Building the Future
A new home for IU School of Medicine
In the last decade, Indiana University School of Medicine has experienced unprecedented growth in research funding and expanded enrollment in what was already the largest medical school in the country. These are tremendous achievements—accomplished with the help of friends like you. Now, we ask for your help again as we respond to that growth by embarking on the largest construction project in the school’s history—a state-of-the-art medical education and research building in Indianapolis.

Scheduled for completion by the end of 2024, this new building will give us badly needed room for innovative research. It will also house the educational spaces that will enable us to take medical education to even greater heights.

Your financial support can enhance this once-in-a-lifetime building project so we can ensure IU School of Medicine continues to be at the forefront of innovation in the lab and achievement in the classroom.

The foundation of the building will be medical education—literally. Its first three floors will feature modern, flexible classrooms of varying sizes equipped with the latest technology. Students will benefit from simulation centers, virtual reality, portable ultrasound, and other tools to enhance learning and better prepare them to serve patients. All of it will be oriented around a naturally lit atrium that will serve as a common gathering space.

To make the nation’s largest medical school feel smaller, this academic area will be carved into 12 learning communities. Each will have its own study spaces, practice exam rooms, and lounges with kitchens to make it feel like home. Academic support offices will be nearby—under the same roof. We think it will create an outstanding educational experience that puts student growth and wellness at the forefront.

Although our research grants have more than doubled in the last decade, we haven’t added lab space. As a result, some departments are already out of room. Others aren’t far behind.

To address this need and expand our research capabilities, the next eight floors—a tower sheathed in glass facing downtown Indianapolis—will be home to dozens of labs, spaces for the faculty and support staff who make them hum, and collaborative areas where scientists can share ideas and research.

We don’t want lifesaving discoveries to be limited by square footage. And we want our students to reach their fullest potential. Your support can help us meet these essential requirements.

Will you help us with a contribution as we begin this important project?

Warmest regards,

Jay L. Hess, MD, PhD, MHSA
Executive Vice President for University Clinical Affairs
Dean of the School of Medicine
Walter J. Daly Professor
Indiana University

“We want our students to reach their fullest potential. Your support can help us meet these essential requirements.”
"This is what we aspire to be - a world class academic health center."

– Dean Jay Hess
When completed, the new building will sit southwest of 16th and Senate Avenue, easily visible from Interstate 65. It will also cozy up to Goodman Hall and the Neuroscience Research Building to the north and IU Health’s new hospital nearby to the east.
Here, future physicians and researchers will begin their journeys into medicine, which will continue in communities around Indiana and the great health centers across the globe.
The Atrium

One of the most eye-popping features of the new building will be the three-story atrium at the heart of the medical education portion of the structure.

Featuring an abundance of natural light, the space will offer the medical school something it’s been missing—a central space suitable for large communal gatherings or casual meetups.

The atrium will be flanked by classrooms, lecture halls, and the library. Its centrality and easy access from each floor will facilitate its use as a kind of town square where students, faculty and others can come together in a warm, inviting place.

Learn More
Scan the QR code with your smartphone
“Wherever the art of medicine is loved, there is also a love of humanity.”

—Hippocrates
Learning Communities

Medical school can be a tremendous challenge for even the brightest, most capable students. They need help from peers, faculty and staff. The new Medical Education and Research Building will create 12 learning communities—smaller areas within the larger building where students can take classes, study, and relax with a small cohort of their peers, with faculty leaders nearby. The idea is to make a big campus feel smaller and provide students with the support they need to overcome hurdles and become the compassionate healers we know they can be.

The new Medical Education and Research Building is designed to create

12 Learning Communities
Technology has become a greater part of medical education, but students still learn the visceral geography of the body and the language of their profession in the anatomy lab. Located on the second floor, the anatomy lab’s 35 stations will seamlessly meld technology into a foundational course. Each student will have an iPad, putting guides on human structures, with hours of instructional videos and live demonstrations just a touch away. Flexible spaces for smaller groups, including one mimicking a surgical theater, will offer ideal settings for trainees and faculty. There will be other practical amenities, such as locker rooms and an inviting office space for students, faculty, and donor families.
Diverse classroom settings

Medical education demands diverse teaching settings—and this building will feature a variety. A pair of tiered lecture halls, each capable of seating 200, can be combined into an even larger room for special events. In two “case method” classrooms, seating 50 to 60, faculty will speak from a well encircled by students, lending itself to a Socratic form of teaching. Small and medium-sized rooms shrink classes even further. All spaces will have video, wireless internet and charging station capability.

"The case method classrooms promote student engagement and are wonderful for having faculty meetings where we see each other’s faces and learn together."

