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## **Class of 2001 to come armed with computers**

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**Our graduates will be prepared for the future and the new method of diagnosis and treatment.**

Indiana University School of Medicine is jumping onto the information highway...with both feet.

This fall, the school is requiring first-year medical students to own a computer. The goal is to integrate computer literacy into the core curriculum for medical students. A benefit of the requirement will be an additional line of communication between students and faculty.

Dave Shuman, information systems coordinator for the dean's office, said that as the century changes, so must the methods used by faculty to teach. The students will be expected to access instructional materials from faculty on-line and to use the World Wide Web for e-mail and other sources of information. They also will have access to the Ruth Lilly Medical Library and departmental teaching materials. This is only the beginning. The school is expecting to have more and more information and materials available and accessible through the internet.

The cost of providing web access and other electronic resources is covered by a technology fee, which was added last year. With the fee, the school will increase the number of dedicated phone lines available only to medical students to log onto the system. Shuman said this was done to enhance the effectiveness of the system.

In the past, students have had a difficult time dialing into the system from off campus. At present, the number of lines accessible for all IUPUI students, faculty and staff is 288, which equals a ratio of 100 to 1. With the new system, adding 96 lines the ratio for the medical school will drop to 8.5 to 1.

First-year medical students will receive information at orientation on electronic resources and how to access the campus computer system. All services also will be available to second-, third-, and fourth-year medical students.

Shuman anticipates that in the future, doctors will readily access the Internet to find answers to medical problems and, he added, our graduates will be prepared for the future and this new method of diagnosis and treatment.

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## **Richmond resigns**

Ann Richmond, PhD, associate dean of student and curricular affairs, has resigned her position, effective in August. Dr. Richmond has accepted the position of vice dean in the School of Medicine at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

She has served as associate dean at IUSM since December 1994.

Her enthusiastic and energetic approach to building the Student and Curricular Affairs program has greatly enhanced the student experience at IUSM. During the past two years, she expanded student services to make more counseling and business advice available to students.

Specific projects she's shepherded include providing locked mailboxes to students to ensure student privacy, the renovation of the student lecture hall in the Van Nuys Medical Science Building and the White Coat Ceremony. She also has been instrumental in advancing minority affairs at IUSM and in the revision of the student curriculum.

Dr. Richmond moved to IU from the University of South Florida, where she served as associate dean of academic affairs.

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## **City of Pisa honors IUSM professor**

Harvey Feigenbaum, MD, distinguished professor of medicine, has received a 1997 Luminary Award from the City of Pisa, Italy.

The award is for his contributions to the field of science, recognizing his pioneering work in cardiac ultrasound or echocardiography. The citation noted that he not only helped develop the field during a period of 30 years, but also has been the leading teacher of this technique.

Dr. Feigenbaum's award is a large, solid gold replica of an ancient astrological plotting device developed by Galileo. Noting the approach of the millinium, Pisa began making these awards 20 years ago in recognition of academic scholars who have made major contributions to the world. The city prides itself on being the leading academic center in Italy over the centuries, having produced such scholars as Galileo and nuclear physicist Enrico Fermi.

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## Grants received

Robert D. Yee, MD, chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, has received a grant of \$100,000 from Research to Prevent Blindness. To date, RPB has awarded grants to IU totaling \$884,000.

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The Faculty Development Grants in Aid of Teaching and Faculty Development Grants in Aid of Research were awarded to seven IUSM faculty. The maximum amount of the grants was \$3,000.

Recipients were:

--Thomas F. Imperiale, MD, assoc. professor of medicine -- research grant

--Hiremagalur Jayaram, PhD, professor of experimental oncology -- research grant --Linda M. Marler, assoc. professor of medical technology -- teaching grant

--Constance McCloy, EdD, assoc. professor and director, physical therapy program -- research grant

Joseph P. McConnell, PhD, asst. professor of medical technology -- research grant

Brian J. Pease, clinical asst. professor of physical therapy -- research grant

--David M. Smith, MD, professor of medicine -- research grant

## IUSM faculty host PMD Day at Riley

IUSM faculty from the departments of Pediatric Neurology, Radiology, Psychiatry and Medical and Molecular Genetics hosted the annual PMD Day at Riley Hospital Saturday, June 14.

PMD is Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease, a sex-linked neurodegenerative disease that affects the white matter of the central nervous system. This disease is closely allied to X-linked spastic paraplegia, a condition that causes loss of function of the lower limbs. About half of the mutations causing this disease

were discovered at IU, where researchers also have gathered extensive clinical and radiological evidence of the disease's variability.

IUSM participants in PMD Day included Stephen R. Dlouhy, PhD, M.E. Hodes, MD, PhD, and Lawrence Walsh, MD, from the Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics, who have directed the research since 1988; James Trofatter, PhD, Institute of Psychiatric Research, who, as a graduate student in 1989, discovered one of the first mutations; William E. DeMyer, MD, Department of Neurology, who has been studying the disease since the 1960s, Mary K. Edwards-Brown, MD, Department of Radiology, and postdoctoral fellows and students from the Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics.

This year eight families, most from out of state, gathered for examinations, information gathering, and were updated on the latest research in the field.

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## **SCOPE tidbits**

IUSM staff members who are not receiving SCOPE or who are getting their copy late because it is being forwarded from a previous office address may rectify the problem by contacting IUPUI Human Resources. To obtain an address change, a personal data sheet or a memo complete with the employee's Social Security number and new campus address, must be sent to Human Resources Records Section, UN 359.

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There are three easy ways to submit story ideas or information to SCOPE. ---fax the information to 278-3502;

---e-mail the information to mhardin @iupui.edu;

---or mail the information to Mary Hardin, LO 401, IUPUI.

The deadline for copy is 8:30 a.m. Mondays, the week prior to publication.

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<http://www.medicine.indiana.edu>