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Dean's Message on Professionalism

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to share "Today's Learning Point" written by Malathi Srinivasan, MD, published in the May 10 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine. Malathi is a fellow in the Regenstrief Institute. I think the article brings home the necessity of developing and maintaining a climate in which professionals (students and faculty alike) can communicate in a sensitive and meaningful way. The article takes only a brief moment to read but may stay with you forever.

Craig

"Today's Learning Point"

<http://www.nejm.org/content/2001/0344/0019/1474.asp>

New England Journal of Medicine

Vol. 344, No. 19

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Einhorn elected to NAS and American Philosophical Society

May has been an award-winning month for Larry Einhorn, MD, distinguished professor at IUSM. Not only will he be presiding over the annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncologists, he has been awarded two highly coveted recognitions.

Dr. Einhorn was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences May 1 during the 138th annual meeting of the Academy. Election to membership in the NAS is considered one of the highest honors accorded a U.S. scientist or engineer. The 72 new members and 15 foreign associates from 10 countries who were elected at this year's meeting brings the total number of active members to 1,874.

Election to the NAS recognizes the member's distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. It was established in 1863 by a congressional act, signed by Abraham Lincoln, that calls on the Academy to act as an official adviser to the federal government, upon request, in any matter of science or technology.

Dr. Einhorn also was elected to membership in the American Philosophical Society. It is the oldest learned society in the United States and was founded by Benjamin Franklin. Membership has included Thomas Jefferson, many American presidents, Albert Einstein and other distinguished scientists.

A medical oncologist, Dr. Einhorn has received international recognition for his role in the development of a chemotherapy regimen for disseminated testis cancer, the most

common cancer in young men. His research led to a marked increase in the cure rate for what had previously been a devastating and rapidly fatal disease. Testis cancer is not Dr. Einhorn's only area of expertise. He also is an internationally recognized authority on other types of urologic cancer, lung cancer and certain other tumors.

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Mitchell receives IUSM Faculty Teaching Award

Gary Mitchell, MD, clinical professor of medicine, received the 2001 IUSM Faculty Teaching Award, presented May 10 at the Spring Faculty Meeting.

A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Dr. Mitchell completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the IU Medical Center. After a stint in the Navy, he returned to IU for a fellowship in renal medicine. From 1972-91, he practiced nephrology/critical care medicine in South Bend and co-directed the Family Medicine Residency program at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center.

During that time, he taught renal physiology to South Bend Center students and organized and taught the first medical ethics course in Indiana.

In 1992, he left South Bend for additional training at the Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago before becoming part of the IUSM faculty in Indianapolis.

"Our loss was definitely your gain," said John O'Malley, PhD, acting dean and director, Notre Dame Medical Education Center, during his introduction of the award winner.

Since moving to the Indianapolis campus, Dr. Mitchell has invested much time to the teaching mission: he writing the syllabus for the new ICM-I course, was its preceptor, and serving as the professionalism competency director. He also helped to develop the master plan for this competency for all nine campuses.

In 1997-98, he served as team leader in the IUSM-Kenya program and taught medical ethics and physical diagnosis to Kenyan students. He has received both the Department of Medicine Distinguished Teaching Award and the IU Trustee TERA Award.

Dr. O'Malley called upon students and house staff to illustrate Dr. Mitchell's teaching excellence. Among the comments cited were the following:

"Dr. Mitchell was wonderful and is a joy to work with. He constantly encouraged me and for the first time in medical school, I felt like I was important. I enjoyed watching his empathy with his patients."

"Dr. Mitchell is a great teacher. He loves to teach and is very attentive to his students."

"Excellent! He was very good at incorporating the impact of illness of patients in his discussions. He was a great example."

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Faculty honored at awards convocation

Five IUSM faculty, staff and students were among those honored at the 14th Annual Chancellor's Academic Honors Convocation April 27. Award recipients include:

Janet Hock, PhD, professor of anatomy and cell biology, received the Alvin S. Bynum Mentor Award for Excellence in Academic Mentoring.

David A. Williams, MD, the Freida and Albrecht Kipp Professor of Pediatrics, and **Kenneth Brandt, MD**, professor of medicine, received Glenn W. Irwin Jr., MD, Research Scholar awards.

Howard Edenberg, PhD, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, received the Chancellor's Professor title for 2001-02.

Craig Gosling, director of Medical Illustration and Photography, **Robert Harris, PhD**, distinguished professor, **D. Craig Brater, MD**, dean and Walter J. Daly professor, and **Dr. Williams** received Prestigious External Award Recognitions for honors received from their professional organizations during the past year.

Jeffrey Walker received the Chancellor's Scholar Award, presented to a student in each

academic unit.

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All invited to medical student center opening

Faculty, staff and students are invited to the 4 p.m. Friday, May 18, dedication of the Walter J. Daly Student Center.

The Daly Student Center will provide 24-hour access to study rooms, exercise equipment and break rooms to medical and graduate students.

The center is located immediately west of the Ruth Lilly Medical Research and Library Building.

