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[IUSM Home](#) • [Office of Public & Media Relations](#) • [Scope Archives](#)

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- [Dean's letter regarding Clarian physician relations](#)
  - [Buschbacher named chairman of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation](#)
  - [Director of OHRP to present special lecture](#)
  - [A Moment for Patient Safety and Quality Health Care](#)
  - [Walnut Street library entrance closed](#)
  - [Pediatrics seeks subscribers for new e-mail newsletter](#)
  - [Lawrence Roth to edit WHO cancer reference book](#)
  - [Combined Seminar Series for May](#)
  - [Carol D. Nathan Staff Scholarship applications due May 22](#)
  - [AAMC seeks minority faculty fellowship nominations](#)
  - [Author Lucy King, MD, to be honored at reception](#)
  - [Honors](#)
  - [In Print](#)
  - [Scientific Calendar online](#)
  - [Submissions to SCOPE](#)
- 

## **Dean's letter regarding Clarian physician relations**

Dear Colleagues:

In anticipation of the opportunity for discussion at our Spring Faculty Meeting (May 16 at 4 p.m. in the Riley Outpatient Center auditorium), I want to apprise you of a challenge we face within Clarian. The private practice groups traditionally affiliated with Methodist Hospital are fragile and are currently imbued with a considerable level of angst. The source of this anxiety is multi-factorial and difficult to define with precision, but it is real. The biggest threat to Clarian is that these practice groups are currently migrating out of Clarian and will continue to do so if they cannot become convinced that Clarian offers long-term opportunity in collaboration with the School of Medicine.

Do we care? Yes, we do. Superficially, one might take the position that if all the private practices leave Clarian, we can simply fill the gap and dramatically expand our own clinical enterprise. Is this desired? Not by me (and I hope not by you) for three reasons:

1. Make no mistake about it; the School's long-term success is tightly linked to the long-term success of all of our partner hospitals, Clarian, Wishard and VA.
2. Do we really want the primary fiduciary responsibility for the entire clinical practice of seven hospitals: VA, Wishard, Riley, University, Methodist, new west side hospital, and new north side hospital? If we take on that responsibility, it will undoubtedly detract from our ability to focus on our other academic missions.
3. Our students and residents tell us that they value the interaction and experience of our private practice colleagues. In addition, many Methodist-based physicians are genuinely interested in contributing significantly to the educational mission. Both observations argue in favor of our having a goal that private practices not leave Clarian.

The above tells me that we need to be sensitive, thoughtful, and

responsive to the feelings and needs of our Methodist colleagues.

I would like to couple the above thoughts with the broader context of the long-term needs of academic health centers. We have been lucky in Indiana relative to elsewhere in the country in terms of the health care changes that have been inflicted upon us. As you are well aware from talking with your colleagues at other institutions, pressures have been less here than elsewhere. That having been said, we appropriately still feel violated and threatened. How do we best position ourselves for future onslaughts? I believe that we must be bold and "think out of the box." We must take risks; not doing so poses even more risk in the long run. This is easy to say but is an enormous challenge.

How do we couple these issues? Is there a way to address the concerns of our Methodist colleagues and in doing so better position us for the future? How can we collectively build outstanding clinical multidisciplinary programs that attract patients throughout the region and at the same time also enhance both our educational and research missions to accomplish our goal of being in the Top 10 of public medical schools? I wish I were sufficiently omniscient to answer all these questions, but the reality is that no single individual has all the answers. More importantly, it is collective wisdom of an institution like ours that should address these issues. As such, we have several groups that are meeting frequently to develop strategies and positions.

I offer this communication for several reasons. First, our clinically oriented faculty members are well aware of the dynamics cited above, but many faculty members are insulated from it. I encourage those in the latter group to be supportive of your clinical colleagues. Second, I am sincerely interested in seeking your input; if you have good ideas, bring them forward. Third, I believe that each of us needs to be thoughtful and open to our Methodist counterparts. We all have friends in these Methodist groups. Talk to them, assure them of our interest in coupling their long-term success and ours, and discern the reasons for their

discomfort. Finally, I wish to assure you that we are being proactive in addressing these issues in order to create an even better future for the entire School of Medicine.

