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Allen named Smith Professor

Stephen Allen, MD, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, has been named the James Warren Smith Professor of Clinical Microbiology.

This endowed professorship was established in 2000 in the name of James W. Smith, MD, former chairman of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. Dr. Allen is a graduate of IUSM and completed his residency at Vanderbilt University.

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Travers becomes the Kampen-Norins Professor

Effective July 1, Jeffrey B. Travers, MD, PhD, will become the Kampen-Norins Professor of Dermatology.

The Kampen family established the chair in memory of the late husband and father and in honor of Mr. Kampen's physician and friend, Arthur L. Norins, MD, former chairman of the department.

Since joining the IUSM staff in 1995, Dr. Travers held appointments in the departments of dermatology, pediatrics, and pharmacology and toxicology.

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Thursday Thoughts

This originated in "Thursday Thoughts," a column distributed by Daniel F. Evans, president and CEO of Clarian Health Partners.

A "tragedy of the commons" in health care

Our seemingly insatiable appetite for health care on demand calls to mind the age-old tragedy of the "commons." Several decades ago, biologist Garrett Hardin described in agrarian terms the dilemma society faces when seeking to allocate finite resources for the public good.

In his *Science Magazine* essay, "Tragedy of the Commons," Hardin wrote of the common pastureland in olden times that was open to all. The arrangement worked well for centuries owing to tribal wars, poaching and disease, which kept the numbers of both man and beast well below the carrying capacity of the land.

Yet, the day eventually would arrive when society had achieved greater stability and each rational herdsman, seeking to maximize profit, continued to add an animal to the herd, then another and another. Ultimately, the freedom of the commons led to the destruction of the commons, as the land could no longer sustain the growing herds. Political and economic upset of the entire community was often the result.

Inasmuch as health care consumers assume that health care resources are unlimited, the collapse of our current system – our "health care commons" – is not a far-fetched possibility.

The "Hobson's Choice" approach to health care

Tobias Hobson was the owner of a thriving carrier and horse rental business in Cambridge, England, near the turn of the 17th century. The many horses in his stable led his customers to believe they had a wide selection from which to choose. Hobson, however, "obliged" his customers to take whatever horse was nearest the stable door – so they had no real choice at all. Although they could see a tantalizingly wide selection of horses, only "Hobson's Choice" was available to them.

Health care consumers in the United States face a similar "choice" today. American automobile manufacturers announce worker layoffs, citing health care costs as the culprit. Starbucks says it pays more for employee health care coverage than for premium coffee beans. And the letter from your HR department advises that you can once again look forward to higher health care deductibles and co-pays.

Employers large and small are feeling the pain, and so are their employees. What's feeding this increasingly downward spiral? Simply put, it's an unfettered free enterprise system and the collective sense that, as Americans, we're all entitled to unlimited health care.

Whose problem is it?

Who among us doesn't want or expect the very best health care when we are sick or ailing? Why are emergency departments across the country becoming the point of primary care for an increasing number of patients? And who doesn't want everything done for mom or dad in their last months of life?

At the same time, we aren't exactly taking ownership of the problem. Medical costs for obesity-related illness add up to about \$75 billion every year in this country; and Indiana continues to distinguish itself nationally in this category. Smoking adds another \$75 billion, plus \$80 billion in lost productivity. Indiana remains among the nation's leaders in prevalence of smoking. Throw in alcohol, drug abuse, STDs and teen pregnancy, and you've added hundreds of billions more to our annual national health care total.

As health care costs rise dramatically each year, employers and employees bear the lion's share of the financial burden. More employers no longer offer insurance for their workers. In fact, 85 percent of the uninsured are employed or are in working families. For many of them, hospital ERs become their primary source of health care, placing an additional burden on already-overloaded hospitals.

To further compound the "tragedy," consider the impact when vital resources of the commons are removed, courtesy of the free market.

The problem posed by specialty hospitals

Full-service hospitals provide a wide and complex range of services, some of which are well supported by the current payment system (commercial insurance or government transfer payments) and others that are either not well supported or reimbursed at all. Enterprising physicians and investors target the more lucrative services and develop specialty hospitals, seeking to lure and remove a key revenue stream from the full-service hospital. The remaining physicians, staff and patients are left to figure out how to sustain the range of services required for the health and well-being of the community.

If the tragedy of the commons in health care is to be averted, two things must happen: we must assume individual responsibility for our health; and there must be some degree of societal control or regulation in the health care marketplace.