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Chairman candidate to lecture at IUSM

Patrick J. Concannon, PhD, director of Molecular Genetics Program, Virginia Mason Research Center, Seattle, and a candidate for chairman of the IU Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics, will present public lectures at IUSM.

Dr. Concannon will present "Mapping Genes for Susceptibility to Type 1 Diabetes" from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 6.

From 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Thursday, June 7, Dr. Concannon will present "The Role of Nibrin in the Human Response to Ionizing Radiation."

Both lectures will be in the Indiana Cancer Research Institute, room 101.

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Coalition to combat number of Hoosier suicides

In response to the U.S. Surgeon General's call to action for states to mobilize with suicide-prevention programs, a new group in Indiana has answered that call.

The Indiana Partnership to Prevent Firearm Violence, based at IUSM, is spearheading the formation of the Suicide Prevention Coalition to heighten the public's awareness about the risk factors linked to suicide, and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness.

In Indiana, suicide has become a public health epidemic. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Indiana's suicide rate is higher than the national average. During the period from 1996-1998, the rate of suicide for Hoosiers was 12.25 per 100,000-making it the second highest rate in the Midwest. Suicide is the ninth leading cause of death for Indiana residents. In 1999, suicide claimed 621 Hoosier lives. Kentucky had the highest rate of suicide in the Midwest at 12.74 per 100,000.

"It is so important for citizens to know that suicide affects a broad range of people throughout the state, and we need to work together to bring these numbers down," says Marilyn Bull, MD, an IUSM pediatrician and medical director of the Indiana Partnership to Prevent Firearm Violence.

Each year, 30,000 Americans take their own lives, and suicide is now the eighth leading cause of death in the United States.

"The trend among African American male suicides is alarming," says Marion County Health Department Director Virginia A. Caine, MD "All suicide rates are unacceptable and we will be working with a number of agencies to address the problem."

The partnership has teamed up with a number of statewide public health groups to:

- Distribute information and education about the risk factors associated with suicide.
- Recommend removal of all lethal weapons, including firearms from the home if a family member is depressed.
- Disseminate information to the public about what communities can do to protect their loved ones, such as developing strong social support networks, and providing

better access to clinical interventions.

- Develop and implement strategies to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness, substance abuse, and suicide.

Other coalition members collaborating on a statewide strategy to reduce the death toll resulting from suicide include Riley Hospital for Children's Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics, Marion County Health Department, the Indiana State Department of Health, the Mental Health Division of Family and Social Services, and the Mental Health Association in Marion County.

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Riley Hospital for Children offers Palm software for pediatricians

Riley Kidometer, a stand-alone program for pediatricians, provides a host of age-based normals including growth, vital signs, developmental milestones and preventive health recommendations. The program is available free to employees of Riley Hospital and is available to the public for only \$14.

The new software program is written for handheld pocket computers and is designed to help pediatricians take care of their little patients. Handheld computers such as the Palm III and Handspring Visor are becoming essential tools for modern physicians and more and more software is being developed to help physicians. Unfortunately, pediatricians have seen few of the benefits of these computers because of a lack of programs written to deal with the unique problems of children. Two physicians at Riley responded to the lack of software by designing and implementing their own software for pediatricians.

The editors, Joel Topf, MD, and Burke Mamlin, MD, describe *Kidometer* as a database of age-based normals. He explains that a common question that pediatricians are faced with on a daily basis is "What is normal for a particular child?" Besides length, weight and head size, many measurements of childhood vary with the age of the child. This can be as obvious as learned skills such as language and walking or as obscure as blood chemistry concentrations and the electrical patterns of the heart. Riley Kidometer presents this information in an intuitive and rapidly accessible manner.

While this information has been available in handbooks for years, this is the first time it's available as an "electronic handbook."

The program is being distributed to all of the Riley physicians with pocket computers and is being made available to physicians around the world via the internet. The program is available for download at <http://www.kidometer.com/> and runs on Palm OS compatible computers.

For further information contact Joel Topf, MD, at 317-506-3179.

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Dermatology offers free melanoma screenings

The faculty and residents of IUSM Department of Dermatology will host a free skin screening on Monday, May 21, at three locations on campus. There will be no screenings at IU Hospital Outpatient Center.

Please contact the following individuals to schedule your screening:

- Student Health: Christina or Michael, 274-8214, 7:30-9 a.m.
- NIFS-IUMG: Memer, 274-3432 x222, 4-6 p.m.
- Wishard: Sharon, 630-6692, 7:30-8:45 a.m.

Melanoma is a malignant tumor of pigment producing tanning cells. The incidence of melanoma is rising faster than any other malignant tumor in the United States. It is estimated that one in 75 Americans born in 2000 will acquire melanoma in their lifetime.

Melanoma strikes individuals of all ages, including young adults. Excessive exposure to the sun's ultraviolet radiation is the most important preventable cause of melanoma. Melanoma may appear without warning, or it may develop from or near a mole.

It is found most frequently on the upper back of men and women, on the legs of women, but can occur anywhere on the body (even in non sun-exposed areas i.e. the mouth and

between the toes). When detected early and promptly excised, melanoma has a very high cure rate. Once metastases occurs, the prognosis is poor.