Let's make sure that we maintain the proper context. Overall, the School is doing better than at any time in its history in all of its missions. We received a laudatory review of our educational mission by the LCME. Our students continue to be of the highest caliber, they are enthused about our School, and we are bucking national trends by having increased numbers of applicants from Indiana. We have maintained and expanded our clinical volume. The number and the dollars from awarded grants have increased yet again. Our national ranking in terms of NIH funding improved from 42 in 2000 to 38 in 2001. The recently announced Central Indiana Life Sciences Initiative means that both the elected and corporate community of Indianapolis intend to partner with us to achieve our goals. The University is recommending that funding for two of our buildings have the highest priority in their capital request from the legislature. Recently, we learned that the legislature has awarded the School of Medicine the ability to float its own bonds for building projects to enable us to build more buildings with less upfront capital. What could be better evidence of the larger community's confidence in our ability to achieve our goals?

Thus, it is absolutely clear that things are moving in the right direction in terms of our academic missions. This means that if we can have equal success within Clarian, our rate of progress will accelerate even more. We are now at a point where we can position ourselves for the future. This inevitably means uncertainty coupled with opportunity. Human nature is to focus on the uncertainty. Let's not do that, but rather use this time to energize ourselves to leverage our numerous strengths and create the School that we envision for tomorrow.

As I noted at the beginning of this communication, we will have opportunity to discuss this and other issues at the Spring Faculty

Meeting May 16 at 4 p.m. in the ROC.

Craig Brater  
Dean, IUSM

[BACK TO TOP](#)

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## **Buschbacher named chairman of Physical Medicine and Rehab**

Ralph Buschbacher, MD, has been named chairman of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. He served as interim chair since October 1998. During that time he expanded the scope of the department and has gained national recognition for the residency program.

He has been a clinical associate professor in the department since July 1997.

Dr. Buschbacher has served as medical director of the IU Center for Occupational Rehabilitation since 1993 and director of the Methodist Occupational Health Center, Case Management Clinic.

Dr. Buschbacher completed his medical degree at the University of Virginia. His residency training was at the Medical College of Virginia for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## **Director of OHRP to present special lecture**

Greg Koski, PhD, MD, director of the Office for Human Research

Protections, will present a special lecture at 4 p.m., Wednesday, April 24, in the Emerson Hall auditorium. His topic is "Shutting down research in academic institutions: "Why has it happened and what can YOU do to prevent it."

The OHRP is the federal agency charged with oversight of human protections programs (IRBs), and was formerly called the OPRR. In the past few years, the OHRP/OPRR and the FDA have closed many academic institutions for a variety of reasons, the most recent was Johns Hopkins.

Dr. Koski will be in Indianapolis for the National Patient Safety Foundation conference, "Accountability in Clinical Research: Balancing Risk and Benefit." His keynote address will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, at the University Place Conference Center and Hotel. For additional information, see the conference Web site at [www.researchsafety.org](http://www.researchsafety.org).

IUSM Dean Craig Brater, MD, will present the opening remarks on April 25, the first full day of the conference. Other IUSM speakers include: Sharon Moe, MD, David Crabb, MD, and Eric Meslin, PhD.

A second conference, the NPSF Annenberg Conference, "Patient Safety: Let's Get Practical" will be April 22-24 at Marriott Indianapolis Downtown. For additional information, see [www.mederrors.org](http://www.mederrors.org).

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## **A Moment for Patient Safety and Quality Health Care**

*Seventh in a series*

By Herbert E. Cushing, M.D.

**Pressure-relieving bedding materials useful in prevention of**

## **pressure ulcers**

Among hospitalized patients, as many as 11 percent may develop pressure ulcers, localized areas of tissue damage or necrosis, also called bedsores. Of these patients, 54 percent are likely to be elderly. Treating a newly developed pressure ulcer results in increased length of stay and in costs of \$4,000 to \$40,000; untreated ulcers may result in cellulitis, osteomyelitis and sepsis.

To prevent bedsores, risk assessment is essential. Two scales, the Norton scale and the Braden scale, are widely used to assess risk; the first assesses activity, incontinence, mental status, mobility, and physical condition, and the second assesses activity, dietary intake, friction, mobility, sensory perception and skin moisture.

Many pressure-reducing bedding products are available. These include foam "egg-crate" mattresses and mattresses containing air, water or gel that is either static or flowing to alternate pressure points.

Although studies do not clearly define what is a standard hospital mattress and do not always differentiate among the many types of pressure-relieving devices, there is adequate evidence that specially designed surfaces do help prevent the development of pressure ulcers in high-risk patients. One study comparing standard foam mattresses to enhanced foam alternatives yielded 29 percent fewer pressure ulcers among patients with whom the enhanced bedding was used. Studies comparing effectiveness of the various pressure-relieving bedding did not yield clear conclusions.

For more information on this topic, see <http://ahrq.gov/clinic/ptsafety/chap27.htm>.

