

## News from Medical Sciences

Indiana University School of Medicine – Bloomington Campus

### Medical School, Medical Sciences Expand Program

National studies have for some time predicted a nationwide physician shortage. To help alleviate this shortage, class size at the Indiana University School of Medicine will increase incrementally by 30% over the next few years. Current plans call for the class size to increase from 284 first year students to 364 first year students by 2012, with the additional students to be placed at the regional centers. Medical Sciences in Bloomington has accepted a class of 33 First Year students this year, who join 28 Second Year students. In the fall of 2010, the entering class will number 36 students, as will subsequent classes.

The increase in class size will also mean changes to third and fourth year education. Currently, virtually all third and fourth year students do their rotations in Indianapolis. IUSM will be working with areas around the state to set third and fourth year rotation opportunities. The Medical Sciences Program in Bloomington will  
*[continued on page 3]*

### Save the Date!

The IU – Purdue football game is on **November 21, 2009**, in Bloomington. The Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis Alumni Association plans to sponsor a Tail Gate Event before the game at Hoosier Village.

- Tailgate will be November 21 beginning at 10 am in Hoosier Village. Game time is noon.
- Price will be \$15/entrance to Hoosier Village for non-members of the IU Alumni Association and \$10/member; \$5.00/child. Game tickets will be available on the Hoosier's web site at \$50/ticket. Parking is in the Blue Lot at \$10/car. There may be \$15/car parking spots available at the DeVault Alumni Center.

Meet up with your friends and family before the game! Please let us know if you plan to come! [rasander@indiana.edu](mailto:rasander@indiana.edu)

## Medical Students Travel Abroad

Last summer three students received financial aid, thanks to donors to Medical Sciences, for their wide-spread study-based travels. The **Tal Bosin International Study Fund**, started in 2003 to honor the global scope of Dr. Bosin's educational interests, has supported many students from Medical Sciences in their study abroad. The **Medical Sciences Excellence Fund** is a broad fund which recognizes excellence in students, faculty and staff.

**Alex Malone** participated in the Interhealth Medical Spanish Program in Ecuador. While in Ecuador, which Alex calls "one of the most beautiful places in the world," he received daily Spanish lessons and learned about health care in a country with great disparity in health care that people receive. He was amazed at the unique and interesting ways that people came up with to provide healthcare to those with little access. Some of his fond memories include getting to work alongside Ecuadorian medical students in a hospital in the capital city Quito and getting to witness the "alternative" health care options that many chose over Western medicine.

**Matt Turissini**, who plans to emphasize global health in his medical career, spent ten weeks in Eldoret, Kenya, with a model program. The Academic Model for Providing Access to Healthcare (AMPATH) has grown out of the IU-Kenya Partnership. Eight years after starting, the program is treating about 80,000 people with HIV throughout western Kenya, with additional focuses on economic development, food programs, testing and counseling, and treating other chronic illnesses. Matt was able to live in a dorm and spend a lot of time with Kenyan medical students from Moi University, one of the two medical schools in Kenya.

During his first four weeks in Eldoret, Matt learned about different departments of the hospital and sections of AMPATH, scrubbed in on a neurosurgery, did a parent education on the prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV, met with HIV-positive farmer groups, did adult and pediatric rounds, and saw a number of other areas.

Unfortunately, a knee injury the day before the start of a shared curriculum with Moi medical students forced Matt onto crutches for next four weeks, so he was unable to take part in the program at a rural clinic a few hours away. Undeterred, he took the opportunity to work in the microfinance department of AMPATH and with Tumaini Children's Center, an organization starting up to work with street kids based on a MPH master's thesis of Medical Sciences alumni **Tim Mercer (MD 2009)**.



*A group of Kenyan farmers meeting with an AMPATH agricultural extension worker, as part of AMPATH's economic development work.*

**Lenny Weiss** traveled to and lived on the grounds of the Western Galilee Hospital in Nahariya, Israel in order to learn aspects of  
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**Medical Students  
Travel Abroad  
[continued]**

wartime trauma care, as well as the organization of a hospital system's emergency preparedness plan for operation under fire or for mass casualty incidents.

In the summer of 2006, Nahariya, the Western Galilee Hospital, and many other establishments in the region were assaulted by rocket fire. However, an extensive disaster plan, including a 450 bed underground hospital established years before these events, was successful in providing shelter from the attacks. In order to share this knowledge with the world the hospital has been hosting an Emergency Response Course to train healthcare professionals to prepare for and deal with disaster. Lenny was able to participate in

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**Medical School,  
Medical Sciences  
Expand Program  
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have a few third year students for fall 2010, increasing to about eight in the fall of 2011.

