



A GROWTH SPURT FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

by Lee Learman, M.D., Ph.D., Chair



I am glad to have this opportunity to reflect back on 2010, a year of great progress in pursuit of our aspirational goal, to be "leaders and advocates for women's health, education and research in the state of Indiana, with a strong regional and national presence." Turning the clock back 1 year . . . by the end of 2009 we recruited a new Vice Chair for Education (**Mark Di Corcia, Ph.D.**) and a new Director of International Programs (**Dr. Sierra Washington**). We called upon several faculty leaders to accept new assignments as Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs (**Dr. Deborah Kirkpatrick**), Vice Chair for Faculty Development (**Dr. Jeff Rothenberg**), Wishard Chief of Ob/Gyn (**Dr. Elizabeth Ferries-Rowe**) and Director of Faculty Mentoring (**Dr. Richard Hansell**). We made important first steps toward achieving our objectives in our School, our health systems, the state of Indiana, and internationally.

In 2010 the pace of change accelerated with the recruitment of new Division Directors in Gynecologic Oncology (**Dr. Giuseppe Del Priore**), Maternal Fetal Medicine (**Dr. Men-Jean Lee**), Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility (**Dr. Frank González**), and General Obstetrics and Gynecology (**Dr. Roger Smith**), as well as a new Director for the IU National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (**Deborah Stiffler, Ph.D.**). Previous issues of this newsletter have introduced you to many of these leaders, and as the new recruits start work we will continue to publish short biographies about them.

Between the interviews and recruitment dinners our faculty have been hard at work in all mission areas. I

don't have enough space to do justice to their outstanding efforts so instead I will highlight just a few, with apologies to those I could not include.

Education & Research: Our residency program received word of its reaccreditation for 5 years, the maximum period possible and rarely granted by the Residency Review Committee. Our fellowship in gynecologic endoscopy was reaccredited and matched its second fellow. We matched stellar residents and became part of the IU interdepartmental global health track. We began the application process for creating ABOG fellowships in MFM and GO. We forged stronger relationships with community experts who play essential teaching roles in Urogynecology and Infertility. Our PregMed investigators received 2 prestigious federal grants to join national biobanking and obstetrical pharmacology networks. We established a Perinatal Epigenetics Laboratory. Our faculty won several prestigious research awards from the Central Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Our faculty publications exceeded 50.

Women's Health in Indiana: In collaboration with Indiana Perinatal Network our Center of Excellence Best Practices Committee, representing all the major health systems in Central Indiana, developed and disseminated a tool kit for prevention of elective delivery prior to 39 weeks. Within the IU Health (Clarian) system we established a Women's Health Service Line and system-wide Obstetrical and Gynecological Practice Committees to identify

and disseminate best practices and quality indicators uniformly throughout the system. Several of our faculty serve in leadership roles in the Indiana Section of ACOG and have helped develop world-class continuing medical education meetings to disseminate cutting edge knowledge to all practicing Ob/Gyn's in the state. Our Gynecologic Oncology specialists reached more patients in need of care for gynecologic cancer. We identified our MFM needs system-wide and developed an aggressive recruitment plan to build the division. We helped plan for the new Wishard hospital and made a commitment to reduce patient wait times for gynecology appointments in the Community Health Clinics. We served on committees of ISDH charged with establishing a system for identifying levels of perinatal care in Indiana.

Women's Health in Kenya: Our partnership with the University of Toronto continued to deepen as our AMPATH Field Director for Reproductive Health (Sierra Washington) was joined by her counterpart from Canada (Astrid Christoffersen-Deb). Our reproductive health team helped Kenyan colleagues from Moi University and the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital implement VIA screening for

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY
School of Medicine

Women's Health (cont.)

cervical cancer. Lives were saved when Kenyan women were diagnosed with early stage disease curable by radical hysterectomy, instead of presenting with ureteral obstruction from late stage disease. We continued to train Kenyans in methods of emergency obstetrical care. We started planning how to structure reproductive health care as part of a USAID grant to improve primary care and chronic disease management in Kenya.

Service to the School and Profession: We participated in many important committees and working groups to serve our School and health systems. One of our faculty served as President of the Faculty (Rothenberg) and another is line for that position (Kirkpatrick). We served nationally in leadership roles across the breadth of our specialty, in medical education, and in research, including ACOG, ABOG, RRC, CREOG, APGO, SMFM, ASRM, Menopause Society, SHIM, GOG, and USMLE, as well as NIH study sections and other advisory groups and peer review functions.

2010 was also marked with several faculty transitions:

- **Dr. Greg Raff** was promoted to

Associate Clinical Professor.

