March 29, 2024 – As I write this letter, I do so with continued appreciation at how incredible our medical students are as 89 have completed their scholarly concentrations and will graduate in May 2024. They will join 148 of their peers who graduated from Indiana University School of Medicine the past three years with a Scholarly Concentration designation on their transcript and an incredible learning experience. Students come to medical school with diverse interests, and our Scholarly Concentrations Program provides an avenue for them to explore these personal interests longitudinally alongside the core medical school curriculum. I’m pleased to report that 94 percent of participants in the Class of 2024 recommend the Scholarly Concentrations Program to first year medical students. I’m not sure of higher praise.

Enrollment in our 17 concentrations remains strong, with about half at regional campuses. Of students participating in a regional campus concentration, 90 percent are in their home campus concentration. Participants are led, mentored and supported by approximately 250 faculty, staff and community members. A majority are from IU School of Medicine, and others from esteemed institutions, including Purdue’s Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, the Kinsey Institute, the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, the University of Notre Dame, and IU’s Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health and Kelley School of Business. This year, co-directors met in Indianapolis for a program retreat where they reviewed the “state of the program” and found it strong. They also generated ideas to enhance it. We could not deliver this program without the incredible support and dedication of these colleagues.

With Step 1 now Pass/Fail, students are looking for opportunities to stand out in the competition for residencies. I believe our Scholarly Concentrations Program can be a game changer when they are applying for residencies. They complete topic-specific coursework, and engage in scholarly pursuits that include submitting a manuscript for publication and presenting a poster at IU School of Medicine Education Day. They benefit from mentorship to become better prepared leaders in their chosen field and develop professional identity beyond medical knowledge. The topics are of broad interest and applicable to just about any specialty. The Public Health and Business of Medicine concentrations provide a path to dual degrees. The program leverages the unique expertise, strengths, interests and needs of our diverse campuses and communities. This is particularly important for our regional campuses, where the program serves as a tool to help attract and retain students.

During 2023, four of our scholarly concentrations applied for and received a grant funded by federal Health Resources and Services Administration dollars that IU School of Medicine received to support health equity projects involving medical students.

I truly appreciate everyone working diligently to create an enriching program for our students. I want to thank Deb Birnbaum, the program’s director, and Michelle Marie Polanco, our program coordinator, for their leadership, management and stewardship that is transforming this program from an early pilot to a more steady state. I am extremely proud of and grateful for them, all of our concentration faculty, staff, and community partners. I applaud the students participating. They, along with our School and communities, are better for it.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Wallach, MD
Executive Associate Dean
Educational Affairs and Chief Academic Officer
The Scholarly Concentrations Program is managed with a continuous quality improvement mindset. Key improvements made this year include:

- adjustments and creation of new courses based on students’ end-of-course evaluations and other feedback;
- ongoing work with colleagues across IU School of Medicine and Indiana University to identify data, projects, mentors and other resources to scale and support student scholarly work;
- streamlining and refining the program’s evaluation plan; and
- streamlining the application and enrollment process through the school’s new student information management system.
There is much to be proud of in IU School of Medicine’s Scholarly Concentrations Program this year. At the end of the year, more than 400 students were enrolled with around 250 faculty and staff supporting them through program leadership, teaching and mentoring in 17 concentrations across the statewide program.

Eighty-nine members of the Class of 2024 have completed a scholarly concentration. They bring the number of program graduates to 237 since the first six graduated in 2021.

The Scholarly Concentrations Program is meeting its primary goals by:

1. increasing student engagement at statewide campuses;
2. providing interdisciplinary focus that complements and enhances the core curriculum;
3. providing a longitudinal educational experience;
4. supporting student scholarship; and
5. providing an additional credential to residency applications.

Fourteen concentrations are based at one of the school’s nine campuses and three are readily available to students throughout the state. This allows students to dive into a topic of personal interest with a community of like-minded students, faculty, staff, and even, community members. Of the students participating in one of the 10 regional campus concentrations, 90 percent are in their original regional campus concentration. Unlike traditional academic certificates and degrees, Scholarly Concentrations are completed within the four years of medical school, and do not add time or costs to completing an MD degree. Students complete topic-specific courses, a scholarly project, write a manuscript they submit for publication, and present a poster at IU School of Medicine Education Day. So far, 19 students in the Class of 2024 have had a manuscript accepted or published in their concentration topic.

Students who successfully complete the requirements for a Scholarly Concentration earn eight weeks non-clinical elective credit toward graduation and a Scholarly Concentration designation on their transcript, which can also be added to their curriculum vitae and other professional documentation. Graduates are also recognized at Commencement.

