

INDIANA UNIVERSITY **SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY**



Oral Health Services in **Medicare: A National** Imperative?

Dr. Harold C. Slavkin, The Santa Fe Group

Dental benefits are not included in Medicare despite the reality that more Americans are living well beyond their 65th birthdays. Today, the number of seniors - 47 million essentially will double by 2050 according to demographers, and there is no doubt that oral health and general well-being are inextricably bound together. Many conditions that plague the body are manifested in the mouth, a readily accessible vantage point from which to view the onset, progression, and management of numerous systemic diseases.

Read the rest of the editorial in May JADA.

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May is University Commencement time, marking the culmination of work for another outstanding graduating class of students — DDS, Dental Hygiene, Dental Assisting, MSD and PhD from IUSD. IUSD Commencement Weekend events are highlighted here, and things are moving into high gear to celebrate this wonderful weekend with our students and their families and friends. We have a very special guest – our own Dr. Karen Yoder, professor and director, Civic Engagement and Health Policy, Department of Cariology, Operative Dentistry and Dental Public Health – to share her story as our Commencement speaker. Congratulations to all! Educating students and creating new knowledge are the keystones to further our efforts to make Indiana...one of the best dental schools of the 21st century.

Phase 2 – Existing Building Planning Kicks Off

As the Fritts Clinical Care Building project continues forward, we are now turning attention to some master planning discussion for the existing dental school building. Phase 2 kicked off on May 1 with the appointment of 12 subcommittees made up of faculty, staff and students (if appropriate) to offer ideas on the future use and need for space to advance the IUSD mission. Volunteers are needed to staff these committees, so please register your interest by completing the Qualtrics survey recently distributed via email. Preliminary plans are requested late summer with final recommendations requested by November 1. Join in the discussion and planning for the next phase of IUSD.

Fritts Clinical Care Building: May 2017

The building continues to take shape. Roofing on the two building connectors is almost complete, and the wall breakthrough and attachment to the current buildings on floors one and three will follow soon. Insulated sheathing wrap continues on the perimeter, which will be followed by the application of the limestone façade mostly to the north and south elevations of the Fritts Building. Next couple of months the HVAC system will be installed. Major progress!



IPFW Health Science Programs will move to IU

Planning work continues with complete transfer of the dental hygiene, dental assisting and dental laboratory technology programs to IUSD effective July 1, 2018. The Indiana Legislature finished its session recently with approval of a new state biennial budget, which provides \$2.85 million in start-up funds in FY 2018 and \$4.85 million for operating funding in FY 2019 for the new Fort Wayne Health Sciences program (dental education, medicine and nursing), as requested by IU.

FULFILLING the PROMISE

Hine Legacy Society

April 28 marked the Hine Legacy Society recognition dinner and induction. The Hine Legacy Society was established **exclusively at IUSD** to recognize donors who support the legacy of IUSD through a planned gift. Individuals recognized that evening include: Dr. James and Lana Fritts, Dr. Vance Lopp, Dr. Ron and Jan Ditto, Mr. Mark Dirlam and Mr. Dan Dovenbarger, and two deceased members – Dr. Marion Warpenburg and Dr. Lucy White. Total membership in the Hine Legacy Society is more than 100 families and individuals. The dinner also provided Mr. Adam Van Zee, with the IUSD Office of Development, the opportunity to introduce himself and talk about his role working specifically with alumni in regard to the many ways one can leave a legacy with IUSD. To learn more about this wonderful way to show appreciation for IUSD, please contact Adam Van Zee at 317-278-2852 or acvanzee@iupui.edu.

Federal Funding News: NIH & NIDCR

This week, Congress reached a deal on the FY 2017 appropriations bill to avoid a government shutdown and fund the federal government through the end of September. This legislation proposes \$34.084 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) an increase of \$2 billion from the FY16 level of \$32 billion, and \$425.7 million for the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), which is a \$12.3 million increase over the FY16 enacted level of \$412.7 million. It is important to note that Congress rejected the president's proposal to cut NIH by \$1.2 billion in FY17. The increased funding provided in this bill for the remainder of the fiscal year for NIH and NIDCR represents a significant advocacy win for American Association of Dental Research (AADR) and the broader biomedical research community. AADR has a complete report here.

IDA Annual June 7-10 Meeting – Hey Students!

The IDA wants to facilitate student attendance at the June IDA meeting in French Lick. Register at <u>indental.org/register</u>, select Attendee Code I for a FREE registration. You can take two days of unlimited CE for FREE, visit the Exhibit Hall and network with colleagues. The IDA will give you a \$50 gift card to offset your travel expenses.

Bee Informed

Check out Dr. Steve Blanchard, Periodontics, and his beekeeping project on the IUPUI Campus here. Bravo, Dr. Blanchard!

Coffee & Donuts

Join us this Friday, May 5, from 7:30 to 9 am for the monthly First Friday school gathering. Complimentary coffee, donuts and fruit will be served in the student lounge.

Upcoming IUSD Events

- o Saturday-Sunday, May 13 & 14 IUSD Pre-commencement and IUPUI Commencement: Indiana Convention Center (Saturday) & Lucas Oil (Sunday)
- o Sunday, May 14 IUSD Awards Breakfast, Lucas Oil Stadium
- Friday-Saturday, June 9 & 10 Annual IUSD Alumni Weekend in conjunction with IDA Spring Meeting, French Lick Resort, Indiana



Thanks to each of you for your dedication to and support of the Vision and Mission of IUSD.

-John

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Dentistry news on our website:
www.dentistry.iu.edu
or on our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/IUDentistry