- **Dr. David Haas** received word that campus leadership unanimously recommended his promotion to Associate Professor, with tenure, effective July 1, 2011.
- **Dr. Alan Golichowski** retired from IU after a long and distinguished career leading MFM. Dr. G continues to work with us in the practice.
- **Dr. John Stutsman** became the Medical Director of Indiana Planned Parenthood. He continues to be an active clinician at Wishard but has given up his leadership of the PCC practice. We are grateful to **Dr. Jon Hathaway** for stepping into that role.
- **Dr. Megan Schellinger** joined the faculty and helped launch a Centering Pregnancy clinic at Wishard.
- **Dr. Lisa Mims** moved downtown from our practice site at Clarion West, which closed after the departure of Drs. Sarah Scott and Elizabeth Case.
- **Dr. Lyree Mikhail** accepted the position of Residency Program Director at Bridgeport Hospital in Connecticut. Dr. Marcus remains with us until June of 2011, when he will relocate to Bridgeport as

the clerkship site director and director of gynecology at the same hospital.

- **Dr. Learman** handed the baton of leadership for the IU National Center of Excellence in Women's Health to **Deborah Stiffler**, and he formalized his role as Medical Director for Women's Health for IU Health and IU Health Physicians.

But wait – there is a lot to look forward to in 2011! Looking back a year from now we will remember how our clinical footprint continued to grow; how exciting new research and fellowship programs were launched; how we helped organize our health systems to promote high-quality, evidence-based, patient-centered care; how we recruited and inspired new generations of health care providers – physicians and nurses, women's health specialists and subspecialists; and most importantly how well we served our patients and the larger communities - local and global - to which we belong. I look forward to a dynamic and exciting year ahead, and I am grateful to all who embark on this journey with us!

OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH GRANT

by Robert Bigsby, PhD

Ken Nephew, Ph.D., Professor, IU Medical Sciences Program, Bloomington and Adjunct Professor, IU OB/GYN has been awarded a Program Development Grant from the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund. The proposed research will be a joint effort headed by Dr. Nephew, Daniela Matei, M.D. Dept. of Medicine, and John Turchi, Ph.D. Dept. of Medicine. **Professors Giuseppe Del Priore,**

M.D., and **Robert Bigsby, Ph.D.** of IU OB/GYN will participate as co-investigators. The grant is entitled: Epigenetic Modulation of Platinum Antitumor Activity in Ovarian Cancer.

The studies utilize animal models and cell cultures to investigate the effects of a new class of DNA methylation inhibitors on the therapeutic efficacy of cisplatin and the ability of

those inhibitors to alter the pathophysiological character of ovarian tumor cells. While the ultimate goal is to design a better chemotherapeutic approach to ovarian cancer, the more immediate goal of this Development Grant is the establishment of a core of investigators who will be able carry on with a broad based approach to the study of ovarian cancer.

NEW DIVISION DIRECTOR FOR GENERAL OB/GYN

Dr. Roger Smith will join the Department of OB/GYN on February 1, 2011, as The Robert A. Munsick Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Division Director of General Obstetrics and Gynecology.



Currently, Dr. Smith is a clinical infiltrator at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Truman Medical Center. Though he served as the Vice Chairman, Professor and Director of the Residency Program for 9 years

at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Truman Medical Center, and has a "CV" that is appropriately long with almost 90 peer-reviewed papers and 80 books and chapters, he sees himself as a clinician. Dr. Smith received his undergraduate education at Purdue University, and his medical education, internship (in General Surgery), and residency (Ob/Gyn) at Northwestern University in Chicago. He then spent almost ten years in a multi-disciplinary group practice (the Carle Clinic in Urbana, Illinois) before moving to the Medical College of Georgia in 1985, where he was Chief of the Section of General Obstet-

rics and Gynecology until 1999 when he moved to his current position.

He is married, with one son who is a graduate of the University of Southern California and Assistant Director of Student Publications there and a second son, a graduate of Denison University in Granville, Ohio who teaches history to high school students in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Dr. Smith is a collector of antique gumball machines and a semi-professional magician as well.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Smith to Indiana University and Indianapolis.

*Don't Forget! Departmental Faculty Retreat - January 21, 2011 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
Dean's Room, University Place Hotel and Conference Center*



CAOG MEETING - LAS VEGAS

The IU Dept of OBGYN was well represented at the Annual Meeting of the Central Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in October. Held in Las Vegas, the meeting featured IU speakers and award



Dr. Lee Learman

winners.

Dr. David Haas won the Central Prize for his research entitled "The impact of genotype on nifedipine pharmacokinetics when used as a tocolytic".