This is the seventh of 11 practices identified by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's Evidence-Based Practice Centers as "clear opportunities for safety improvement." Through a critical study of recent literature and sponsorship of clinical trials, these practices were found to have the greatest positive impact on patient outcomes, with the least downside risk, including cost, of the 79 practices studied.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## **Walnut Street library entrance closed**

The Walnut Street entrance to the Ruth Lilly Medical Library and Research Building is closed until further notice during construction of the People Mover.

Access to the building is available from the Medical Science Building and the Daly Center or through the skywalk from Indiana University Hospital. A map and additional news are available at [www.medlib.iupui.edu/news/construction.html](http://www.medlib.iupui.edu/news/construction.html).

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## **Pediatrics seeks subscribers for new e-mail newsletter**

"This Week at Riley in Pediatrics," a weekly schedule of pediatric teaching conferences held at Riley Hospital, will premiere May 13 as an e-mail newsletter. The first issue will list conferences for the week of May 27 through May 31.

The newsletter with a Web address for the current issue will be distributed weekly by subscription only. To subscribe, contact Alison

Lynch at 274-7812, or [alynch@iupui.edu](mailto:alynch@iupui.edu).

Regular news items in TWAR will include pediatric conferences, the pediatric resident morning report, departmental noon resident conferences, pediatric grand rounds, faculty research seminars, postgraduate course information, pediatric continuing medical education opportunities and special announcements.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## **Lawrence Roth to edit WHO cancer reference book**

Lawrence Roth, MD, professor emeritus of pathology and laboratory medicine, has been selected as one of two technical editors for an authoritative reference book on female breast and reproductive cancers.

The book, *Pathology and Genetics of Tumours of the Breast and Female Genital Organs*, will be available as a concise textbook prepared by a panel of experts and published quickly for pathologists and physicians worldwide. The book is scheduled to go to press in October.

Dr. Roth is an internationally recognized expert on the pathology of tumors of the female genital system. He has edited two books and more than 100 professional articles on the topic. Another pathologist from the United Kingdom has been selected as the technical editor for the breast cancer portions of the reference book.

Dr. Roth will spend about five months in Lyon, France, working for the International Agency for Research on Cancer, part of the World Health Organization.

IARC's mission is to coordinate and conduct research on the causes of human cancer, the mechanisms of cancer and to develop scientific

strategies for cancer control. The agency is involved in both epidemiological and laboratory research and disseminates scientific information through publications, meetings, courses and fellowships.

In addition to selecting photographs and illustrations, editing text and chapter introductions, Dr. Roth has contributed to the chapter on tumors of uncertain origin and miscellaneous neoplasms of the ovary.

"This undertaking is quite a challenge, but it also is an honor," said Dr. Roth.

Dr. Roth served as director of surgical pathology at Indiana University Hospital for 30 years, retiring in 2001. He still conducts clinical research, teaches, conducts conferences and gives lectures in the IU Department of Pathology.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## **Combined Seminar Series for May**

The Combined Seminar Series will be from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesdays, in the Cancer Research Institute auditorium. Speakers and their topics for May are:

**May 1:** Carlos Molina, PhD, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, New Jersey Medical School, "Aberrant Cell Signaling Pathways in Cancer Converge on the Deregulation of the Putative Tumor Suppressor ICER"

**May 8:** Paul Collodi, MD, Purdue University, "Progress Towards a Cell-mediated Gene Targeting Approach in Zebrafish"

**May 15:** James Marrs, PhD, associate professor, IU Department of

Medicine, "Zebrafish E-cadherin Controls Epiboly and Gastrulation Cell Movements"

**May 22:** Todd Evans, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, "Regulation of Hematopoiesis and Cardiogenesis by the RA-BMP-GATA Pathway"

**May 29:** Robert Scott, PhD, university distinguished professor, Gerwin-Pathology Cancer Research Professor, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, "Mitosis, The P2P-R Protein and Cancer Prevention"

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## **Carol D. Nathan Staff Scholarship applications due May 22**

Full-time IUPUI staff members with at least two years of service may be eligible for the Carol D. Nathan Staff Scholarship. To qualify, staff members must have at least two years of service, be pursuing an associate, baccalaureate or graduate degree at IUPUI and have completed 12 credit hours at IUPUI with a GPA of at least 3.0.

The deadline for applications is **May 22**.

The scholarship, which is awarded through the IUPUI Staff Council, will be in the amount of \$250, awarded at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters, provided the recipient is currently enrolled for at least 3 credit hours.