Students promote their Scholarly Concentration work to help them stand out in residency applications and interviews. Students report strong interest in their scholarly concentration work in residency interviews.

One thing I noticed during [residency] interviews is a lot of programs really are interested in how you are as a team member. I think that the scholarly concentration really allowed me to showcase my abilities being involved in a research environment, working with other medical students, advisors like Dr. [Elizabeth] Ryan, other people at the Northwest campus, as well as community members we interviewed. I think it really allowed me to showcase different skills I had gained experience in during the concentration.

Deeb Omari, MD, Pediatrics Resident, McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University, Scholarly Concentration in Urban Medicine and Health Care Disparities, Northwest-Gary, Class of 2023 graduate
**Scholarly Concentrations Program Locations and Enrollment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Scholarly Concentration</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bloomington</td>
<td>Human Sexuality and Health (Kinsey Institute)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Education</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evansville</td>
<td>Quality and Innovation in Health Care (Local health care systems)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Health Care Integration and Healthy Aging (Regional health care systems)</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muncie</td>
<td>Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (Ball State University Clinical Exercise Physiology Program)</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northwest-Gary</td>
<td>Urban Medicine and Health Care Disparities (Community partners)</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>Ethics, Equity and Justice (University of Notre Dame)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terre Haute</td>
<td>Rural Health (Rural health systems)</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Lafayette</td>
<td>Biomedical Engineering and Applied Medical Technology (Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University)</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Care of Hispanic/Latino Patients</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
<td>Biomedical Research</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Genetics in Medicine</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health Information Technology (Regenstrief Institute)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Humanities (Medical Humanities and Health Studies, School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI)</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Based in Indianapolis but available from any campus</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business of Medicine</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Health (Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following students in the IU School of Medicine Class of 2024 completed all their Scholarly Concentrations Program requirements and earned a Scholarly Concentrations designation. Congratulations!

### Biomedical Engineering and Applied Medical Technology

#### Aditya Desai*
- **Campus:** West Lafayette
- **Project:** Coarctation Angioplasty in Young Children: Does IMPACT Registry Data Accurately Reflect Clinical Outcomes?
- **Mentor:** Mark Hoyer, MD
- **Residency:** General Surgery, University of Michigan Hospital

#### Alan-Thomas Trinh*
- **Campus:** South Bend
- **Project:** Trans-Omic Knowledge Transfer Modeling Infers Gut Microbiome Biomarkers of Anti-TNF Resistance in Ulcerative Colitis
- **Mentor:** Doug K. Brubaker, PhD
- **Residency:** Orthopaedic Surgery, Indiana University School of Medicine

#### Christopher Dalloul*
- **Campus:** Terre Haute
- **Project:** Osteoclast-Mediated Bone Loss Observed in a COVID-19 Mouse Model
- **Mentor:** Melissa Kacena, PhD
- **Residency:** General Surgery, Eastern Carolina University Health Medical Center

#### Grant Tomlin
- **Campus:** West Lafayette
- **Project:** Preclinical Validation of NeoWarm, a Low-Cost Infant Warmer and Carrier Device, to Ameliorate Induced Hypothermia in Newborn Piglets as Models for Human Neonates
- **Mentor:** Jacqueline C. Linnes, PhD
- **Residency:** Medicine-Pediatrics, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine

#### John Sakaleros
- **Campus:** West Lafayette
- **Project:** Identifying and Quantifying Features of Resting Tremor Using Power Spectral Density of Wrist Kinematic Signals From Inertial Measurement Units
- **Mentor:** Anne B. Sereno, PhD
- **Residency:** Internal Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine

#### Sunland Gong*
- **Campus:** Terre Haute
- **Project:** Machine Embroidery of Light-Emitting Textiles With Multicolor Electroluminescent Threads
- **Mentor:** Chi Hwan Lee, PhD

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GRADUATE SPOTLIGHTS

Biomedical Research

Brandon Sizemore
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: Assessing Interest Among Providers and Learners in Education on the Environmental Impacts of Anesthesia
Mentor: Tanna Boyer, DO
Residency: Anesthesiology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Erica Geers*
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: Short- and Long-Term Kidney Complications in Children with Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia
Mentor: Michelle Star, MD
Residency: General Surgery, Memorial Health University Medical Center

Mira Prabhakar
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: Understanding a Student Run Free Clinic’s Impact on Diabetes Care
Mentor: Javier Sevilla-Martir, MD
Residency: Surgery-Preliminary, Indiana University School of Medicine

