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Knowledge repository to enhance community research across CTSA system

July 12, 2011

When researchers from IU's National Center of Excellence in Women's Health sought partners in Clay County, a rural region in west central Indiana, in an effort to curtail the area's startlingly high cervical cancer rate, they connected with the Indiana CTSI Community Health Engagement Program (CHEP). They sought CTSI-CHEP for its relationship with the Purdue Cooperative Extension, an organization with deep ties to the state's rural farm communities.

Last month, investigators began to bring cervical cancer screenings to women in remote regions of the state using a bus previously used to provide mobile breast cancer prevention education.

The project not only highlights a creative way to deliver health care but also reveals the ways in which mixing clinical research with community engagement can be a powerful combination—one that offers significant results to investigators and local communities alike. In fact, a robust community engagement program is an important part of the five strategic goals upon which the NIH judges every institution supported by a Clinical and Translational Sciences Award (CTSA). Yet until recently all 60 CTSA Consortium members were largely left on their own to discover the best ways to not only reach out to, but also forge fruitful partnerships with, their local community. Now a new online portal developed by the Indiana CTSI is poised to change everything.

"CTSA2Community is an electronic warehouse for best practices in community engaged research," says Ronald Ackermann, MD, associate professor of internal medicine at the IU School of Medicine and co-director of the Indiana CTSI CHEP. "Our goal for this project is for it to become a true knowledge repository for anyone involved in community health engagement within the CTSA."

Grown out of a series of virtual and in-person consultations between the Indiana CTSI CHEP and its consulting partners—including 11 other CTSA centers and a non-profit organization focused on community engagement—the site will provide a single, centralized source for information on establishing successful community health engagement programs within the context of the CTSA system. Although primarily targeted at fellow CTSA Consortium members, CTSA2Community also grants access to outside partner organizations, including the many community organizations that serve as vital partners for various CTSA community engagement programs. This access provides a powerful advantage over other centralized information resources supported by the CTSA system.

"We simply began with a goal to develop best practices, tools and resources for those engaging in community-based participatory research or community engaged research," says Emily Hardwick, program manager for the Indiana CTSI CHEP. "What quickly developed was a plan to create a web interface—a place where all CTSAs who are developing community health engagement programs can come together to share resources they have found to be successful in order to not duplicate efforts across the consortium."

Information on the website includes documents on developing organizational strategies, promotion and tenure policies, training and education programs, data measurement techniques, stakeholder

CTSA 2 COMMUNITY

CTSA2Community is an online portal for community health engaged research

registries, community research liaisons, pilot funding, support and evaluation tools, and documents on fostering community networks and relationship. Online resources range from meeting minutes and surveys to training modules and strategic plans.

Currently, CHEP staff members are working diligently to upload additional resources to the online portal, including information contributed by the CTSA consultants on the project as well as other previously existing online content generated by other CTSA members. Most importantly, CHEP encourages CTSA members to visit the site and revise and update their documents in order to guarantee information remains fresh and useful. Equally important to acquiring the actual documents, which are part of the resource, is capturing the narratives behind their creations. Knowing the "story" of how they developed their resource is crucial to assisting other community engagement programs in recreating the efforts of their peers.

The CTSA2Community project was made possible by a American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant awarded to the Indiana CTSI CHEP in 2009. Consultants on the project include CTSA centers at the Atlanta Clinical and Translational Science Institute, University of Michigan, Northwestern University, University of California at Davis, University of Chicago, University of Colorado, University of Minnesota, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Washington University in St. Louis, Weill Cornell Medical College and the Community-Campus Partnership for Health (CCPH), a non-profit organization that promotes health through partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions.

To explore CTSA2Community, or upload additional resources, visit CTSA2Community.org.

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New compound may accelerate bone healing, prevent osteoporosis

July 12, 2011


Hiroki Yokota, Ph.D.

An Indiana University scientist studying human bone growth has received a $2.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to study a chemical compound with potential to fight osteoporosis and accelerate broken bone healing.