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[IU Ameritech Fellows program issues new request for proposals](#)

Faculty innovation using information technology for teaching and learning on all IU campuses will continue to be fostered through the Ameritech Fellows Program. Proposals must be received by Oct. 19 to be considered for the third round of funding, as indicated by guidelines available from the program's Web site <http://www.amfellow.iu.edu>.

IU established the program in the fall of 1999, with a gift of \$1 million from Ameritech to support five years of program activity. The program is directed by Gary Wittlich for the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology and UITS Division for Teaching and Learning Information Technologies, in cooperation with the Office of Distributed Education.

The first Ameritech Fellows Leadership Forum, to be convened in Bloomington on June 28, will present an opportunity for fellows to showcase their work and discuss their progress with colleagues.

The complete RFP, proposal cover sheet, and information about previously funded projects are available on the Web site. Questions should be directed to fellows@iu.edu.

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[The Hochberg Thymoma Research Award: Request for Pilot Proposals for Thymoma or Thymic Cancer Research](#)

IU Cancer Center is seeking submission of pilot and feasibility proposals for cancer research projects for the Hochberg Thymoma Research Award. Funding is scheduled to begin on October 1.

Final applications are due Aug. 1. The body of the proposal should not exceed three pages. Budgets should include major categories (personnel, supplies, and equipment) with no indirect costs. Budgets may be typed on plain white paper or the NIH form. Ten copies will be required. Applications will then be reviewed by an internal committee.

Criteria for review are:

1. Scientific merit;
2. Thymoma or thymic carcinoma relatedness;
3. Multidisciplinary or translational nature;
4. Potential for subsequent peer reviewed funding.

The timetable is:

- Completed application: Aug. 1, 2001
- Start date: Oct. 1, 2001

Applications should be sent to:

Elizabeth Parsons
Grants & Projects Coordinator
Indiana University Cancer Center
Indiana Cancer Pavilion, RT 455 278-0078

The primary goal of this award is to stimulate translational research which will lead to better understanding of the biology and treatment of thymic tumors (principally thymoma and thymic carcinoma). Research proposals, which have the potential to translate laboratory observations into innovative clinical trials, will have the highest priority.

The IU Cancer Center was created to foster multidisciplinary and translational research. This proposal follows the tradition of other pilot proposals by the center. The duration of funding is one year with the total budget not to exceed \$20,000.

Applicants may be faculty members at IUSM, IUPUI, or IUB-Medical Sciences; the proposal may be submitted by a trainee working under the supervision of a faculty member; funds should not be used for fellowship or training purposes. Applicants may have a funding history, but the proposed project should be separate from previously or currently funded projects. The project can be one in which the investigator changes his or

her research focus.

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Indiana University School of Medicine
Grants & Awards
 March 1, 2001 - March 31, 2001

Project Director	Agency Grant Number Agency Type	Award Type	Title	Start/Stop	Total Award
Patricia Gallagher	AM Heart ASSN 0150578N Non-Profit	New Research	Regulation of Cytoskeletal Activities in Apoptosis	01/01/01 12/31/01	\$71,500
George A. Tanner	NATL Kidney PDN-IND Foundations	New Research	Roles of Transforming Growth Factors Beta (TGF-B) in Ploycystic Kidney Disease	03/01/01 02/28/02	\$5,000

Meei-Huey Jeng	United States Army DAMD17-99-1-9430 Federal	New Research	Roles of Steroid Receptor Coactivators in Breast Cancer	08/01/99 01/31/03	\$264,831
Rebecca M. Evans	NIH-NINDS K23 NS02227-01 Federal	New Research	Study of Three Candidates Genes for Alzheimer's Disease Risk in Blacks	02/19/01 01/31/02	\$108,000
Michelle Howenstine	Cystic Fibrosis FDN C039 Foundations	Supplement Instruction	Cystic Fibrosis Care and Training Center Application	07/01/00 06/30/01	\$143,096
Hugh C. Hendrie	NIH-NIA R01 AG09956-10 Federal	Conti/Competing Research	Indianapolis-Ibadan Dementia Project	03/01/01 12/31/01	\$1,423,573
Anatha Shekhar	NIH-NIMH R03 MH63591-01 Federal	New Research	The Priming of the Amygdala as a Mechanism Underlying the Panic Response	02/23/01 01/31/02	\$27,000

Martin Kaefer	NATL Kidney FDN-IND Foundations	New Research	Bladder Augmentation Utilizing Allogene Acellular Dermal Matrix	02/01/01 01/31/02	\$15,000
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Submissions to Scope

Scope wants your news items.

The deadline for submission is 8:30 a.m. on Fridays. *Scope* is published electronically and sent to faculty, staff, students, and residents.

There are three easy ways to submit story ideas or information to *Scope*:

- faxing the information to 278-3502;
- e-mailing the information to mhardin@iupui.edu;
- mailing the information to Mary Hardin, LO 401, IUPUI.

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