Ethan Cornwell
Campus: Indianapolis

Business of Medicine

Albert Brougham
Campus: Northwest-Gary
Project: An Assessment of ChatGPT’s Performance as a Patient Counseling Tool: Exploring the Potential Integration of Large Language Model-based ChatBots into Online Patient Portals
Mentor: Paul Dexter, MD
Residency: Transitional, Ascension St. Vincent Hospital

Alexander Daugherty
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: Improving Brand Awareness and Financial Sustainability for GoBabyGo!: A Pediatric Rehabilitation Nonprofit
Mentor: Todd Saxton, PhD
Residency: Pediatrics, Ascension St. Vincent Hospital

Amna Yaqub
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: The Medicalization of Wellness: Proposals for Further Regulation of the Wellness Industry in the United States
Mentor: Todd Saxton, PhD
Residency: Internal Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine

Austin Natalie
Campus: Bloomington
Project: Voices in Care: A Comprehensive Analysis of Nurse Perceptions of the Indiana State Nurses Association
Mentor: Todd Saxton, PhD
Residency: Internal Medicine, University of Florida College of Medicine-Shands Hospital

*See page 17 for Products Published or Accepted
Business of Medicine, continued

**Bhumi Patel**  
**Campus:** Bloomington  
**Project:** Voices in Care: A Comprehensive Analysis of Nurse Perceptions of the Indiana State Nurses Association  
**Mentor:** Todd Saxton, PhD  
**Residency:** Internal Medicine, Loyola University Medical Center

**Bryan Ko**  
**Campus:** Bloomington  
**Project:** Improving Brand Awareness and Financial Sustainability for GoBabyGo!: A Pediatric Rehabilitation Nonprofit  
**Mentor:** Todd Saxton, PhD  
**Residency:** Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Detroit Medical Center

**Charles Price**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** An Assessment of ChatGPT’s Performance as a Patient Counseling Tool: Exploring the Potential Integration of Large Language Model-based ChatBots into Online Patient Portals  
**Mentor:** Paul Dexter, MD  
**Residency:** Internal Medicine, Ascension St. Vincent Hospital

**Jackson Griffith-Linsley**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis

**Joshua Thomson**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis

**Juan Sanchez Castro**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** Improving Brand Awareness and Financial Sustainability for GoBabyGo!: A Pediatric Rehabilitation Nonprofit  
**Mentor:** Todd Saxton, PhD

**Kyle Burton**  
**Campus:** Terre Haute  
**Project:** An Assessment of ChatGPT’s Performance as a Patient Counseling Tool: Exploring the Potential Integration of Large Language Model-based ChatBots into Online Patient Portals  
**Mentor:** Paul Dexter, MD

**Matthias Ebeyer**  
**Campus:** Bloomington  
**Project:** Voices in Care: A Comprehensive Analysis of Nurse Perceptions of the Indiana State Nurses Association  
**Mentor:** Todd Saxton, PhD  
**Residency:** Emergency Medicine, Ohio State University Medical Center

**Paul Muldoon**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis
It was a great opportunity for me to pursue an area of interest outside of the typical medical school curriculum. It also was helpful in learning how to do scholarly work, which will be important in residency and my career.

Class of 2022 Scholarly Concentration in Care of Hispanic/Latino Patients Graduate, West Lafayette

By virtue of their work with faculty, peers, and/or local collaborators, of program participants feel engaged with their campus. 85%
Ethics, Equity and Justice

**Caitlyn Mulcahey**
- **Campus:** South Bend
- **Project:** Investigating Lost to Follow Up Rates in Primary Open Angle Glaucoma: A Marker of Disparities
- **Mentor:** Louis B. Cantor, MD
- **Residency:** Ophthalmology, University of Louisville

**Ellis Kilbride**
- **Campus:** South Bend
- **Project:** Comparing a Hospital Policy About ER Engagement with Law Enforcement with the Parallel Police Policy About Such Engagement
- **Mentor:** Ji Seon Song, JD

**Jack Hibbard**
- **Campus:** South Bend
- **Project:** Healthcare Experiences of Formerly Incarcerated People in Indiana
- **Mentor:** Justin McDevitt, JD
- **Residency:** Medicine-Primary, University of Virginia

**Mary Holohan**
- **Campus:** South Bend
- **Project:** Sustainable Horizons: Insights from Interviews with Stakeholders in Leading Healthcare Systems
- **Mentor:** Brianne Brenneman, MPH
- **Residency:** Plastic Surgery (Integrated), LSU School of Medicine

