Nalin named to graduate medical education post

Peter Nalin, MD, associate professor of clinical family medicine, has been named associate dean for graduate medical education effective July 1.

Dr. Nalin will provide leadership and oversight of graduate medical education, assume leadership of the Internal Residency Reviews, supervise the role of residency directors, serve as the designated institutional officer for the Indiana University School of Medicine as it reports to the Accreditation Council on Medical Education, continue the successful institutional accreditation with the ACGME, chair the GME Committee of the School of Medicine, and lead the implementation of new and current educational programs regarding the ACGME competencies, including program assessments, evaluations, and outcomes. As with all educational deans, the associate dean for graduate medical education will report to the office of the executive associate dean for educational affairs.

Dr. Nalin completed his undergraduate work at Cornell University and received his medical degree from the University of Vermont in 1989. He has been a faculty member in the IU Department of Family Medicine since 2001.

He is past president of the National Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors and is the chair-elect of the Organization of Program Directors Association. Currently Dr. Nalin serves as IU/Methodist Family Practice Residency program director, a position he will relinquish when he assumes his new duties as associate dean for graduate medical education.

IUMG names new chief business intelligence officer

Robert K. Stimac has been appointed chief business intelligence officer, IU Medical Group. Formerly an information management consultant for health-care consulting firms, Stimac brings 15 years of IT and health-care operations senior management experience to the position.
In his position at IUMG, Stimac will work with hardware/networking, software implementation and maintenance, training and systems support, reporting, decision support as well as the Internet and web-based technologies.

M&M: Mindfulness in Medicine

Learning Early

The following story was shared by a first-year medical student at IUSM-Northwest. The response was written by Pat Bankston, PhD, assistant dean and director, IUSM-Northwest, and professor of anatomy and cell biology and pathology.

(In only her eighth week in medical school, the student arrived at the clinic to find her preceptor with many patients waiting to be seen. With a big exam only three days away -- including studying the anatomy of the heart -- she had mixed emotions about her assignment of an afternoon at a local family practice clinic.)

Student’s experience: This program concentrates on patient-centered learning, so I had begun my history-taking training already, while also studying the intricacies of gross anatomy, embryology and histology in the classroom. My preceptor told me this was a chance to try out my new skills and asked if I would go see the patient in room 3. Trying to look calm, I was actually in a state of panic at the prospect of interviewing a real patient this early in medical school.

The patient complained about the remnants of a recent cold and some esophageal reflux. Because I was studying the heart for my upcoming exam, I had learned that heart problems in women often presented with different symptoms than men, and heart pain could feel like the pain of esophageal reflux. As I interviewed her, I noticed that, even though she said the pain was localized, her hand movements described a more radiating pain. She said the pain was intermittent at first, but had become constant in the past several weeks. When the doctor came into the room, I told her about the patient’s cold and esophageal reflux pain and mentioned my concerns about her heart.

The doctor ordered an immediate EKG. After comparing the new EKG to an older one in the chart, with a clearly surprised glance in my direction, she and I returned to the patient’s room. My preceptor informed the patient that despite the probability that her cold and esophageal reflux were the cause of her symptoms, some new findings about her heart required her to get it checked out right away. As we left the room, the preceptor told me that she would not have expected a first-year student to pick up on a possible underlying heart issue with this patient and that I had done a great job. It was then that I was reminded that the books and exams are preparations for these kinds of interactions with patients. So I took a deep breath and was thankful for this first moment that helped me refocus on why I’m here in medical school.

Response: I heard this story in the histology lab the next morning, while we were reviewing slides of the myocardium for the upcoming exam. I was very gratified. We spend a lot of time, money and effort to provide students with history and physical examination training, with standardized patients and preceptor visits, starting on day one of our curriculum. We believe that when students begin their professional training in all aspects of being a physician early, it helps them understand the need for hard work in the classroom for the sake of being the best doctor they can be for their patients. Our problem-based learning curriculum, which uses case studies in basic science classes every other day for two years, makes it clear to students that what they are learning has relevance to their future care of patients. This student’s experience, which reminded her of her ultimate goal in patient care, is our reward for designing and implementing this innovative approach to our student’s training. Even more importantly, it might have saved a patient’s life.