Paul M. Wallach, MD
Executive Associate Dean for Educational Affairs and Institutional Improvement
Dolores and John Read Professor of Medical Education
IU School of Medicine
By their third year, medical students spend their days rotating through clerkships at various medical facilities. But they still attend occasional lectures, simulation sessions, and participate in other activities which demand a modern facility. The central location of IU’s medical building, across Senate Avenue from IU Health’s new hospital, will be ideal. Clinicians and students are just a short walk away. And students will remain close to their learning communities and support staff.

You can return to the new building after a long day in the clinic and still feel a sense of belonging. That is much-needed in the third and fourth years. In most hospitals, the teaching is geared toward fellows and residents. Medical students are not always the chief priority. The learning communities will be huge.

Paul Ko, MD
Associate Dean for Curricular Development and Oversight
IU School of Medicine
“Medicines cure diseases, but only doctors can cure patients.”

–Carl Jung
Resident Training

The building will be a home for medical students, but it will also play an essential role in training medical residents and fellows. While much of their time is spent in the clinic, they will use the building—its modern classrooms, skills labs, meeting rooms, and auditoriums—for lectures, curriculum, conferences, and research discussions. And this will be conveniently situated across the street from the new IU Health Hospital where about half of these trainees will be serving patients.
Traditionally, physicians relied on sight, sound, and touch to reach a diagnosis. Steadily, technology bolstered or outright replaced that approach. The Clinical Skills Center, located on the third floor, will teach medical students to blend the traditional and the modern.

Here, they will learn the art of a physical exam. An open-bed bay will enable simulations that reinforce the importance of providing patient care as part of a team. IU School of Medicine previously introduced point-of-care ultrasound, but now there will be dedicated space where students and trainees can master this diagnostic tool. The center will also be home to rooms where future healers gain experience providing telemedicine through a set curriculum. Instructors will watch those sessions and provide constructive feedback.

It also makes it easier for our faculty to oversee smaller classes and provide guided demonstrations. The result: students who are prepared the moment they set foot inside the clinic.
Surgery is precise work. It demands a steady hand, deft touch, and keen judgment—all while being agile enough to adapt at a moment’s notice. But such skills are not intuitive. They are learned.

This vital training will unfold on the second floor of the new medical education building, a space that offers the latest technology, experienced instruction, and a proven curriculum. The spacious facility will cater to surgeons of all levels—from new residents learning sutures to vascular surgeons practicing the latest techniques in opening blocked arteries.

Along with stations for cadaver dissections, the center will be outfitted with the latest virtual reality simulation for minimally invasive and robotic procedures, including the da Vinci Surgical System. The center also has dedicated space for continuing medical education, like a multipurpose room set up as a modern operating room that allows surgical teams to run complex scenarios. And just as importantly, the center will be a short walk from the new IU Health Hospital, making it easily accessible for residents, fellows, and faculty.

Meanwhile, IU will continue to rely on a nationally-respected curriculum, where trainees progress through modules taught by experienced surgeons who also oversee guided practice. And before a resident ever performs a procedure on a real patient, they will have passed a rigorous assessment in the surgical skills center.
Medical Library

Located just off the atrium and occupying parts of three floors, the library will be more than just a storehouse of knowledge or study space. It must also help students become critical thinkers and offer the latest tools for learning. Tech features will include virtual reality headsets offering the latest in simulation, a makerspace with 3D printing, and one-button studios where students can record presentations. Faculty will enjoy a space where they can learn the latest in cutting edge technology for teaching.

“Our role is to create connections with students, which means they are familiar with us. And they are not like typical users of a library. So much of what they do is tactile and tangible.”

Gabriel R. Rios
Director, Ruth Lilly Medical Library
IU School of Medicine
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice

The importance of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice at IU School of Medicine will be reflected in the placement of the Office of Diversity Affairs in the heart of the school’s new academic home. Situated closer than ever to the offices of Medical Student Education, Graduate Medical Education, and Faculty Affairs, the diversity office will have easier input on a learner’s journey—from their first day of medical school to their move into residency. Ultimately, the goal is to remove barriers that have prevented individuals from marginalized backgrounds from reaching their potential and provide them a path that makes Indiana a more attractive career destination.

Diversity is not sustainable without equity. Equity is not sustainable without inclusivity. However, if we don’t remove historical barriers that led to these issues then this process is not sustainable. Justice means eliminating those historical barriers, policies and programs that are consciously or unconsciously hindering individuals from marginalized backgrounds to reach their full potential.

Alvaro Tori, MD
Associate Dean for Diversity Affairs
IU School of Medicine
“Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world.”

-Louis Pasteur
A Place for Research Innovations and Discovery

The nature of medical research—the quest for new treatments that ease suffering, extend and save lives—is that it’s constantly evolving. So, too, must the laboratories where discoveries are made.