**Megan Eigsti**
- **Campus:** South Bend
- **Project:** Sustainable Horizons: Insights from Interviews with Stakeholders in Leading Healthcare Systems
- **Mentor:** Joseph Kotva, PhD
- **Residency:** Obstetrics-Gynecology, University of Louisville School of Medicine

**Rebecca McCartney**
- **Campus:** South Bend
- **Project:** Healthcare Experiences of Formerly Incarcerated People in Indiana
- **Mentor:** Justin McDevitt, JD
- **Residency:** Neurology, Rush University Medical Center

**Rylee Friel**
- **Campus:** South Bend
- **Project:** Diversity-Driven Initiatives in a Radiology Residency Program: A Historical Timeline and Analysis of Demographic Changes
- **Mentor:** Leah Sieck, MD; Lauren Ladd, MD
- **Residency:** Radiology-Diagnostic, University of Michigan Hospitals
I’m interested in the physical, emotional and psychological changes that occur as people age and how health care systems might improve to optimize well-being throughout the stages of life. Participating in this scholarly concentration will help me become a better member of an interprofessional health care team, as well as gain a stronger understanding of the unique needs of an aging population.
Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

**Cameran Jones**  
**Campus:** Muncie  
**Project:** Retrospective Analysis of EMS Calls for Opioid Overdose and Geospatial Relationship to Location of Naloxone Access  
**Mentor:** Lynn Witty, MD; Larry Fromm, PhD  
**Residency:** Internal Medicine, Loyola University Medical Center

**Catherine Meador**  
**Campus:** Fort Wayne  
**Project:** Home Gardening and the Barriers We Don’t Plant On  
**Mentor:** Lynn Witty, MD  
**Residency:** Obstetrics-Gynecology, University of Arizona College of Medicine

**Colin Southard-Goebel**  
**Campus:** Muncie  
**Project:** Retrospective Analysis of EMS Calls for Opioid Overdose and Geospatial Relationship to Location of Naloxone Access  
**Mentor:** Larry Fromm, PhD  
**Residency:** Anesthesiology, Medical University of South Carolina

**Colton Southard-Goebel**  
**Campus:** Muncie  
**Project:** Retrospective Analysis of EMS Calls for Opioid Overdose and Geospatial Relationship to Location of Naloxone Access  
**Mentor:** Larry Fromm, PhD  
**Residency:** Emergency Medicine, Rutgers-Community Medical Center

**Manhalh Bakdash**  
**Campus:** Muncie  
**Project:** Retrospective Analysis of EMS Calls for Opioid Overdose and Geospatial Relationship to Location of Naloxone Access  
**Mentor:** Lynn Witty, MD  
**Residency:** Radiology-Diagnostic, Indiana University School of Medicine

**Jordan Koczenasz**  
**Campus:** Muncie  
**Project:** Retrospective Analysis of EMS Calls for Opioid Overdose and Geospatial Relationship to Location of Naloxone Access  
**Mentor:** Lynn Witty, MD; Larry Fromm, PhD  
**Residency:** Internal Medicine, Loyola University Medical Center

**Mary Ertel**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** Identifying Barriers to Nutrition in Indiana  
**Mentor:** Lynn Witty, MD; Natalie Kruzliakova, PhD, Department of Nutrition & Health Science, Ball State University  
**Residency:** Internal Medicine, Ascension St. Vincent Hospital

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**Human Sexuality and Health**

**Brianna Mahnke**
Campus: Bloomington
Project: Sexual Communication Self-Efficacy and PrEP Literacy Helps to Meet HIV Prevention Outcomes Among Black and Latinx Individuals
Mentor: Greg Carter, PhD
Residency: Psychiatry, Temple University Hospital

**Sydney Lovins**
Campus: Bloomington
Mentor: Justin Garcia, PhD

**Tari Kurman**
Campus: Bloomington
Project: Medical Students Perspectives on Transgender Care Legislation and its Impact on Medical Residency Applications
Mentor: Jessica J. Hille, JD, PhD
Residency: Pediatrics, University of Colorado School of Medicine

**Victoria Cook**
Campus: Bloomington
Project: Can a Sex-Positive Sex Education Intervention Reduce Rape-Supportive Attitudes? Formative Research, Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial, and Evaluation of Self-Selection Bias

**Medical Education**

**Emily Merritt**
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: Integrated Case-Based Learning Session for Breast and Upper Limb Anatomy
Mentor: Jessica Byram, PhD
Residency: Pediatrics, Cincinnati Childrens Hospital Medical Center