M&M: Mindfulness in Medicine is an editorial collaboration among the Teacher-Learner Advocacy Committee, the Relationship-Centered Care Initiative, and the Office for Medical Education and Curricular Affairs. Each column features true stories, letters, poetry or art from members of the IUSM campus community. Comments, questions,
submissions or ideas for columns may be sent to meca@iupui.edu.

**IUCC hosts National Cancer Survivors Day events**

The IU Cancer Center will host its annual celebration of National Cancer Survivors Day, *Celebrating Life and the Spirit of Survivorship*, Tuesday, May 30, and Wednesday, May 31, in the Indiana Cancer Pavilion. Patients, their families and caregivers are encouraged to attend this free event. A health fair, watercolor and mosaic art activities, free hand massages, live music, a guest speaker and awards ceremony are event highlights.

For more information, contact Michelle Lucke at mlucke@iupui.edu or visit the IU Cancer Center Web site at [http://cancer.iu.edu/](http://cancer.iu.edu/).

**Holiday library hours**

IUSM Medical Library hours for the Memorial Day weekend are:

- Saturday, May 27 Closed
- Sunday, May 28 Open noon to 9 pm (regular hours)
- Monday, May 29 Closed

Email Elaine Skopelja at eskopelj@iupui.edu with any questions or comments.

**IUCC Combined Seminar Series on break**

IU Cancer Center Combined Seminar Series, which typically meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, will be on break during June. No seminars are scheduled.

**LAMP seminar – June 2**

The June 2 Leadership in Academic Medicine Program (LAMP) will be "Key Elements of a Successful Academic Career" presented by Maurice Hitchcock, EdD. The program will be from 1 to 4:30 p.m. in the Riley Outpatient Center, lower level conference rooms A and B. Lunch is provided.

Dr. Hitchcock is a nationally recognized leader and expert in faculty development. He is currently professor and director of the Division of Medical Education at the University of Southern California School of Medicine. He also holds an appointment in the School of Education at USC where he is an active mentor and chair for health professions faculty pursuing graduate training in Education.

His program, the last LAMP session for this academic year, will tackle such questions as:

- What are the core elements needed to achieve and sustain a successful academic career?
- What does the literature tell us about "Quick Starter Junior Faculty?"
- How can the lessons learned from quick starters be used to make changes that will improve chances for career success?
- How important is the influence of a network of colleagues on career success?
How can an individual improve her/his effectiveness through collaboration?

Since lunch will be served as part of this session please RSVP to Kelli Diener at kas1@iupui.edu, or 278-5461.

Cook Group story featured at next "New Economy" seminar

The story of the Cook Group, which grew from Bill Cook's spare bedroom to a global medical instruments enterprise and the formation of Cook Pharmica and Cook Biotech Inc., will be the subject of the next Techpoint "New Economy New Rules" seminar on Friday, June 2, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at Barnes & Thornburg, 11 South Meridian St., Indianapolis.

Speakers discussing Cook's past, present and future will include Dan Peterson, vice president industry and government affairs, Cook Group Inc.; Tedd Green, director of business affairs, Cook Pharmica; and Dan Sirota, senior global project manager, Cook Inc.

There is no charge for the event, which includes continental breakfast, but registration is requested via the web at http://www.techpoint.org/eventdetail.aspx?id=599 or by calling 317-231-7356. If you register and become unable to attend, please email deb.hallberg@btlaw.com.

The program will be available via video conference at Barnes & Thornburg offices and other locations in Indiana, Chicago and Washington D.C. -- see the web site for details.

Teacher-Learner Advocacy Committee workshop

The Teacher Learner Advocacy Committee will host the workshop, "Diagnosing Your Learner," from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, June 8, in the Riley Outpatient Center auditorium. The presenter will be Jean Molleston, MD, IU clinical professor of pediatrics.

In this interactive workshop, participants will categorize learning issues commonly encountered in students, residents and fellows. Participants will brainstorm regarding potential interventions on several model cases.

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the workshop. Reservations may be made by email to kdiener@iupui.edu.

Conference to focus on children with disabilities

The IU School of Law Conference on Health, Disability and the Law will be Friday, June 9, in Lawrence W. Inlow Hall. The conference, “Individuals with disabilities Education Act 2004: What the Changes Mean for Indiana’s Children,” begins at 8 a.m.