Dr. Lee Learman was awarded the Kermit E. Krantz Memorial Paper prize for his work "Resolution of chronic pelvic pain after hysterectomy and alternative treatments: does depression make a difference." Additionally, former resident and current MFM Fellow **Dr. Sarah Richards** had an oral presentation of her work entitled "Hypertension in response to placental ischemia in pregnant



Dr. David Haas

rates is a stimulus for production of agonistic autoantibodies to the angiotensin type I receptor in association with CD4+ T helper cell activation." Congratulations on representing IU on this national stage!



Focused Professional Practice Evaluation (FPPE) and Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation (OPPE)

by Debra Kirkpatrick, M.D.

In our last Quality Corner column we discussed the general concept of peer review. We defined this as “a process by which a committee of physicians examines the work of a peer and determines whether the physician under review has met accepted standards of care in rendering medical services”. The purpose of peer review is to establish an objective, evidence-based process to ensure qualified and competent health care providers provide quality medical care to patients. In 2007, The Joint Commission (see Quality Corner March 2010) changed its requirements for credentialing and privileging for hospitals and more clearly defined the standards for peer review. Included in these changes were two new processes – fondly called OPPE and FPPE.

A FPPE or a Focused Professional Practice Evaluation (for those of you who actually look at the multiple choice quizzes, FPPE has nothing to do with postpartum exams) is an evaluation of a practitioner’s privilege-specific competence. A focused evaluation is needed in three specific instances:

- A new applicant or a new privilege
- Existing privilege, but no recent

volume

- Existing privilege, but there is a question of performance

These evaluations are generally time-limited. Each hospital is responsible for defining the focused evaluation process including “triggers”, type of evaluation, duration, and monitoring plan. Thus, the process for a FPPE may vary from hospital to hospital.

The Joint Commission’s intent of the standard that hospitals have ongoing evaluations of providers is that the performance of providers with privileges be evaluated more frequently than every two years at the time of re-credentialing. This allows for hospitals to take steps to improve performance of providers in a more timely fashion. Most hospitals are conducting OPPEs every 6 months.

The Joint Commission standard requires that the hospital have a clearly defined process for routine analysis and complaint-driven review. Each department determines the data to be used for this routine analysis. Last year, at Clarian, the ongoing measures were simply the number of verbal orders and timeliness of signature and the number of medical record suspensions. Each provider with privileges at Clarian should have

received an individual report. For 2011, the Clarian Quality Department is working with our department to determine those things that should be monitored to reflect quality care in both obstetrics and gynecology. Such things as the following can be used for OPPE review:

- Review of procedures performed and outcomes
- Pattern of blood and pharmaceutical usage
- Requests for tests and procedures
- LOS
- M&M data
- Use of consultants
- Department specific clinical guideline audits

Sources of such information can be periodic chart review, direct observation or monitoring of techniques.

A copy of the Clarian Peer Review Policy (Policy # MS 3.15) can be found at Clarian Pulse. A copy of Wishard Hospital’s peer review policy can be found at Wishard Central.

In our next issue, the Quality Corner will be dedicated to sorting out the local quality entities – CQP, Crimson, Quality Panel, Wishard quality measures, etc.

Center of Excellence Update

by Deborah Stiffler, PhD, RN, CNM

The IU National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health has had quite a busy fall, and we would like to give some updates on our activities.

We had a very successful fall retreat with our advisory board members in November. An update was given by Dr. Stiffler, and the advisory committees were given the charge to identify priorities for the CoE and to determine what funding needs each committee has in specific

detail in order to attract donations and know what funding sources we might need. Our Sustainability committee is hard at work trying to find donors.

As you may know, the IUSON donated the bus formerly known as the “MOM Mobile” to the CoE, and we have been working on coming up with a new name and having it refurbished. At our advisory board retreat in November, several potential names and mock ups

were shown and advisory board members were able to vote on their favorites. The WOW (Wellness on Wheels) Bus was the overwhelming favorite. We will now take this name to the focus groups that are being held in Clay County and ask for the women’s opinions of the name. After a road trip to Angola and Decatur, Indiana, we have decided on a vendor to complete the

(continued next page)

CoE (cont.)

refurbishing of the mobile unit. Panterra Coach of Angola, Indiana has been awarded the project. They will be coming to pick up the mobile unit this week, and we expect a turnaround time of 8-12 weeks. Tina and I were very impressed with Panterra, and they were able to bring in the lowest bid. Our Clay County project to increase cervical cancer screening is also moving along. We have been working with the Bowen Center for Research to identify potential individuals for focus groups and key informant interviews. We have contracted with Dixie Ray, PhD, to conduct these interviews and groups. Dr. Ray has already started with the key informant interviews, and the focus groups are being scheduled. We anticipate the completion of this stage of our project by the end of January.