94% of graduating students agreed the program strengthened their CV/interviews during the residency search
**Medical Humanities**

**Aish Thamba***
**Campus:** Bloomington  
**Project:** For Watson, Solving Cancer Wasn’t So Elementary: Prospects for Artificial Intelligence in Radiology  
**Mentor:** Richard Gunderman, MD  
**Residency:** General Surgery, Henry Ford Jackson Hospital

**Jenna Jones**
**Campus:** Terre Haute  
**Project:** Visibility and Mentorship Can Improve Recruitment of Qualified Diverse Orthopaedic Applicants  
**Mentor:** Lawrence Wells, MD  
**Residency:** Orthopaedic Surgery, Indiana University School of Medicine

**Mary Etling**
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** The Use of Protective Orders to Obviate Investigations of Healthcare in Indiana Correctional Facilities  
**Mentor:** Jane Hartscock, JD  
**Residency:** Pediatrics, University of Minnesota Medical School

**Matthew Hodges***
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** The End Is Nothing: Death in Domestic Spaces in “Old Mrs. Harris” and The Death of Ivan Ilyich  
**Mentor:** Dianne Prenatt, PhD  
**Residency:** Family Medicine, Mountain AHEC

**Nicholas O’Connor**
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** A Survey of Parental Experiences While Viewing MRI Images at a Fetal Care Center  
**Mentor:** Zeynep Salih, MD, FAAP  
**Residency:** Radiology-Diagnostic, University of Kansas School of Medicine

**Samantha Rodriguez**
**Campus:** South Bend  
**Project:** The Influence of Relationships and Social Media on the Wellness of Adolescent and Young Adult Survivors of Pediatric Cancer  
**Mentor:** Jane Hartscock, JD; Emily Beckman, DMH  
**Residency:** Pediatrics, University of Chicago Medical Center

**Samira Kouchakzadeh**
**Campus:** Evansville  
**Project:** The Nursing Dose: Diverting Medication Into the Patient  
**Mentor:** Jane A. Hartscock, JD  
**Residency:** Psychiatry, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

**Taruni Pandhiri**
**Campus:** Muncie  
**Project:** A Scoping Review Examining the Interactions of Racial Minorities in the NICU/PICU and their Physicians – A Modern Day Jean Beicke  
**Mentor:** Kenzie Mintus, MD  
**Residency:** Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center

*See page 18 for Products Published or Accepted*
Amira Nafiseh*
Campus: Indianapolis
Mentor: Megan McHenry, MD
Residency: Pediatrics, University of California-San Francisco

Collin Wilkins
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: An Assessment of Nutritional Quality of Foods Provided in a Midwestern Food Pantry and Food Consumption Habits among its Clients
Mentor: Shellye Suttles, PhD
Residency: Internal Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine

Doriann Alcaide
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: Socioeconomic Disparities in Pain Management After Total Knee Arthroplasty
Mentor: Sylk Sotto-Santiago, MBA, MPS, EdD

Cassandra Anderson
Campus: Fort Wayne
Project: How Far We Go for Surgery: Distance to Pediatric Surgical Care in Indiana
Mentor: Brian Gray, MD, FACS
Residency: General Surgery, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Courtney Seigel
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: Patient Satisfaction with Telemedicine Across Neurologic Conditions
Mentor: Linda Williams, MD

Joseph Ballard*
Campus: Indianapolis
Project: Using Prescription Opioids Throughout a Traumatic Injury Recovery: A Qualitative Exploratory Study of Adolescents in a Midwestern State
Mentor: Olena Mazurenko, MD, PhD
Residency: Internal Medicine, University of Illinois College of Medicine
GRADUATE SPOTLIGHTS

**Neal Patel**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** Implementation of RedCap Data Systems in Kenyan Psychiatric Rehabilitation: A Community Case Study  
**Mentor:** Matthew Turissini, MD  
**Residency:** Neurology, Duke University Medical Center

**Nida Khan**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** Co-Development and Testing of a Culturally Tailored Telehealth Mental Health Intervention  
**Mentor:** Jill Connors, PhD

**Sophia Pardo**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** Treatment Volume, Quality of Care and Survival for Locally Advanced Cervical Cancer  
**Mentor:** Jordan Holmes, MD, MPH  
**Residency:** Pediatrics, Miami University Jackson Health System

**Taylor Luster***  
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** Slipped Capital Femoral Epiphysis, Food Deserts, Poverty, and Urban/Rural Residence: Is There a Link?  
**Mentor:** Randall Loder, MD

