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On-line library to help southern Indiana health care providers

An exciting new project, directed by the Ruth Lilly Medical Library, will bring current medical information to southern Indiana practitioners who do not have easy access to a medical library.

The project, called the Shared Hospital Electronic Library of Southern Indiana (SHELSEI), is funded by a \$200,000 grant from the National Library of Medicine, part of the National Institutes of Health. Peggy Richwine, MLS, director of outreach at the Ruth Lilly Medical Library, is the principal investigator for the two-part project.

The first phase will provide computers and Internet access to 18 hospitals and clinics in southwestern Indiana. The second phase will focus on southeastern Indiana.

"The initial phase of SHELSEI will focus on 18 counties in a triangular area formed by Terre Haute, Evansville and Bloomington," said Richwine. "In this area there are four counties without hospitals and most of the rural hospitals do not have medical libraries."

Grant funding will lease access to electronic medical textbooks and journals, and MEDLINE gives subject access to the contents of the journals. Health care professionals will receive training so they will be able to "travel" the Internet more effectively and efficiently. Training will be provided on MEDLINE, PubMed and other databases. "Access to up-to-date, authoritative medical information, especially in some rural areas, is limited," said Richwine. "Having the information at their fingertips will help doctors, nurses and other health care professionals provide cost-efficient, quality care."

Southern Indiana hospitals and clinics participating in SHELSEI Phase I are Bloomington Hospital, Bloomington; Clay City Rural Clinic, Clay City; Clay County Hospital, Brazil; Daviess County Hospital, Washington; Deaconess Hospital, Evansville; Gibson County Hospital, Princeton; Good Samaritan

Hospital, Vincennes; Greene County Hospital, Linton; Mary Sherman Hospital, Sullivan; Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center, Jasper; Morgan County Hospital, Martinsville; Orange County Hospital, Paoli; St. Joseph's Hospital, Huntingburg; St. Mary's Hospital, Evansville; St. Mary's Warrick Hospital, Boonville; St. Meinrad Archabbey Rural Clinic, St. Meinrad; Southwestern Indiana Mental Health Center, Evansville; and Worthington Rural Clinic, Worthington.

BRIEFS

Student performers

IUSM students will host the eighth annual Evening of the Arts Thursday, April 1, at the University Place Conference Center. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m.

The event includes music and dance performances and a visual arts display and auction. Tickets are \$7 and may be purchased at the door.

The annual event raises funds for medical student outreach programs to the homeless in Indianapolis. The 1998 event raised \$6,800 for the EOTA Fund which is distributed to homeless clinics staffed by medical students.

Grant funding

The IUSM Department of Pediatrics is ranked 11th in the nation for National Institutes of Health funding, based on NIH data for 1998.

IUSM's ranking has improved appreciably since 1980, when it was 50th of the 125 U.S. medical schools. In 1994, IU was ranked 20th and by 1997 had increased its ranking to 17th.

In the Big Ten, IU is now ranked number one and is in the top five public medical schools in the country for NIH funding to pediatric departments.

In 1998, the IUSM Department of Pediatrics was awarded \$8.3 million in NIH funding.

Seniors express interest in primary care at Match Day

Nearly 50 percent of IUSM seniors will enter primary care residency programs in June. Students were informed of their residency program matches Thursday, March 18 during Match Day activities.

A total of 251 IUSM students participated in the 1999 Match, with the remaining seniors participating in an early match program or the military match. The 1999 Match was administered by the National Resident Matching Program. Of those entering primary care programs, nearly 20 percent will enter family medicine residencies. Nationally, about 15 percent of seniors enter family medicine. Other specialties classified as primary care are internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics, combined internal medicine-pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology.

About 14 percent of IUSM seniors will enter pediatric or combined internal medicine-pediatric programs, which is almost equal to the national average of nearly 13 percent.

Nearly half of the IUSM graduating class matched to residency programs in Indiana, which are offered in Indianapolis, Muncie, South Bend, Fort Wayne, Terre Haute and Evansville.

Additional information about the 1999 Match may be found on the NRMP Web site at www.aamc.org/nrmp.

Combined Seminar topics announced

The April schedule for the Combined Seminar Series, with sessions from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Indiana Cancer Research Institute auditorium, is:

April 7 - Brian Sorrentino, MD, Department of Biochemistry and Experimental Hematology, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, "Amplification of Hematopoietic Stem Cells Using DHFR and MDR1 Retroviral Vectors."

April 14 - Frank Smith, MD, director of the Pediatric Stem Cell Transplantation Program, IUSM, "Immune Reconstitution After Cord Blood Transplantation."

April 21 - Michel Tremblay, PhD, Department of Biochemistry, McGill University, "Structure Function Studies of Mammalian PTPases Using a Combination of Gene Targeting and Substrate Trapping Approaches."

April 28 - Robert Arceci, MD, PhD, director and Jacob Schmidlapp Professor of Hematology, Children's Hospital Medical Center and Research Foundation, "Toward Curing Leukemia: Molecular and Immunological Targeting."

The series is hosted by the IU Cancer Center, IUSM departments of medicine and pediatrics, section of hematology/oncology, The Walther Oncology Center and the Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research

Honors

Thomas Ciulla, MD, is the recipient of a four-year, \$165,000 Career Development Award sponsored by Research to Prevent Blindness. The award is to be used to support Dr. Ciulla's extensive research interests, particularly in the area of the pathophysiology and treatment of age-related macular degeneration.

Laura Haneline, MD, has been selected as the recipient of the Fellow Basic Research Award of the Society for Pediatric Research. Her award will be presented in May at the SPR Presidential Plenary and Awards Session during the 1999 Pediatric Academic Societies' annual meeting.

Martin Smith, PhD, is the recipient of a one-year American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant. His research will look at the p53 gene which is mutated in the majority of human cancers.

Christie Traycoff, PhD, is the recipient of a four-year grant from NASA to study short-term changes in bone marrow hematopoiesis under microgravity conditions.

Darrell WuDunn, MD, PhD, is the recipient of the 1999 OTSUKA Research Fellowship Award in Glaucoma. The \$30,000 award, supported by OTSUKA America Pharmaceutical, seeks to encourage and develop academic ophthalmic research by promising glaucoma investigators.

Submissions to Scope sought for school news

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