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Cornetta new chairman of Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics

Kenneth Cornetta, MD, professor of medicine and director of the National Gene Vector Laboratory at IU, has been named chairman of Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics. He will assume his new duties July 1.

Dr. Cornetta was instrumental in promoting the IUSM bone marrow transplant program to one of national prominence while, at the same time, developing the viral vector facility, the only National Institutes of Health-funded vector laboratory for human gene therapy experiments in

the country.

He joined the IUSM faculty in 1991. Previously, he was an instructor and hematology fellow at the University of Wisconsin. He also was a National Research Service Award Fellow in the Molecular Hematology Branch at the NIH, and chief resident in the IUSM Department of Medicine.

Dr. Cornetta received his medical degree from Albany (N.Y.) Medical College.

Gail Vance, MD, has served as acting chairman of the department since March 1999. She is director of the Indiana Familial Cancer Program and associate professor of medical and molecular medicine.

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Deadline for Biotechnology Certificate Training Program registration fast approaching

The first class for the Biotechnology Certificate Training Program will begin their studies in August. The deadline for registering for the program is **Sunday, June 30**.

The IU Biotechnology Training Program is part of the IU-based Indiana Genomics Initiative (INGEN), a landmark endeavor made possible with a \$105 million grant from the Lilly Endowment. IUSM's nationally recognized research faculty will serve as course instructors.

Students in the program will have access to the most modern INGEN and School of Medicine core research facilities for cellular imaging, DNA sequencing, proteomics, gene expression, flow cytometry and bioinformatics. Already, a new teaching laboratory is under construction

for the Indianapolis-based program at the INGEN Biotechnology Research and Training Center.

The curriculum includes laboratory work in molecular biology/genomics, cell biology and proteomics. The program is designed for the continuing education of research technicians with baccalaureate degrees in academic and industrial laboratories as well as new college graduates who want to enhance their knowledge and skills in the latest biotechnology areas.

The certificate program takes a minimum of 1 ½ years to complete (three full-time semesters and one summer session); however, the program can be completed part-time in about 2 ½ years.

For additional information or a curriculum outline, see www.medicine.iu.edu/~gradschl/biotechTraining/ or contact Judy White, PhD, laboratory director of the Biotechnology Research Training Program, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 4053 Medical Sciences, 635 Barnhill Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5122; call 274-7151; or e-mail the program at biotech@iupui.edu.

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CDC to hold community forums on smallpox vaccine usage

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in conjunction with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, will hold community forums in early June to discuss vaccinia (smallpox) vaccine and its appropriate use. The community forums will provide an opportunity for feedback, which will be used by the ACIP as it reviews its recommendations related to vaccinia vaccine and reports them to the Department of Health and Human Services by June 20 deadline.

The CDC has organized four one-day community forums on smallpox vaccination issues that will be held on in New York (**June 6**), San Francisco (**June 6**), St. Louis (**June 8**), and San Antonio (**June 11**). Since IU School of Medicine faculty may be directly impacted by recommendations for smallpox vaccination, the CDC is inviting their attendance and participation at these meetings.

The risk for smallpox occurring as a result of a deliberate release by terrorists is not known, but is considered very low. However, the potential risk prompted HHS to purchase enough doses of smallpox (vaccinia) vaccine to protect the entire nation in the event of an outbreak. This purchase, which is expected to result in the availability of about 286 million doses by early 2003, has fostered a national dialogue on the current recommendations for use of the smallpox vaccine.

Detailed information on the meetings, locations, dates and times can be found at www.medicine.iu.edu/disaster/index.html.

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Combined Seminar Series for June

The Combined Seminar Series, with presentations from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays in the IU Cancer Research Institute auditorium, has three speakers schedule for June.

June 12: Stephen Williams, MD, director, IU Cancer Center, and George Sandusky, DVM, PhD, senior research scientist, Eli Lilly and Co., "The IU-Lilly Tissue Procurement Bank"

June 19: Sean Morrison, PhD, assistant professor of internal medicine and of cell and development biology, and assistant investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Biology, University of Michigan, "Stem Cells and the

Generation of Neural Diversity"

June 26: David Ingram, MD, fellow in neonatal-perinatal medicine, Department of Pediatrics, IUSM, and Wells Center for Pediatric Research faculty candidate, "Biochemical and Phenotypic Characterization of Heterozygous Inactivation of the Nf1 Tumor Suppressor Gene in Mice."

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IHIF conference and exhibits - June 4

The Indiana Health Industry Forum Conference and Innovation Showcase will be Tuesday, June 4, in the Indiana Convention Center.

Admission is \$35 in advance and \$50 at the door.

Stanley Crooke, MD, PhD, founder, chairman and CEO of Isis Pharmaceuticals Inc., is the keynote speaker at the luncheon.

The conference begins at 9 a.m. with presentations by Leighton Read, MD, an officer with Alloy Ventures; Michael Weinstein, an analyst with JP Morgan; and Michael Kluger, senior principal with Merrill Lynch Healthventures Fund.

Samuel Nussbaum, MD, executive vice president and chief medical officer with Anthem, Inc., will present "Assessing the Value of Medical Technology."

The afternoon session will feature Clement McDonald, MD, PhD, director of Regenstrief Institute, moderating a session on Health System Change, and George Wodicka, PhD, professor and director of Biomedical Engineering Department at Purdue University moderating a

session on Health Product Discovery and Development.

Health industry and biotechnology displays will be in the exhibit hall during the day-long conference.

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Scholar Chip Classic - June 5

The sixth annual Scholar Chip Golf Classic, sponsored by the IU Alumni Association, will be Wednesday, June 5, at Hanging Tree Golf Club. The tournament pairs foursomes of alumni and students against teams from the schools of law, dentistry and medicine.

The cost is \$150 for individuals or \$300 for team registration. The fee also covers the cost for the student. Net proceeds go to support student scholarships at each of the three schools.

For information call Stefan Davis at 274-2317, or e-mail him at ssdavis@iupui.edu

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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.

To keep the electronic version of Scope as streamlined as possible, only

seminars and lectures
of general or multi-disciplinary interest will be included.

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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 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
- 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.

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