**Victoria Rone**  
**Campus:** Evansville  
**Project:** Increased Depression and Anxiety Among Remote Workers During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Longitudinal cohort study in Southwest Indiana  
**Mentor:** Kara Garcia, PhD  
**Residency:** Obstetrics-Gynecology, University of Cincinnati Medical Center

**Zane Duke**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** The SED Index: A Brief Self-Report Measure of Socioeconomic Disadvantage  
**Mentor:** Kurt Kroenke, MD

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**Religion and Spirituality in Medicine**

**Anthony Williams**  
**Campus:** Bloomington  
**Project:** Team Based Spirituality: A Concept Analysis  
**Mentor:** Alex Lion, DO  
**Residency:** Pediatrics, University of Utah Health

**Evin George**  
**Campus:** Evansville  
**Project:** Team Based Spirituality: A Concept Analysis  
**Mentor:** Alex Lion, DO

**Nirupama Devanathan**  
**Campus:** Indianapolis  
**Project:** Religiosity, Spiritual- and Avoidant-Coping Among Breast Cancer Survivors Receiving Acceptance and Commitment Therapy  
**Mentor:** Alex Lion DO and Shelley Johns PhD  
**Residency:** Ophthalmology, Mayo Clinic

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**Overall Program Satisfaction**

- **Class of 2022:** 56%  
- **Class of 2023:** 67%  
- **Class of 2024:** 84%

Graduating Participants:

- Class of 2022:   
- Class of 2023:   
- Class of 2024:  

% Satisfaction:

- 100  
- 80  
- 60  
- 40  
- 20  
- 0
Rural Health

**Benjamin Herman**  
**Campus:** Terre Haute  
**Project:** Perceived Barriers Among Physicians in Utilization of Mental Health Services: Evaluating the Impact of Rural and Urban Settings  
**Mentor:** Robin Danek PhD, MPH; Ellen Ireland, PhD, MPH  
**Residency:** Family Medicine, Franciscan Health

**Brent McCreary**  
**Campus:** Northwest-Gary  
**Project:** Self-Stigma vs. Perceived Public Stigma Toward Mental Illness in Rural Adults  
**Mentor:** Robin Danek, PhD, MPH  
**Residency:** Internal Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine

**Katelyn Lawson**  
**Campus:** Terre Haute  
**Project:** Perceived Barriers Among Physicians in Utilization of Mental Health Services: Evaluating the Impact of Rural and Urban Settings  
**Mentor:** Robin Danek PhD, MPH; Ellen Ireland, PhD, MPH

**Kathryn Smeltzer**  
**Campus:** Terre Haute  
**Project:** Point of Care Ultrasound Training with Musculoskeletal Evaluation Uptake at Rural Clinics  
**Mentor:** Ellen Ireland, PhD, MPH  
**Residency:** Emergency Medicine, Eastern Carolina University Health Medical Center

**Mason Tollar**  
**Campus:** Terre Haute  
**Project:** Point of Care Ultrasound Training with Musculoskeletal Evaluation Uptake at Rural Clinics  
**Mentor:** Ellen Ireland, PhD, MPH

**Morgan Black**  
**Campus:** Terre Haute  
**Project:** Attitudes, Beliefs, and Awareness of Palliative Care Among Rural Patients with Chronic Diseases  
**Mentor:** Ellen Ireland, PhD, MPH  
**Residency:** Urology, Indiana University School of Medicine

**Madelynne Wright**  
**Campus:** Terre Haute
Urban Medicine and Health Care Disparities

Alanna Hooper
Campus: Northwest-Gary
Project: Maternal Morbidity and Mortality of Preeclampsia in African American Women
Mentor: Jennelle D. Richardson, PhD
Residency: Internal Medicine-Preliminary, Advocate Health Care

Chinade Roper
Campus: Northwest-Gary
Project: What a Difference a Year Makes: A Snapshot of the Vaccination, Hospitalizations, and Positivity Rates for SARS-Cov 2 Across the State of Indiana
Mentor: Amy Han, PhD
Residency: Urology, Indiana University School of Medicine

Daniel Green
Campus: Northwest-Gary
Project: Retrospective Analysis of COVID-19 Pandemic Impact on Breast Cancer Screening at Urban Community Hospital: A Longitudinal Perspective
Mentor: Amy Han, PhD
Residency: Pediatrics, University of Chicago Medical Center

Hunter McCollum*
Campus: Northwest-Gary
Mentor: Baraka Muvuka PhD
Residency: Neurology, Brooke Army Medical Center San Antonio