Next steps include scheduling educational interventions in March and April, followed by cervical cancer screening events in June. The IU CoE has recently received the INFLUENCE project from ISDH. Previously, a "topic of the year" was chosen, (i.e. heart disease in women) and women of influence from around the state were invited to a kick-off reception with the intent that they would go back to their communities and tell two friends, who would tell two friends, and so on. The communities were invited to request funding to put on events related to the topic. This year, the CoE will have a kick-off event in June. Communities will be invited to request to have the WOW Bus come to their communities to bring education events on a topic of their choice. Finally, the CoE has partnered with

the Indianapolis Affiliate of [Susan G. Komen for the Cure](#) and will be producing a 10 webinar series about various aspects of breast cancer. These webinars will be given live on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, starting on January 19, 2011, at 4:00pm. The webinars will then be archived and available for viewing on the [CoE website](#).

The most recent statistics are in from the National Women's Law Center, and Indiana is still failing in many areas, especially cervical cancer screenings, which has gotten worse. The IU National Center of Excellence in Women's Health will continue to strive for better women's health in the state of Indiana so that Indiana will have one of the best women's health rankings in the United States. We have our work cut out for us.

TOP CANCER DOCS

Twenty-one physicians affiliated with IUSM have been recognized as the best in their field. The 21 are among 27 physicians statewide included in the most recent edition of America's Top Doctors for Cancer. The guide identifies the nation's most outstanding physicians for the diagnosis and treatment of cancers in adults and children.

The physicians are John Coleman III, MD (plastic surgery); James Croop, MD, PhD (pediatric hematology/oncology); Lawrence Einhorn, MD (medical oncology); Robert Fallon, MD, PhD (pediatric hematology-oncology); Sherif Farag, MD, PhD (hematology); Richard Foster, MD (urology); Robert Goulet Jr., MD (surgery); Paul

Haut, MD, (pediatric hematology/oncology); Valerie Jackson, MD (diagnostic radiation); Michael Koch, MD (urology); Keith Lillemoe, MD (surgery); Patrick Loehrer Sr., MD (medical oncology); David Plager, MD (ophthalmology); Frederick Rescorla, MD (pediatric surgery); Douglas Rex, MD (gastroenterology); Scott Shapiro, MD (neurological surgery); George Sledge Jr., MD (medical oncology); **Frederick Stehman, MD (gynecologic oncology)**; Chandru Sundaram, MD (urology); Thomas Ulbright, MD (pathology); and Terry Vik, MD (pediatric hematology-oncology).

"America's Top Doctors for Cancer has again recognized the expertise of the faculty physicians at the IU Simon Cancer Center and

our other patient facilities," said D. Craig Brater, MD, dean IUSM. "The recognition is much appreciated and serves as a reminder that their skill, care and compassion are recognized by their patients, colleagues and others nationwide."

Published by [Castle Connolly](#), the guide – now in its sixth edition -- contains detailed profiles of more than 2,400 of America's leading cancer specialists across more than 40 medical specialties. The doctors are selected by a physician-led research team based on comprehensive national surveys of physicians and medical leaders.

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

THIS AND THAT

In his issue, the employee spotlight shines on **Michele Peyton**, Administrative Accounts Clerk.



Michele has been a valued member of the OB/GYN department for 9 years. She has 2 children, Tabitha and Chelsey, and 3 grandchildren.

Michele and her husband Curt enjoy time with their family, dining out

and they are active in their church community. As a side note, Michele would like to give a big thanks to all who participated in the Christmas Angel program this year.

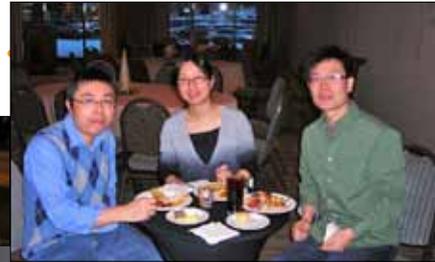
Thank you Michele for your years of service.

Congratulations are in order for three employees who are recent IUPUI graduates. **Kevin McClelland**, Assistant Business Manager, completed graduate work in December earning a combined Masters in

Health Administration and Business Administration. **Kylee Swank**, MIS Fellowship Coordinator & Administrative Support Specialist for Christy Tidwell, COO and Dr. Debra Kirkpatrick, completed her undergraduate degree also in December, and received a Bachelors in Sociology. And, **Eric Hollingsworth** completed his undergraduate work in August at earning a Bachelors in Health Information Management. Congratulations to you all on a job well done!

Holiday Open House

The Faculty of Department of OB/GYN hosted the annual Holiday Open House on December 16, 2010 at University Place Conference Center and Hotel. Food, drink and holiday cheer was plentiful, and a good time was had by all.



Total Deliveries

	Oct.	Nov.
IU	65	64
Wishard	219	194
Methodist	244	232

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