Hiroki Yokota, professor of biomedical engineering at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) and adjunct professor of anatomy and cell biology at the IU School of Medicine, will investigate the effect of salubrinal -- a chemical compound originally developed to encourage insulin production in individuals with diabetes -- on human bone strength and growth. Early laboratory research supported by the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) suggests weakened bones treated with salubrinal experience a statistically significant increase in strength, as well as accelerated healing in bones that have been fractured.

"People are getting older," Yokota said, "and when people get older, particularly women, they tend to develop osteoporotic bones. As a mechanical engineer, I was originally exploring mechanical stimulation, which is similar to exercise, to strengthen bones. But by studying these mechanisms, I came across a molecular pathway that became the beginning of this discovery."

Acute pelvic and hip fractures account for about 350,000 hospitalizations each year in the United States, with 76 percent of patients being female and annual cases expected to reach 650,000 by 2050. Moreover, Yokota said approximately 25 percent of fracture patients previously living independently require full-time nursing care post-fracture, with only a quarter returning to pre-injury levels of activity and half never fully recovering.

Older populations are increasingly affected by weakened and broken bones as aging cells are no longer able to produce sufficient levels of collagen, the protein from which bones derive their strength. Salubrinal prevents this cellular decline by strengthening the body's "protein-producing machinery," which creates collagen and keeps bones strong.

"In preliminary studies, particularly in bone fractures, we've see an effect in as little as a week," said Yokota, "and the effect is even stronger in two weeks. We're not ready to cite numbers, but I can say it appears significant."

The process by which salubrinal heals fractures may also apply to type 2 diabetes, the disease for which salubrinal was originally conceived.

"Salubrinal stimulates a cellular 'rescue program' in response to stress," said Yokota, noting some diabetes may be caused by the pancreas killing insulin-producing eyelet cells in response to increased insulin needs -- a process similar to the cellular shutdown that can occur in bones overtaxed by collagen production.

"With this drug," Yokota said, "the cells just enjoy the body's rescue response without really experiencing any new negative pressure. Using salubrinal is basically about trying to treat cells a little better."

The Department of Defense grant will support continued research into the effectiveness of salubrinal on broken and weakened bones and contribute to determining dosing guidelines, said Yokota, with an eye toward moving the drug into early clinical trials for patients with

osteoporosis or bone fractures.

"In a sense, step one is done," he said. "This support will move us towards step two."

Developing a pill from the compound's current, injectable form -- making it easier to administer as well as increase its potential marketability -- is also a priority.

Altogether, Yokota sets an ambitious agenda.

"Our ultimate goal is FDA approval to provide a safe, efficacious, easy-to-use drug therapy that will heal hip fractures in the geriatric population," he said.

Additional support for Yokota's other projects related to bone strength and growth comes from the National Institutes of Health and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which has invested in his research for its potential to reduce bone loss experienced by astronauts due to weightlessness.

The Indiana CTSI provided key support to Yokota's early investigation into salubrinal with a $20,000 Research Inventions and Scientific Commercialization Grant. The funds fueled research identifying a chemical partner that combines with the salubrinal to create a safe, non-toxic drug easily absorbable by the human body. The early study also benefited from a program managed by the Indiana CTSI, in partnership with the IU Kelley School of Business, which partners investigators looking to turn their discoveries into viable startup projects with MBA students seeking real-life experience in the business of life science.

The Indiana CTSI is a statewide organization supported by the National Institutes of Health. It includes Indiana University, Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame, as well as public and private partners, and aims to accelerate the rate that promising discoveries in the lab can be "translated" into new treatments and therapies in the community.

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Australia visit advances international exchange program

July 12, 2011

Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute representatives traveled to Australia July 4-7 to advance ongoing plans to establish an international student exchange program between the Indiana CTSI and Australia National University (ANU), a prestigious public teaching and research university located in Canberra, Australia, the governing capital of the country.