Maryam Sabir*
Campus: Northwest-Gary
Project: Analysis of COVID-19 Case Demographics and Disease Outcomes in Gary, Indiana
Mentor: Amy Han, PhD
Residency: Internal Medicine, Loyola University Medical Center

Mohamed Aldallal*
Campus: Northwest-Gary
Project: The Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Youth Violence: Insights from Professional Key Informants
Mentor: Elizabeth Ryan, EdD
Residency: Radiology-Diagnostic, University of Chicago Medical Center

Sean O’Brien
Campus: Northwest-Gary
Project: Myocarditis in the Presence of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Infection in an 83-year-old Woman
Mentor: Amy Han, PhD
Residency: Internal Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine

Yazan Al-Tarshan*
Campus: Northwest-Gary
Project: Analysis of COVID-19 Case Demographics and Disease Outcomes in Gary, Indiana
Mentor: Amy Han, PhD
Residency: Anesthesiology, Loyola University Medical Center

*See page 18 for Products Published or Accepted
Biomedical Engineering and Applied Medical Technology


Biomedical Research


Genetics in Medicine


Christian Karcher: Successful sperm retrieval in a male with azoospermia, partial AZFa deletion, and CFTR mutation: A case report and literature review. Journal of Fertility and Sterility. Accepted; awaiting publication.

Human Sexuality and Health


(continued on next page)
**Medical Humanities**

**Matthew Hodges:** The End is Nothing: Death in Domestic Spaces in “Old Mrs. Harris” and *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*, The Willa Cather Review. Accepted; awaiting publication.


**Public Health**


**Urban Medicine and Health Care Disparities**


Biomedical Engineering and Applied Medical Technology – West Lafayette

A partnership with Purdue University’s Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, this concentration allows students to develop their understanding and application of biomedical engineering for the ethical design, development, and translation of medical and related technologies. No engineering experience is necessary.

Coursework
Introduction to Biomedical Engineering and Translation of Medical Technologies
Introduction to Customer Discovery
Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

Co-Directors
Ray Munguia-Vazquez, MD, MSc, PhD
Director Pre-Clinical Education (Phase 1), Clinical Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery
Craig Goergen, PhD
Leslie A. Geddes Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University
Aaron Lottes, PhD
Associate Professor of Engineering Practice, Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University

West Lafayette Regional Campus
Dean and Director
Matthew Tews, DO, MS

Staff, Mentors & Instructors
Doug Brubaker, PhD
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University
Deva Chan, PhD
Assistant Professor Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University
Graham Cooks, PhD
Henry B. Hass Distinguished Professor – Analytical Chemistry, Purdue University
Maria Dardalat, PhD
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University
Melissa Kacena, PhD
Professor, Vice Chair for Research, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
Chi Hwan Lee, PhD
Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, Purdue University
Jacqueline Linnes, PhD
Marta E. Gross Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University
Diane Little, BVS, MSpVM, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Basic Medical Sciences, Purdue University
Matt Lynall
Clinical Professor and Director, Purdue NSF I-Corps Site and Midwest I-Corps Node, Krannert School of Management, Purdue University
Georgi Malandraki, PhD
Associate Professor of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, Purdue University
Anne Sereno, PhD
Professor of Psychological Sciences and Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University
Riyi Shi, PhD
Mari Hulman George Endowed Professor of Applied Neuroscience; Director, Center for Paralysis Research, College of Veterinary Medicine, Professor of Basic Medical Science, Purdue University

Luis Solorio, PhD
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University
Matthew Ward, PhD
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University
Cresta Cates
Coordinator Phase 1, IUSM-West Lafayette

Student Participants
Class of 2027 – All West Lafayette
Anish Bedi
Thomas Gastineau
Jacob Ingram
Caroline Joliet
Isabel Knight
Emily Lothamer
Nathan Pairitz
Shannon Riegle

Class of 2026 – All West Lafayette
Talha Ahmad
Alec Booth
Matthew Cochran
Alexa Jauregui
Sri Charan Kanthala
Stasianne Mallin
Karthik Raja Ravichandran
Megan Sullivan
Kenneth Virgin
Albert Zhang

Class of 2025 – All West Lafayette
Sydney Clark
Austin Darden
Faith Darden
Joseph Lazara
Katherine Li
Amanda Thayer
Jacob Thomas
In this concentration, students engage in the critical concepts that underpin biomedical and clinical research, acquiring essential research tools including critical reasoning skills, using the scientific method in design of study, research rigor and reproducibility, research ethics, and disseminating research results for peer review. Students will also be introduced to various resources offered through the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute to assist with biomedical research, including human subjects training, the Clinical Research Center, and the Project Development Team. Students are required to participate in the Indiana University Medical Student Program for Research and Scholarship during the summer between their first and second years of medical school.

