

The Edge



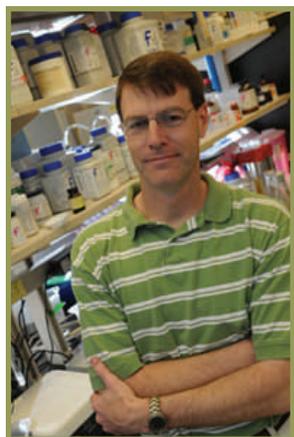
Volume 4, Issue 2

Winter 2009/2010

Science Without Borders

Critical pathway identified that may lead to novel cancer treatments

Lindsey Mayo, Ph.D., assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, has led a team of investigators from the Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM) and colleagues at



the University of Texas Southwestern and Case Western University in their discovery of a critical pathway that stimulates production of Mdm2, a protein which inhibits p53, and other tumor suppressors.

This new knowledge of how tumor suppressors, like p53, are turned on

and off may facilitate the development of new compounds which could bind to Mdm2 and inhibit the protein's attack on tumor suppressors.

The study appears in the January 2010 issue of the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. Congratulations to Dr. Mayo and his team for this significant discovery!

For more information on Dr. Mayo's research, please visit Dr. Mayo's IUSM [profile](#).

In this Issue

Science Without Borders
page 1

Student Spotlight
page 1

Resources for Current Students
page 2

IUSM Receives \$60 Million Grant
page 2

T32 Grant Renewed
page 2

Faculty Spotlight
page 3

Student Spotlight on Natalia VanDuyn

Toxicology Student Receives 2-year \$40,000 Grant from PhRMA Foundation

Natalia VanDuyn, a third year Toxicology doctoral student working in Dr. Richard Nass' lab, has been awarded a two-year grant from the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufactures of American (PhRMA). The grant will provide Natalia \$20,000 per year to continue her research.

The goal of the competitive grant program is to encourage promising pharmaceutical scientists and thus advance the pharmaceutical industry and public health as a whole. Congratulations Natalia!

For more details on PhRMA, visit the PhRMA Foundation [web site](#).

For more details on the research taking place in the Nass lab, please visit the Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology [web site](#).



Resources for Current Students

Interested in Meeting Prospective IBMG Students at the 2010 Campus Visits?

Consider volunteering for the IBMG Campus Visits held January 28th through 30th and February 25th through 27th. This is your opportunity to share what it is like to be a graduate student at the IUSM. If you are interested in volunteering for either weekend please complete the participation form through [Survey Monkey](#) prior to Friday, January 8th.

Before volunteering for any event outside of the lab always check with your mentor.

Professional and Respectful Behavior

We believe that IUSM has a strong and supportive community and we need your help in maintaining that environment.

[IUSM Honor Code](#)

[IUPUI Student Code of Conduct](#)

Going the Distance!

The finish line is in site, and it's time to start hammering out your thesis or dissertation! Don't forget to download the Indiana University Graduate School's *A Guide To The Preparation of Thesis and Dissertations* from the IUPUI Graduate Office [web site](#) (scroll to the bottom of the page). And when the time comes to defend, submit your defense announcement AT LEAST 30 days prior to your defense to the IUSM Graduate Division, MS 207.

10 Ph.D. Programs

Anatomy & Cell Biology

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Biomolecular Imaging & Biophysics

Cellular & Integrative Physiology

Medical & Molecular Genetics

Medical Neuroscience

Microbiology & Immunology

Pathology

Pharmacology

Toxicology

IUSM Receives \$60 Million Grant from Lilly Endowment

As a continuance of support the Lilly Endowment has given the IUSM a generous gift of \$60 million to help implement the Indiana Physician Scientist Initiative which promotes translational science which includes the MD-PhD/MSTP Program.

This grant is among many grants given to the school by the Endowment. Most notable of the grants is the Indiana Genomics Initiative (INGEN), which consisted of \$155 million in multidisciplinary research funding used to harness the power of genomics to promote health and prevent disease throughout the state.