The meeting marked the next step in a partnership that began November 2010 when Anantha Shekhar, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Indiana CTSI, attended the First International Conference on Translational Medicine, held at ANU, which has recently established a new department of translational medicine at its John Curtin School of Medical Research (JCSMR).

The John Curtin School of Medical Research

“This program will provide the opportunity to look at translational research through a more global scope,” said Dr. Shekhar, noting the exchange will also provide a gateway to Southeast Asia—as well as China’s Beijing Genomics Institute, another institution through which ANU has established a joint research program.

R. Mark Payne, M.D., director of the Translational Science Program of Indiana (TSPI); Jon Story, Ph.D., dean of the Purdue Graduate School, traveled to Australia to learn more about the school’s current summer program in translational medicine from Julio Licinio, M.D., director of the JCSMR. They also delivered several lectures at the “Bootes Course on Translational Medicine: The Pathway from Discovery to Healthcare,” a four-day course focusing on translational medicine with lectures from experts from the United States, Australia, Israel and Italy. Carrie Hansel, program coordinator of TSPI, also participated in the trip.

Students participating in the exchange program proposed for next summer will be drawn from medical and doctoral students at Indiana University, Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame. They will benefit from the additional international experience and increase their competitiveness upon entering the scientific job market. In addition, the Indiana CTSI-ANU exchange program will connect translational research trainees and mentors with complementary interests at the collaborative institutions.

“Global partnerships often result in stronger clinical research and higher impact research papers,” said Dr. Shekhar, noting significant funding opportunities are opened up by grant applications with international partners as co-PIs. “This program will not only create opportunities for international partnerships but also increase the quality of research supported by the Indiana CTSI.”

He added the National Center for Research Resources, which administers the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) that supports 60 CTSA centers across the U.S., including the Indiana CTSI, is working with the Australian government to create a translational research network in that country similar to the U.S. CTSA network.

Members of the Indiana CTSI-ANU exchange program planning committee include Dr. Shekhar; Dr. Licinio; Dr. Payne; Kurt Kroenke, M.D., director of Research Education and the Young Investigator Program, Dr. Story, ; Bill Hetrick, Ph.D., director of the Indiana CTSI at IU-Bloomington; Hansel; Suzanne Galbraith, program manager of the Clinical Investigation and Translational Education Program

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This website is supported by Indiana and Purdue universities. Design by IUPUI; concept by Tufts CTSI.

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(CITE); Jane O'Dwyer, director of the ANU Office of the North American Liaison; and Shawn Reynolds, director of the IU International Resource Center.

The proposed start date for the new Indiana CTSI-ANU exchange program is this January, with the first cohort of international exchange students expected to travel to Indiana and Australia in summer 2012.

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Indiana CTSI Program Project Planning (P3) Award – Request for Applications

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, with support from the IU School of Medicine, is offering a new funding mechanism to support the submission of Program Project Grant (PPG)-type extramural applications and similar multi-PI funding opportunities.

Indiana CTSI Program Project Planning (P3) Awards will range from about $75,000 to $100,000 and be granted through the Program Project Planning grant-development Team (P3T), a new group under the Indiana CTSI Project Development Team (PDT) program. P3 Awards are designed to support PPG-type grants spanning bench to bedside T1 research and clinic to population-based T2 studies at IUSM. They are also created to increase multidisciplinary collaborations, institutional competitiveness, opportunities for extramurally funded training positions and grants and overall institutional funding.

Program project grants eligible for P3 award support are broadly defined as any multi-PI, multi-project extramural grants with annual budgets of $600K or higher in direct costs per year. These include NIH P series, U series or other unique mechanisms from federal government agencies. These projects typically bring together two or more distinct scientific projects with appropriate administrative and technical 'core' supports.

The applications can be submitted throughout the year. (No application deadlines.) For more information, see the complete application guidelines at www.indianactsi.org/site/grants/p3-guidelines.pdf. To apply, visit www.indianactsi.org/grants/index.php/P3.

Questions to the Indiana CTSI at 278-2874 or ictsi@iupui.edu.