As part of a larger society, we all have an ethical and moral responsibility to practice a healthy lifestyle. To their credit, Governor Daniels, Mayor Peterson, and the Indianapolis City-County Council all have initiated fitness and wellness campaigns designed to encourage Hoosiers to get in shape and to be better informed about good health and nutrition.

Until or unless the day arrives when society and our health care payment system rewards preventive health measures and wellness, full-service hospitals simply cannot afford to hemorrhage the more fully-reimbursed services without endangering the commons.

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Volunteers needed for Indiana State Fair-Deadline Extended

IUSM will participate in Indiana University's 12-day presence at the 2006 Indiana State Fair, Aug. 9-21. Sound Medicine will be the focus of one of the tent displays and others will include information about patient treatments and research in the neurosciences, diabetes, cardiovascular, vascular and cancer specialties. Faculty, staff and students are highly encouraged to volunteer Thursday, Aug. 10, or Sunday, Aug. 13.

Two-hour shifts are available between 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. T-shirts and admission to the State Fair will be provided. For more information or to volunteer, contact iusm@indiana.edu by **Friday, July 7**. Please include your name, daytime phone number and preferred time slots.

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IUSM publication seeks submissions

Caring Attitudes will be published this fall at IUSM as a collective body of creative work and a source of inspiration for all students, faculty, staff and patients at the medical center.

The publication will be placed in the white coat pocket of matriculating first-year students to serve as a source of renewal reminding them of the caring attitudes that already exist in the IUSM community.

Caring Attitudes is an opportunity for people from different backgrounds to reflect on experiences that have positively impacted their careers, altered their view of the health-care system or reaffirmed the desire to dedicate their lives to teaching and serving others.

Submission of essays, narratives, poetry, journal entries, photographs, and artwork is encouraged. Submissions can be emailed to lirhickm@iupui.edu, or mailed to Dean's Office for Medical Education and Curricular Affairs, Indiana University School of Medicine, 714 N. Senate Ave., Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46202-3297.

The deadline for submission is **Thursday, July 20**. Questions can be directed to Lindsey Hickman at

lirhickm@iupui.edu.

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OMSL represents IUSM at national conference

Patricia Keener, MD, and Stephen Kirchhoff, MHA, traveled to Minneapolis, Minn., June 1-3, with four medical student representatives for the 2006 Community Campus Partnerships for Health National Conference.

The team, including Molly Bozic, MD, Missy Spurr, MS 4, Michelle Ojemuyiwa, MS 4, and Stephanie Cohen, MS 4, presented a 90-minute workshop, "Nurturing the Next Generation of Social Entrepreneurs, Community Leaders, and Health-Care Advocates: the Indiana University School of Medicine Office of Medical Service-Learning Experience," to over 500 faculty, students and community leaders.

The workshop featured a simulated Student Advisory Group meeting to showcase the many benefits of a student-led service-learning model and concluded with an interactive question and answer session with audience members.

The IUSM Relationship-Centered Care Initiative and the Office of Associate Dean of Medical Student Affairs generously supported the student workshop expense.

The Office of Medical Service Learning, directed by Patricia Keener, MD, and Patricia Treadwell, MD, facilitates the development of social and community oriented medical students through local, national and international service-learning projects. Learn more at <http://www.medicine.iu.edu/~omsl/>.

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Personalized funding alerts

The Community of Science will notify individuals by email each week of new funding opportunities in your research area. There is no charge for IUSM to use this service which is made available through an IUPUI-IU subscription. To set up a profile, including key words for identification of appropriate funding opportunities, go to registration.cos.com/cos/basic.html. If assistance is needed in setting up the profile, contact IUSM librarian Carole Gall at 274-1411 or cfgall@iupui.edu.

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Neaves presentation available on line

A recording of the June 21 IUSM All-School Grand Rounds "Stem Cell Research: Science, Religion and Law," presented by William Neaves, PhD, president and CEO of Stowers Institute for Medical Research, has been posted on IUSM ANGEL. See <https://daly.medicine.iu.edu/med>, click "IUSM Infoshare" in the left column to access the video.

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Medical Library begins new Saturday hours

The IUSM Medical Library will begin new Saturday hours June 24. The library will be open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. to individuals with IUPUI or IU cards and it will be open to the public from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Questions can be answered by Elaine Skopelja, who can be contacted at 274-8358 or eskopelj@iupui.edu.