Reed Martin, JD, an attorney who has concentrated on special education rights for over 34 years, is the keynote speaker. Other presenters will include John Rau, MD, director of the Riley Child Development Center, who will discuss “Treatment of Medical Issues in the School System.”

Lawyers, physicians, social workers and therapists are encouraged to attend. The deadline for registration is Thursday, June 1, and the cost is $50. For more information, call 274-1951, or email hamccabe@iupui.edu.
Clinical research fellowships available

Special research fellowships in health services, outcomes and implementation research are offered by the Center for Excellence Implementing Evidence Based Practice at the Roudebush VA Medical Center beginning in July.

The center’s mission is to discover, implement and sustain the adoption of best practices, using health information technology, to improve health-care delivery. Coursework in clinical research methods, clinical trials, implementation research, biostatistics, epidemiology, grant writing, research ethics, informatics, patient safety and numerous electives is offered by IU and Purdue faculty on the IUPUI campus. A master of science in clinical research is available as an option within the fellowship.

Areas of research include (but are not limited to):

- Health services and outcomes research
- Medical informatics and health information technology
- Implementing evidence-based practice
- Patient safety
- Mental health, stroke, pain, cancer, and diabetes as special emphasis conditions

Physicians must be either board-eligible or certified in a recognized medical specialty. Applicants from clinical disciplines requiring doctoral level education to qualify as an independent practitioner must possess the required degree (e.g. DDS, DPM, PhD, etc.). Nurses, social workers, dieticians and health-care administrators must at least have a master’s degree. Applicants in health systems fields that do not involve clinical certification or licensure (e.g. anthropology, sociology, computer science/medical informatics, engineering, etc.) must hold a PhD, or equivalent degree or demonstrate that all degree requirements have been completed.

Fellowship positions are available beginning in July through September 2006 and provide up to 2 years of funding for formal training and mentored clinical research. In addition to a competitive stipend, benefits include health insurance, tuition and fees, and pilot research funding. If you know of qualified candidates, contact Kurt Kroenke, MD at kkroenke@iupui.edu, or 630-7447. Candidates must be U.S. citizens.

Outrun the Sun run-walk

The second annual Outrun the Sun Inc. Run/Walk to benefit melanoma education and research will take place on the IUPUI campus at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 3. After-race festivities, including food and music, will be in the Michael A. Carroll Stadium. Lead sponsor for the event is Dermatology, Inc. Melanoma is the number one cancer striking young women ages 20-29. If not treated early, melanoma can be fatal. By 2010, one in 50 Americans will be diagnosed with melanoma. To register for the run/walk event or for more information about melanoma, visit www.outrunthesun.org.

This week on Sound Medicine

Tune in at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 28, to Sound Medicine, the weekly radio program co-produced by IUSM and WFYI Public Radio (90.1 FM) in Indianapolis. The program is hosted by Barb Lewis. Co-hosts of this week’s program are Kathy Miller, MD, Ora Pescovitz, MD, and Frank Messina, MD.

Ann Pike Paris, RN, a public health pediatric nurse in Buffalo, NY, and editor for the Journal of Pediatric Nursing, will explain how to recognize an Internet health hoax.

May is Asthma Awareness Month. Frederick Leickly, MD, a pulmonologist at Riley Hospital for Children, and chair of the Indiana Joint Asthma Coalition, will discuss the challenges of treating children with asthma.
New York City author Joshua Shenk, who has published a new book about Abraham Lincoln, will discuss how the 16th president transcended his mental illness to lead the country through the Civil War.

Co-host Kathy Miller, MD, will share her final installment of her pregnancy journal.

Archived editions of *Sound Medicine*, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at [www.soundmedicine.iu.edu/](http://www.soundmedicine.iu.edu/).

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**Scientific Calendar online**

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

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**Scope submission guidelines**

*Scope* wants your news items.

The deadline for submission is 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays. *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*:

- e-mail the information to mhardin@iupui.edu
- mail the information to Mary Hardin, Z-7, Ste. 306, IUPUI
- fax your information to (317) 278-8722

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

In the interest of accuracy, please do NOT use:

- acronyms
- abbreviations
- campus building codes (use full, proper name of building and include the room number)
- Dr. as a preface before names (designate MD or PhD)

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