The new Medical Education and Research Building at IU School of Medicine will feature three floors devoted exclusively to cutting-edge research labs and support space. They will be equipped with the latest research tools and computing capability—all aimed at finding answers for patients to the most pressing questions in medicine.

These new labs will open at a perfect time. Our grant-funded research has doubled in the last decade. That means our faculty are asking the right questions and making advances, but grants pay for research—not the spaces where it’s conducted. And our available lab space is dwindling.

Along with the lab spaces, the building will have rooms where faculty can gather to share ideas, share data, and brainstorm about where the science is pointing next.

These labs and support spaces will be built with flexibility not just for today’s needs but with the ability to adapt to the directions research leads us for decades to come.

This will be the place where innovation will happen, where treatments will be developed, and where cures are discovered.
The Building
This imposing structure will be IU School of Medicine’s flagship and the place where generations of students will pass on their way to becoming future doctors and scientists. It will also be home to innovative research that will transform health for decades to come.

Center for Clinical Learning
Located on the third floor, this will be the hub for simulation and patient exam training for students. It will include exam rooms, simulation suites, virtual reality resources, telemedicine training, and an open bed bay that replicates a hospital setting.

Gross Anatomy Lab
Located on the second floor, this staple of medical education will provide 35 bays for anatomical training, bone storage, cremation, and cold storage facilities. It will also feature an anatomage technology that enables students to visualize and interact with virtual anatomy.

Innovation Library
The Innovation Library will provide learners, physicians, and researchers with access to the world’s leading edge scientific and biomedical literature. The library and its staff will work collaboratively with all nine IU School of Medicine campuses.

Tiered Lecture Halls (2)
Adjacent to the main atrium, these lecture halls accommodate up to 200 students and can combine with the adjacent lecture hall for larger gatherings.

Surgical Skills Lab
Located on the second floor, the lab will provide simulation and cadaver-based training for students, residents, and fellows. Surgical and emergency medicine residents will have 24/7 access to the lab to hone their surgical skills.

Case Method/Large Classrooms (8)
Eight of these spaces, located throughout the first three floors of the building, will provide opportunities for small group, collaborative, and case review learning.

Learning Communities (12)
A home away from home for our students, this is one of the building’s special features. Our future doctors will spend extensive amounts of time here studying, relaxing, and interacting with their peers.

Exam Rooms (12)
Integral to all health sciences, the exam rooms are designed to test clinical skill performance and competence with a practical, real-world approach to learning and patient assessment.
In 1903 the new Indiana University president William Lowe Bryan established the first two years of basic science courses in Bloomington and began negotiations with proprietary schools in Indianapolis for clinical instruction using hospital facilities there.

**Long Hall**

Long Hospital opened in 1914. In 1919, shortly after the Medical College Building burned down, a new Medical Education building (later renamed Emerson Hall) was completed across from Long Hospital, thus establishing the site for what became a greatly expanded school and medical center.

**Coleman Hall**

The Coleman Hospital for Women opened in 1927, the first hospital in Indiana built exclusively for obstetrics and gynecology.

**Riley Children’s Hospital**

In 1924 Riley Hospital for Children opened as the state’s only children’s hospital.

**Gatch Hall**

During the tenure of Wilks Dew Gatch as dean (1932-1946), the school expanded the facilities of Long Hospital and brought the Indiana State Board of Health to the campus. School enrollment increased, and Gatch greatly expanded residency opportunities for graduates.

**Emerson Hall**

A new Medical Education building was completed across from Long Hospital, thus establishing the site for what became a greatly expanded school and medical center. This building was re-named in 1961 in honor of Charles P. Emerson, MD, second dean of IU School of Medicine.

**Van Nues Hall**

The Medical Science Building opened in 1956 (later renamed Van Nues Hall), which provided space for laboratories and research facilities plus lecture halls and library facilities. This development permitted the long sought goal recommended by outside reviewers to consolidate all four years of medical school study in Indianapolis.

**Expansion**

A new Medical Research and Library Building was created in 1959, funded largely by a new office of fundraising development. In 1992 a major new outpatient wing was opened in University Hospital, consolidating campus-wide ambulatory health services. During this period, IUSM developed a practice plan for the rapid expansion of clinical patient care by faculty, after the creation of Medicare and Medicaid.

**Simon Cancer Center**

Established in 1992 as the Indiana University (IU) Cancer Center, the IU center became an NCI-designated cancer center in 1999. The center was renamed the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center in 2006. Its mission is to decrease the morbidity and suffering from cancer by conducting outstanding translational research, providing excellence in education, and by delivering high quality patient-centered care.
Learn More

To learn more, scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit medicine.iu.edu/building-the-future

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