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Volunteers needed for Race2Replace

The Indiana University Cancer Center is coordinating the local volunteer activities for Race2Replace, hosted by the Discovery Channel and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. The event will be in Indianapolis on Saturday, Aug. 12, and is expected to draw cyclists from across the Midwest to compete for a place on the Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team.

Nearly 350 volunteers are needed to provide full coverage for the track and make the event a success. Job descriptions include registration, crowd control, race staging and information-area staffing.

The Lance Armstrong Foundation has pledged 20 percent of the event proceeds to the IU cancer program.

Email bsmith@iupui.edu to join the volunteer crew.

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Roob to speak at special faculty meeting

A special IUSM faculty meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 26, in Myers Auditorium at Wishard Memorial Hospital. The program is planned for the grand rounds time most departments have on Wednesday mornings and Mitch Roob will speak on "Affordability of Health Care and the Need for New Models." Roob is the secretary of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration.

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2006 summer seminars for undergraduates interested in a career in medicine

Four seminars featuring speakers knowledgeable about navigating the path to becoming a physician will be offered again this summer. These seminars and panel discussions are intended for college students who are working on our campuses and are interested in a career in medicine.

All seminars will be held in the Van Nuys Medical Science Building, rooms 311 A & B. The series is free and participants are welcome to bring their lunch. Each session begins at noon and ends by 1 p.m. The schedule:

Session 1: Undergraduate Preparation for Medical School

Robert M. Stump, Jr., Director of Admissions
Thursday, July 6, 2006

Session 2: Life as a Medical Student

Medical Student Panel
Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Session 3: Careers in Primary and Specialty Care

Physician Panel
Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Session 4: Financing Medical School

Jose Espada, Director of Student Financial Services
Tuesday, July 25, 2006

The series is sponsored by the School of Medicine Admissions Office. For further information, call 274-3772.

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Biotechnology Training Program accepting student applications

The IUSM and IU Graduate School offer a Biotechnology Training Program for technician employees to enhance their knowledge base and skills in basic biomedical research. A 17-credit certificate involving hands-on laboratory and problem-based learning courses is offered on a part-time basis (late afternoons and early evenings). Students who complete the certificate may continue in an MS degree. This academic program is housed in the state-of-the-art Biotechnology Research and Training Center. See www.medicine.iu.edu/%7Egradschl/biotechTraining/index.html for program and contact information. Applications are being accepted through **Friday, Aug. 11**.

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Honors

Sharron Grannis, MD, assistant residency director, has been appointed the director of the IU Family Practice Residency, effective July 1. Graduating from the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine as a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, she completed her residency at the MidMichigan Family Practice Residency Program. Dr. Grannis joined the IU Department of Family Medicine in 2001 and was appointed assistant residency director in 2002.

Rock Tiffault, MD, will become the assistant residency director. He completed his medical degree at the New York University School of Medicine and his residency at the IU Family Practice Residency. Immediately following graduation, Dr. Tiffault joined the Department of Family Medicine as an assistant professor of clinical family medicine.

Peter Nalin, MD, will leave his post as residency director to become the associate dean for graduate medical education for the IU School of Medicine. Dr. Nalin received his medical degree from the University of Vermont and completed his residency training at Lancaster General Hospital Family Medicine Residency. He has been a faculty member in the IU Department of Family Medicine since 2001.

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This week on Sound Medicine

Tune in at 4 p.m. Sunday, July 2, 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 David Crabb, MD, and Kathy Miller, MD.

Avoiding hand injuries from fireworks and other safety tips for Independence Day will be discussed by Tom Fischer, a hand surgeon at the Indiana Hand Center in Indianapolis

Robert McDonald, MD, and Merv Yoder, MD, will discuss turning medical research into business opportunities. Dr. McDonald is president of Aledo Consulting and clinical director of life science initiatives for the Johnson Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the IU Emerging Technologies Center. Dr. Yoder is co-founder of EndGenitor, a life sciences based company in Indianapolis. He is also professor of pediatrics, biochemistry, and molecular biology at the IU School of Medicine.

Eric Meslin, PhD, director of the Indiana University Center for Bioethics, will talk about the possibility of an avian flu pandemic and the necessary preparations. Dr. Meslin joins Sound Medicine the first week of each month to discuss the latest developments in the field of bioethics.

Archived editions of *Sound Medicine*, as well as other helpful health information, can be found at www.soundmedicine.iu.edu/.

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Continuing Medical Education at your fingertips

Online registration and a list of grand rounds, conferences and courses are available on the Continuing Medical Education website at cme.medicine.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. 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.

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