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Indiana CTSI Announces Nearly $3 Million in CTR, K & T Awards

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute has awarded nearly $3 million to a new generation of medical students and researchers at Indiana University, Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame to encourage home-grown innovation in Indiana.

These scholarships and pilot funds will support students and researchers at multiple institutions within the three member universities. Approximately $2.3 million dollars will support career development grants to young physicians and scientists working on promising research projects. An additional $500,000 will support new research projects aimed at advancing the fight against diseases such as breast cancer, prostate cancer, multiple sclerosis and osteoporosis.

“We’re investing heavily in developing the next generation of medical researchers to strengthen projects which may one day generate new treatments and therapies in Indiana and beyond,” said Anantha Shekhar, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Indiana CTSI. “By providing an early boost to promising projects, the Indiana CTSI gives select scientists the tools they need to attract new research dollars to the region from outside sources, including the federal government and industry.”

The scholarship component is designed to encourage research by new scientists and scientists-in-training, he added, including tuition support for courses focused on developing skills related to “translating” research into new products and treatments that will make a lasting impact on the local community.

The pilot funds are provided by the Indiana CTSI Collaboration in Translational Research (CTR) Awards. This program requires participation from scientists at two or more member institutions or campuses—IU, IUPUI, IU-Bloomington, Purdue and Notre Dame—to encourage statewide collaboration. The scholarships are provided by the Indiana CTSI Young Investigator (K Award) and Trainee Awards (T Award) programs. Graduate student recipients also receive health insurance coverage.

Together, these awards span six teams of scientists from the schools of medicine and dentistry at IU and veterinary medicine and biomedical engineering at Purdue, and 39 scientists and students studying biochemistry, medical informatics, microbiology, neuroscience, nursing, ophthalmology, pediatrics, pharmacology and toxicology, psychology, public health, radiology and surgery at IU, Purdue and Notre Dame.

Collaboration in Translational Research Awardees:

Johnathan D. Tune, Ph.D., associate professor of cellular and integrative physiology, Indiana University School of Medicine, and **Ji-Xin Cheng**, Ph.D., associate professor of biomedical engineering, Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University, on “Perivascular adipose-derived leptin and metabolic syndrome induced coronary disease.” (Additional collaborators include **Michael Sturek**, Ph.D., professor and chair of cellular and integrative physiology, IUSM, and **Alexander Obukhov**, Ph.D., assistant professor of cellular and integrative physiology.)

Riyi Shi, M.D., Ph.D., professor of neuroscience and biomedical engineering, School of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue, and **David Mattson**, M.D., professor of neurology, IUSM, on “Basic and Clinical Investigations into a Novel Therapeutic Target for Multiple Sclerosis.”

Melissa Kacena, Ph.D., assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery, IUSM, and **Angela Bruzzaniti**, Ph.D., assistant professor of oral biology, IU School of Dentistry, on “Megakaryoctes and Pyk2 as Anabolic Stimulators of Bone Formation.”

Ourania Andrisani, Ph.D., professor of basic medical sciences, Purdue, and **Liang Cheng**, M.D., professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, IUSM, on “Hypoxia and Hypoxia-induced micro RNAs in Advanced Neuroendocrine Prostate Cancer and Neuronal Differentiation.” (Additional collaborators include **Donna Fekete**, Ph.D., professor of biological sciences, Purdue.)

Jian-Ting Zhang, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and toxicology, IUSM, and **Ji-Xin Cheng**, Ph.D., associate professor of analytical and physical chemistry, University, on

"Dual functional nanoparticles targeting cancer stem cells for improved treatment of breast cancers."

Sophie Lelievre, DVM, Ph.D., associate professor of basic medical sciences, Purdue University, and **Brittney-Shea Herbert**, Ph.D., associate professor of medical and molecular genetics, IUSM, on "Malleable Tissue Models for the Assessment of Breast Cancer Risk, the Identification of Biomarkers and the Design of Prevention Strategies."