Planning for third and fourth year medical education in the Bloomington area has begun. One of the many strengths of the Medical Sciences Program is the faculty. More than 20 Medical Sciences faculty and over 100 adjunct and clinical faculty teach the first and second year courses. Many local physicians augment the curriculum with guest lectures on specific topics.

planning this year's upcoming course, as well as the hospital's training programs.

In addition to his focus on aspects of wartime care and disaster planning, Lenny was able to work with physicians in different departments, such as general and trauma surgery, emergency, anesthesiology, and radiology. It was, he says, "a really wonderful way to get a feel for different specialties' protocols and lifestyles, as well as to get to know the local people on a personal level and to see how Israeli healthcare functions in comparison to that in the US."

All three students were grateful for the opportunity to expand their medical horizons, and to obtain a unique perspective of global medicine. Our thanks go to donors to the **Tal Bosin International Study Fund** and the **Medical Sciences Excellence Fund** for making these experiences possible.

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The IU School of Medicine currently is the second largest school of medicine in the country. "The increase in student numbers will benefit the communities at the various medical education centers. Studies show that students are more inclined to establish a medical practice in a community where they have attended medical school or completed their post-graduate residency training," said Dr. Stephen Leapman, M.D., who retired in July as executive associate dean for educational affairs.

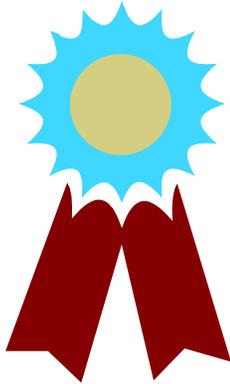
"This program expansion is positive for the students and for Hoosiers who will benefit from the increased availability of medical care," he said.

## Awards

Medical Sciences students were honored for their achievements at the annual Awards Banquet in May, 2009.

Graduate students who were recognized included **Nicole Nickerson**, who received the Paul M. Harmon Award for outstanding graduate student, and **Anna Tison**, who was recognized as an Outstanding AI.

The efforts of first year medical student class representatives **Tarah Brown** and **Rajeev Singh**, as well as second year class rep **Jen Pasco** were appreciated.



Class awards for outstanding students went to **Todd DeJulio** (Medical Sciences Award for biochemistry), **Sandeep Mehta** (Jay Thomas Award for physiology), **Jay Mast** (Richard L. Webb Award for anatomy), **Catie Luria** (Anthony C. Pizzo Award for pathology), **Lianna Heidt** (David K. Johnloz Award for medicine), and **Cole Beeler** (Charles E. Ody Award for pharmacology). The Margaret Zuchschwerdt award for service was presented to **Matt Gentry**.

## Grants and Fellowships

**Dr. Curt Balch** received a grant from Ovar'Coming Together for his work on the "Targeting of Ovarian Cancer-Initiating Cells by Epigenetic Therapies." Dr. Balch works in Dr. Ken Nephew's lab in Medical Sciences.

**Dr. Kenneth P. Nephew**, Professor of Cellular and Integrative Physiology and Obstetrics and Gynecology, received a grant from the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology to study "Novel Bioconjugates as Probes of Estrogen Receptors."

**Dr. Claire E. Walczak**, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, received continuing funding from NIH-NIGMS to study "Competing Mechanisms of Spindle Assembly."



## **Bernard (BC) Black-Schaffer**

November 22, 1910 – September 26, 2009

Dr. Bernard Black-Schaffer, known to his friends and colleagues as BC, taught pathology in the Medical Sciences Program in Bloomington from 1967 until his retirement in 1989. He was much beloved by his colleagues and students.

Dr. Black-Schaffer grew up in Newark, New Jersey, and was the first of his family to go to college. After studying at City College in New York, he went to medical school at the University of Vienna in Austria, where he met his future wife, Robin Black. He continued his training in clinical medicine and pathology at St. Barnabas Hospital in New Jersey, Cumberland Hospital in New York, Henry Ford Hospital in Michigan and Yale-New Haven Hospital in Connecticut. He held assistant professorships in pathology at the Medical College of Virginia, then at Duke University School of Medicine in North Carolina.

By 1950, Dr. Black-Schaffer's research into mechanisms of injury due to the effects of radiation led him to become the director of pathology for the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In that position he was responsible for the Allied investigation into the ongoing effects on human populations of the bombing of these two Japanese cities. These investigations remain the foundation of much of our present understanding of the human effects of radiation.