According to the December 15th IUSM news release IU President Michael A. McRobbie noted, "All told, the Lilly Endowment has given nearly \$600 million to Indiana University over

the past three decades, and I have no doubt that this latest grant will again have a transformative impact at IU and all across the state."

The news release goes on to quote Sara B. Cobb, vice president for education at the Endowment, "These bold plans at the School of Medicine will advance further the Endowment's efforts to build the intellectual capital in Indiana, which is so vital to the future prosperity of this state. It is our expectation that this grant will have a lasting impact on Indiana's reputation and on the health and well-being of people here and throughout the world."

For more details on this generous gift and the primary activities of the Indiana Physician Scientist Initiative visit the [news release](#).

Basic Science Studies on Gene Therapy of Blood Diseases

T32 Training Grant Renewed

IUSM was recently awarded funding for a T32 training grant titled "Basic Science Studies on Gene Therapy of Blood Diseases" by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute through competitive renewal.

This training grant funds 5 post-doctoral fellows and 3 pre-doctoral students and has a strong emphasis on cell and molecular biology/immunology of gene therapy.

Hal Broxmeyer, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor, Chairman and Professor of Microbiology/Immunology, is the Primary Investigator on the training grant.

For more details on training grant preceptors and research opportunities please visit the training program [web site](#).

Faculty Spotlight on Wilbert Derbigny, Ph.D.

Creating Awareness about Careers in the Sciences

Wilbert Derbigny, Ph.D, assistant professor of microbiology and immunology, recently visited a local elementary school, Deer Run Elementary, to demonstrate what it is like to be a research scientist.

What started out as an invitation by Mrs. Gardner to speak to her fourth-grade class, turned into a larger scale event held in the school cafeteria with an audience that included the entire fourth-grade class; with invitations sent out to parents and the superintendent who were encouraged to attend.

During Dr. Derbigny's visit he carried out 4 age-appropriate scientific experiments as "Wil Nye" the Science Guy and spoke to the group about what it is like to be a scientist and how science affects everyday life. Several eager students were chosen from each class to act as volunteers. The volunteers donned lab coats,

gloves, and goggles. Dr. Derbigny's experiments and talk seemed to get the students excited about science and careers in the sciences.

More often than not children this age do not understand that there are other types of "doctors" than physicians.

Dr. Derbigny's visit went a long way in creating awareness about careers in the sciences and to let children know that scientists are "normal people" and can even be "cool"!



Calendar of Events

January 11	Rotation 2 Begins Spring Courses Begin
January 15	IBMG Application Deadline for Prospective Students
January 18	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—No Classes
January 28-30	IBMG Campus Visit for selected applicants <i>(by invitation only)</i>
February 12	Modular 1 Courses End
February 15	Modular 2 Courses Begin
February 26	Rotation 3 Agreement Form Due
February 25-27	IBMG Campus Visit for selected applicants <i>(by invitation only)</i>

Attention Graduate Students

Have You Published Lately?

Want to share the news with your peers and faculty?

Published Students will be Highlighted via

- the IUSM Graduate Division web site
- an annual poster recognizing students and their successes
- etc.

How to Submit Your Published Details

- notify the IUSM Graduate Division of your publication by completing the survey found at: <http://grad.medicine.iu.edu/studentpubs>

Research. Discover. Done.

Message from the Director

Congratulations to the IBMG students for making it through their first semester in graduate school! Pursuing a doctor of philosophy, the highest degree you can earn, in the biomedical sciences is intense, as is the first semester! Keeping up with the reading required for classes and rotations, studying, spending hours and hours in the lab trying to impress your potential mentor and other lab mates, studying, gathering as much information about the graduate programs that you can to help you make your program selection decision in May, and more studying.... can leave little time for eating and sleeping!



Incoming Class of Fall 2010

Now is the time to catch your breath! The holiday break is your chance to spend a little time decompressing [oh and preparing for spring rotations and classes]. So curl up with a latte and a good peer reviewed science journal, and enjoy!

Monica Henry

Monica Henry, Program Director
IBMG Program



<http://grad.medicine.inu.edu>

Medical Science Building Room 207
635 North Barnhill Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202-5120, USA

Graduate Division

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