L. Jack Windsor, Ph.D., associate professor of oral biology, IU School of Dentistry, and **Matthew Allen**, Ph.D., assistant professor of anatomy and cell Biology, IUSM, on "Bone and Connective Tissue Regeneration Agent for Osteoporosis."

Young Investigator (K Award) Awardees:

Shawn Ahlfeld, M.D. (new), assistant professor of pediatric neonatal-perinatal medicine, IU School of Medicine, will pursue research related to understanding the molecular mechanisms underpinning the development of bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD) which is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in premature infants.

Lauren Bell, Ph.D., (new), assistant research professor of gastroenterology/hepatology, clinical pharmacology and cellular and integrative physiology, IU School of Medicine, will focus on investigating the pathogenesis and treatments for nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH).

John P. Breinholt III, M.D. (renew), Assistant Professor of Pediatric Cardiology, IU School of Medicine, will explore developing an animal model to allow evaluation of branch pulmonary artery stenosis and vessel properties after injury.

Jon Duke, M.D., M.S. (new), assistant professor of medicine, IU School of Medicine, will explore ways to improve the recognition and management of adverse drug events, particularly in the settings of polypharmacy.

Laura Hays, Ph.D., R.N. (renew), assistant scientist, IU School of Nursing, will develop a group-based adaptation of the Diabetes Prevention Program lifestyle intervention to increase adoption of diabetes risk-reducing behaviors among African American women with pre-diabetes.

Shoji Ichikawa, Ph.D. (new), assistant research professor of endocrinology and metabolism, IU School of Medicine, will investigate an effective therapy for a metabolic bone disease named familial tumoral calcinosis.

Philip Johnson, Ph.D. (new), assistant professor of psychiatry, IU School of Medicine, will explore new non-hormonal or selective hormonal treatments for adverse menopausal symptom clusters.

Melissa A. Kacena, Ph.D. (renew), assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery, IU School of Medicine, will investigate the mechanism(s) by which megakaryocyte growth factors enhance bone healing.

Elaine Lipscomb, Ph.D. (new), assistant research professor of medicine, IU School of Medicine, will seek to advance understanding of the comparative effectiveness of obesity, food and nutrition public policies on behavior and obesity-related outcomes across different populations.

Catherine Mosher, Ph.D. (new), assistant professor of psychology, IUPUI, will aim to develop, evaluate and disseminate internet-based interventions to improve the physical and psychological well-being of lung cancer patients and their family caregivers.

Julie Otte, Ph.D., R.N., OCN (renew), assistant professor of adult health, IU School of Nursing, will focus on conducting translational research to examine physiological pathways that link sleep disturbances with other common menopausal symptoms in breast cancer survivors.

Brian Samuels, M.D., Ph.D. (new), assistant professor of ophthalmology, IU School of Medicine, will focus on the role of the central nervous system and the progression of glaucoma with the probability of directly translating this research into novel clinical treatment options.

Joshua Shrout, Ph.D. (renew), assistant professor of civil engineering and geological sciences, University of Notre Dame, will focus on studying bacteria, such as Pseudomonas aeruginosa, and how it colonizes and coordinates behavior to establish infections.

Margie E. Snyder, Pharm.D., M.P.H. (renew), associate professor of pharmacy practice, IUPUI, will aim to develop community pharmacy-based interventions that enhance patient-centered outcomes while reducing adverse drug events among ambulatory patients.

Ragini Vittal, Ph.D. (new), assistant professor of medicine, IU School of Medicine, will investigate the testing and development of an anti-fibrotic therapeutic agent for the treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF).

Zhanxiang Wang, M.D., Ph.D. (new), assistant research professor of pediatrics (diabetes), IU School of Medicine, will study the value of readily available nutritional supplements in restoring or augmenting beta cell function in humans with diabetes.

Clark K. Wells, Ph.D. (renew), assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, IU School of Medicine, will aim to identify the role of certain adaptor proteins in enabling cellular proliferation and metastases in breast cancer.

