, develop and test effective prevention and rehabilitation therapies, and educate and train new investigators in research on aging and disability, while developing their leadership qualities and roles.

News Headlines



[Does Universal Health Care Affect Attitude Toward Dementia?](#)

Click on the link above and read an IU School of Medicine news release that describes a study comparing perceptions about dementia screening by residents from Indianapolis and from Kent, England.

The article, [Patients' attitudes of dementia screening across the Atlantic](#), appears in an advance online publication of the *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*. IU Center for Aging Research co-authors include **Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH**, **Greg Sachs, MD**, **Sui Hui, PhD**, **Chris Callahan, MD**, and **Hugh Hendrie, MB, ChB, DSc**.

Publications

Jia H, Ried LD, Wang X, **Damush TM**, Young LJ, Cameon RH, **Williams LS**. [Geographic variation in poststroke depression among veterans with acute stroke](#). J Rehabil Res Dev. 2008;45(7):1027-36.

Chu K, Koller DL, Ichikawa S, Snyder R, Curry L, Lai D, Austin A, Xuei X, Edenberg HJ, **Hui SL**, Foroud TM, Peacock M, Econs MJ. [CLCN7 polymorphisms and bone mineral density in healthy premenopausal white women and in white men](#). Bone. 2008 Dec;43(6):995-8.

Von Ah D, Harvison KW, Monahan PO, Moser LR, Zhao Q, Carpenter JS, Sledge Jr GW, Champion VL, **Unverzagt FW**. [Cognitive Function in Breast Cancer Survivors Compared to Healthy Age- and Education-Matched Women](#). Clin Neuropsychol. 2009 Jan 20:1-14.

Schmid AA, Butterbaugh L, Egolf C, Richards V, **Williams L**. [Prevention of secondary stroke in VA: Role of occupational therapists and physical therapists](#). J Rehabil Res Dev. 2008;45(7):1019-26.

Bruno A, Saha C, **Williams LS**. [Percent change on the National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale: a useful acute stroke outcome measure](#). J Stroke Cerebrovasc Dis. 2009 Jan;18(1):56-9.

Farlow MR. [The SERAD study of the safety and efficacy of galantamine in severe Alzheimer's disease](#). Lancet Neurol. 2009 Jan;8(1):22-3.