Upon returning to the US, Dr. Black-Schaffer became chief of pathology at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Cincinnati and taught pathology at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. In Cincinnati, his research ranged widely, from fluoridation as a means of preventing tooth decay, to cardiac function in very large and very small mammals. From his study of whale hearts, he was able to deduce that endocardial fibroelastosis, a condition that afflicts some people with enlarged hearts, is a compensatory mechanism that protects cardiac function. Using hamsters, he developed a model of suspended animation for NASA which would protect mammals from massive acceleration forces experienced during blast-off for interstellar voyages.

BC and his beloved wife of 70 years, Robin Black-Schaffer, continued to live in the Bloomington area after his retirement. Their daughter, Dorothy Belcher, lives in Bloomington; their son, **Dr. Stephen Black-Schaffer (MD '78)**, lives in Boston.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

*Thanks to all who returned updates from the last newsletter! We all enjoy hearing your news. Please continue to share your news and contact information with us...*

**James C. Shanks (PhD Northwestern University 1957)**, Professor Emeritus (ENT), joined the IUSM faculty in 1955. He continues to teach at the School of Dentistry (Orthodontics, Oral Facial Development). 317-253-7737

**George Tempel (PhD, 1971)**, lives in Charleston, SC, where he is the executive chair of the Charleston Democratic Party. [tempelge@bellsouth.net](mailto:tempelge@bellsouth.net)

**Ronald H. Freeman (PhD 1972)** stopped by the Medical Sciences office in July. He is retired from the University of Missouri School of Medicine but continues to teach 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year medical students primarily using problem based learning. His research interests were in renal physiology. His mentor and advisor when he was a graduate student was Dr. Bullock.

**Matt Will (MD 2005)** recently matched for a position at University of Michigan for a fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility. His area of research is reproductive ageing, and was the Administrative Chief Resident for his Ob/Gyn residency. Matt advises medical students to “study long and hard the first two years; what I’ve learned has become invaluable.” [mwill@unch.unc.edu](mailto:mwill@unch.unc.edu)

**Brian Jones (MD 2005)** is taking a 2-year leave of absence from a general surgery residency in Portland, OR, to join the lab of Dr. Tom Jaksic at Children's Hospital Boston; their research focuses on short bowel syndrome and Perenteral-Nutrition Associated Liver Injury. [briajone@alumni.indiana.edu](mailto:briajone@alumni.indiana.edu)

**Arlene Dent (MD 1999)** writes that Myka Camryn Dent was born on August 13, 2009. She weighed 7 pounds 10oz and was 21 inches long. “The delivery was thankfully uneventful! Thank goodness for epidurals too! We're working on and occasional naps. Both of us are doing well.” [arlene.dent@case.edu](mailto:arlene.dent@case.edu)

**Phil Abbosh (PhD 2005, MD 2008)** writes that Caroline Rose Abbosh was born at 11:48 on July 6, 2009. She was 8 lb 10 oz, 22 inches long, with 10 fingers and toes. Mom Stephanie is doing great, she can feel and wiggle toes again, and Max is an awesome big brother too. [jagerbreath@gmail.com](mailto:jagerbreath@gmail.com)

**John Wrasse (MD 2005)** returned to Bloomington to join Southern Indiana Pediatrics in their Bedford office. During his residency, John won the Sarah Riesz Award as the resident with exceptional communication skills. His daughter started kindergarten this fall. [jwrasse@gmail.com](mailto:jwrasse@gmail.com)

**Jennifer (Edwards) Whitham (MD 2006)** and **Josh Whitham (MD 2005)** welcomed a daughter, Margaret Grace, “Maggie,” on July 8, 2008. Josh finished his residency in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics and started as attending at Wishard Hospital in Indianapolis this fall. Jennifer finished her residency in Pediatrics and started Fellowship training in Pediatric Cardiology at Riley Hospital for Children in July, 2009. [jkwthitha@iupui.edu](mailto:jkwthitha@iupui.edu)



**Indiana University School of Medicine  
Medical Sciences at Bloomington  
Alumni and Friends Update 10/2009**

PLEASE type or print clearly!

Date form completed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ year of MD/MA/PhD \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home email \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Specialty \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Practice / Hospital \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Which address do you prefer for correspondence? Home \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_

Achievements, recognitions since medical school \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Research \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of special interest, hobbies \_\_\_\_\_

News to share (about yourself or other alumni) Use the back of the page if you need to \_\_\_\_\_  
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Any advice for students and new doctors? \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Thanks for keeping in touch! Please return to:**

**Medical Sciences, Jordan Hall 105, Bloomington, IN 47405**

or email to [rasander@indiana.edu](mailto:rasander@indiana.edu)

MEDICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, BLOOMINGTON  
Jordan Hall  
Bloomington, IN 47405-4401  
Address Service Requested