TL1 Predoctoral Trainee (T Award) Awardees:
IU School of Medicine

- **William Fadel** (new), Department of Biostatistics, is researching the onset of delirium in ICU patients.
- **Karl Koehler** (renewal), Department of Medical Neuroscience, is using induced pluripotent stem cells for inner ear therapy.
- **Whitney Kramer** (new), Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics, is comparing the performance of a randomized controlled trial versus an adaptive control trial to detect a drug safety signal.
- **Jill Layton** (new), Department of Public Health, is using genomic and lifestyle information to study healthy behavior change among individual at risk for type 2 diabetes mellitus.
- **Rikki Enzor** (new), Department of Microbiology and Immunology, is studying how the Fanconi anemia signaling network prevents aneupolidy and cancer by regulating mitosis.
- **Robert Downing** (new), Department of Biochemistry and Cellular Biology, is studying neurofibromatosis vasculopathy.
- **Steven Rhodes** (renewal), Medical Scientist Training Program, is studying the role of haploinsufficient microenvironment in bone fracture healing in the NF1 murine model.
- **Shannon Risacher** (renewal), Medical Neuroscience Graduate Program, is investigating the role of neuroinflammation in patients with Alzheimer's disease.
- **Krista Stilger** (renewal), Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, is investigating the protozoan pathogen Toxoplasma gondii, a medically important parasite that causes congenital birth defects and life-threatening opportunistic disease in AIDS and other immunocompromised patients.

IU-Bloomington

- **Malene Abell** (new), Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, is studying electrophysiological assessment tools for disorders of consciousness following brain injury in both the research and clinical settings.
- **Elizabeth Pfeiffer** (new), Department of Anthropology, is studying the social and structural processes of AIDS/related stigma and discrimination in western Kenya.
- **Sarah Forster** (renewal), Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, is exploring neurophysiological assessment tools to predict relapse risk in alcohol dependent individuals entering treatment.

Purdue University

- **Juan Cárdenas** (renewal), Department of Basic Medical Sciences, is investigating how lipids and lipids metabolism may contribute to breast cancer.
- **Daniel DiRenzo** (renewal), Department of Biological Sciences, is focusing on identifying the earliest events involved in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma disease.
- **Johanna Hassink** (new), Department of Speech, Language and Hearing, is studying visual reaction time as a predictor of language impairment.
- **Basma Ibrahim** (renewal), Department of Industrial and Physical Pharmacy, is working to develop an inhalable gene delivery system for the treatment of cystic fibrosis.
- **Gary Leung** (renewal), Department of Basic Medical Sciences, Center for Paralysis Research, is studying Acrolein as a therapeutic target and biomarker for early detection in multiple sclerosis.
- **Andrew Koivuniemi** (new), Department of Biomedical Engineering, is investigating the safe limits of intracortical microstimulation for sensory prostheses.
- **Matthew Makowski** (new), Department of Biomedical Engineering, is studying a gallium nitride biosensor for blood analysis and treatment of neurofibromatosis.
- **TusaRebecca Schap** (renewal), Interdepartmental Nutrition Program, is studying

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the development, evaluation and application of a mobile telephone food record.

University of Notre Dame

- **Christine Steeger** (new) is studying the efficacy of parent training programs as innovative treatment for adolescents diagnosed with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).
- **James Clancy** (renewal), Department of Biological Sciences, is studying microvesicles at a cellular and molecular level in order to examine their potential as diagnostic biomarkers.

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Honors and Appointments — July 2011

July 12, 2011

Mervin Yoder Appointed Associate Director for Entrepreneurship

David Wilkes, MD, executive associate dean for research affairs, and Anantha Shekhar, MD, PhD, director of the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) have announced that Mervin C. Yoder, MD, will be appointed assistant dean for entrepreneurial research at the IU School of Medicine and associate director for entrepreneurship at the Indiana CTSI, effective July 1.