The Carol D. Nathan Staff Scholarship Award was established in honor of Carol D. Nathan, dean of Faculties (Retired), for her outstanding leadership and contributions to Staff Council and IUPUI.

To apply fill out the form on-line at [www.iupui.edu/~scouncil/nathan.html](http://www.iupui.edu/~scouncil/nathan.html), and write an essay of approximately 100 words describing why you want the scholarship. The application form also may be download (available in Word Perfect or MS Word format), or forms are available in the Student Financial Aid Office, room 103 in Cavanaugh Hall. The forms should then be submitted to the Staff Council Office, located in the Union Building, room 403.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## **AAMC seeks minority faculty fellowship nominations**

The AAMC is seeking nominations for Herbert W. Nickens, M.D. Minority Faculty Fellowships, named for the association's first vice president and director of the division of community and minority programs.

The fellowship awards recognize outstanding minority junior faculty who are committed to careers in academic medicine. Each fellowship recipient will receive a \$15,000 grant to support academic and professional activities.

Funding for the fellowship will begin January 1. The funds may be spent over a two-year period; recipients are required to submit final narrative and financial reports. Medical schools may nominate one faculty member for this award. Nominations must be received by **June 28**.

For additional information, contact Lois Colburn, AAMC Division of Community and Minority Programs, at 202-828-0579.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

## **Author Lucy King, MD, to be honored at reception**

Lucy King, MD, clinical professor of psychiatry emerita and a volunteer at the Ruth Lilly Medical Library will be honored with a wine and cheese reception at the Indiana Medical History Museum, 3045 W. Vermont, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 14. The reception is in honor of Dr. King's new book *Out From the Cloud at Seven Steeples 1878-1885: The Peculiarly Saddened Life of Anna Agnew at the Indiana Hospital for the Insane*.

Agnew's experiences at Seven Steeples (Indiana Hospital for the Insane, later Central State Hospital) under a variety of superintendents and a variety of treatments is a chronicle of the history of the mentally ill in America. "Moral treatment" encouraged the building of architecturally beautiful facilities like the Women's Building with the steeples to soothe inmates. Crafts and music activities were planned to help them recover and understanding physicians and nurses were part of "moral treatment." Often, however, poorly paid attendants mistreated the patients, and care for "the insane" varied from year to year.

When Anna Agnew emerged from Seven Steeples in 1885 she wrote a book which gained a national readership and made her an advocate for mental health reform. Dr. King, herself a psychiatrist, has interpreted Anna's story for the modern reader in this book, which documents a history from Anna's time to the present of people and problems too often misunderstood.

Dr. King will sign copies of her book, which sell for \$24.95 each.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## Honors

**Mark Braun, MD**, professor of pathology at IU- Bloomington, is the recipient of the first Indiana Partnership for Statewide Education Award for Innovative Teaching in a Distance Education Program. Braun was honored for the development of an interactive Web site that details 23 simulated medical cases. Second-year medical students "experience" diagnosing diseases when they use this program.

**John Manaloor, MS III**, has been awarded the IUPUI Community Service Leader Scholarship. This award was based on his exemplary service contributions to the community and campus. He was one of six students at IUPUI to receive the honor. As part of the award, John will identify a social issue of interest, volunteer at an agency that deals with the issue and serve as a catalyst to involve other students in the medical school as well as throughout the campus.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## In Print

**Bernadette Rodak, MS**, associate professor, Clinical Laboratory Science Program, has published the second edition of *Hematology Clinical Principles and Applications*. The book is available through W.B. Saunders and can be found at campus bookstores. In October, a CD version with figures from the text as well as case studies and review questions will be available.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## Scientific Calendar online

A comprehensive listing on IUSM seminars, lectures and Grand Rounds can be accessed at <http://www.medlib.iupui.edu/calendar/>. To place items on the Scientific Calendar, please forward them to Iona Sewell at [imsewell@iupui.edu](mailto:imsewell@iupui.edu).

To keep the electronic version of *Scope* as streamlined as possible, only seminars and lectures of general or multi-disciplinary interest will be included.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

---

## 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 four easy ways to submit story ideas or information to *Scope*:

- fax the information to 278-3502
- e-mail the information to [mhardin@iupui.edu](mailto:mhardin@iupui.edu)
- mail the information to Mary Hardin, LO 401, IUPUI
- paste your plain text message into Scope Web form on the IUSM faculty & staff page: <http://medicine.iu.edu/faculty/index.html>

Contributions submitted by e-mail should be forwarded in 12 point, plain text format.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