Dr. Yoder's first priority will be to enhance infrastructure to generate more intellectual property and to develop best practices to increase disclosures and patents via working directly with faculty and serving as the IUSM liaison to the Indiana University Research and Technology Corporation (IURTC). He will work to develop close advisory/partnering relationships with the IU School of Law and the Kelley School of Business as well as Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame.

Dr. Yoder will retain his current appointments as Richard and Pauline Klingler Professor of Pediatrics, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, adjunct professor of cellular and integrative physiology, director of the Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research and vice-chair for basic research in the Department of Pediatrics.


Mervin Yoder, M.D.


Eric Meslin, Ph.D.

Meslin to advise Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on bioethics

Eric M. Meslin, PhD, director of the Indiana CTSI Bioethics and Subject Advisory Program, has been appointed to the Ethics Subcommittee, Advisory Committee to the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This 12-member subcommittee provides counsel to the Advisory Committee to the director on a broad range of public health ethics questions and issues arising from programs, scientists and practitioners. The subcommittee also supports the CDC in developing internal capacity to identify, analyze and resolve ethical issues.

Dr. Meslin is director of the IU Center for Bioethics and associate dean for bioethics at the IU School of Medicine. His four-year appointment to the CDC subcommittee will be in effect from July 2011 to July 2015.

i2iConnect named technology award finalist

An online service developed by the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) and IU Pervasive Technology Institute, in collaboration with Cook Medical and the IU Research and Technology Corp., has been honored as a finalist in the 12th Annual Mira Awards, the Indiana technology awards presented by TechPoint.

i2iConnect is a resource that helps inventors discover the right company to market their biomedical products, assist biomedical companies in soliciting the latest innovations that map to their product specialties, and connect technology transfer professionals to the right licensing partners for institutional disclosures.

TechPoint Mira Awards recognize excellence and achievement of Indiana's outstanding technology industry performers and

contributors, and focuses attention on the broader issue of the important role technology plays in Indiana's economy. TechPoint is Indiana's statewide technology initiative focused on growing Indiana's tech sector by promoting the successes of technology companies and professionals; supporting the formation, expansion, and attraction of technology companies; and advocating appropriate public policy.

Category winners were announced during the Mira Awards Gala May 7. All finalists were named in a special supplement to the May 16 issue of the Indianapolis Business Journal.

Eight CTSI leaders named to Who's Who list

Eight members of the Indiana CTSI leadership have been named to the 2011 Indianapolis Business Journal "Who's Who in the Life Sciences," which highlights "influential players," whether in the public eye or behind the scenes, who fuel the life sciences in Indiana. They are:

- **D. Craig Brater**, MD, dean of the IU School of Medicine and vice president for university clinical affairs at IU. Dr. Brater oversees operations for the Indiana CTSI.
- **Kenneth Cornetta**, MD, director of the Translational Technologies and Resources Program at the Indiana CTSI and chair and Joe C. Christian Professor of Medical and Molecular Genetics and professor of medicine and microbiology and immunology at the Indiana University School of Medicine
- **David Johnson**, president and CEO of BioCrossroads and a member of the Indiana CTSI External Advisory Committee
- **Alan Rebar**, DVM, PhD, senior associate vice president for research and executive director of Discovery Park, Purdue University, and a member of the Indiana CTSI External Advisory Committee
- **Anantha Shekhar**, MD, PhD, director of the Indiana CTSI, associate dean for translational research, and Raymond E. Houk Professor of Psychiatry and professor of neurobiology and pharmacology and toxicology at the IU School of Medicine
- **William Tierney**, MD, associate director of the Indiana CTSI, associate dean for clinical effectiveness research, Sam Regenstrief Professor of Health Services Research and professor of medicine at the IU School of Medicine.
- **David Wilkes**, MD, executive associate dean for the IU School of Medicine and director of the Indiana CTSI Internal Advisory Committee.
- **George Wodicka**, PhD, director of the Biomedical Engineering and Nanomedicine Program at the Indiana CTSI and chair of Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering and professor of electrical and computer engineering at Purdue University of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

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