**Coursework**
- Immersion in Clinical and Patient-Oriented Research
- Clinical Research Methods
- Research Topics in Medicine
- Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

**Co-Directors**
- Erika R. Cheng, PhD
  Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
- Lisa G. Yazel, EdD
  Assistant Research Professor of Pediatrics

**Staff, Mentors & Instructors**
- **Aaron E. Carroll, MD**
  Chief Health Officer of Indiana University
- **Leonard Buller, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedic Surgery
- **Michael Meneghini, MD**
  Professor of Clinical Orthopaedic Surgery
- **Andrew Otte, PhD**
  Research Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering
- **Sikander Khan, DO**
  Assistant Professor of Medicine
- **Michelle Starr, MD**
  Professor of Pediatrics
- **Michael Veronesi, MD, PhD**
  Assistant Professor of Radiology & Imaging Sciences
- **Bo Zhao, PhD**
  Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery
- **Jennifer Eikenberry, MD**
  Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology
- **Mark Kelley, PhD**
  Betty and Earl Herr Professor of Pediatric Oncology Research
- **Scott Snyder, PhD**
  Associate Professor of Radiology & Imaging Sciences
- **Troy Markel, MD**
  Associate Professor of Surgery
- **Chandan Sen, PhD**
  J. Stanley Battersby Chair and Professor of Surgery, Director of the Indiana Center for Regenerative Medicine and Engineering and Executive Director of the Comprehensive Wound Care Center at IU Health Methodist Hospital
- **Burcin Ekser, MD, PhD**
  Associate Professor of Surgery
- **Kara Garcia, PhD**
  Assistant Research Professor of Radiology & Imaging Sciences and Navigator for the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute

**Student Participants**

**Class of 2027**
- Eyram Kpenu, Northwest-Gary (leave of absence, graduate study)

**Class of 2026**
- Yasmin Ali, Terre Haute
- Christopher Basinski, Indianapolis (leave of absence, graduate study)
- John Hajj, Indianapolis
- Marie Nour Karam, South Bend
- Janak Mukherji, Bloomington
- Alex Nelson, Northwest
- John Salvas, Indianapolis

**Class of 2025 – All Indianapolis**
- Larry Chen
- Noah Davis
- Andrew Gauger
- Livia Georgescu
- Samuel Kaefer
- Manpreet Kaur
- Saveda Majety
- Paul Smith
- Mabel Spio
- John Stout
- Carmen Ungureanu
This scholarly concentration prepares students to provide culturally sensitive medical care to improve outcomes for the nation’s growing Hispanic and Latino population. Additionally, students can improve Spanish-speaking fluency and practice using Spanish in clinical settings.

Coursework
Introduction to Care of Hispanic/Latino Patients
Latino Community Health Status Evaluation
Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

Co-Directors
Ray Munguia-Vazquez, MD, PhD
Director Pre-Clinical Education (Phase 1), Clinical Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery
Cecilia Tenorio, MA
Senior Lecturer, Director of Minor in Spanish for the Professions, Purdue University
Thomas I. Jones, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

West Lafayette Regional Campus
Dean and Director
Matthew Tews, DO, MS

Staff, Mentors & Instructors
Françoise Brosseau-Lapré, PhD
Assistant Professor, Speech Language & Hearing Sciences, Purdue University
Peter S. Pang, MD
Chair, Department of Emergency Medicine
Ashley D. Meagher, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Natalia Rodriguez, PhD, MPH, MSE
Assistant Professor of Public Health, Purdue University
Nikki Messmore, MS
Program Director of Community & Civic Engagement
Louis B. Cantor, MD
Professor Emeritus of Glaucoma Research and Education
Antwione Haywood, PhD
Assistant Dean of Student Affairs
Jessica Maiers, PhD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Timothy B. O’Donnell, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine

Ally-Khan Somani, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Dermatology
Cresta Cates
Coordinator Phase 1, IUSM-West Lafayette

Student Participants
Class of 2027 – All West Lafayette
Andrew Jamison
Cesar Mares
Nicole Sidron

Class of 2026 – All West Lafayette
Molly Beatty
Sydney Hornberger
Victoria Popp
Hugo Rodriguez

Class of 2025 – All West Lafayette
Diana Arrocha
Gloria Garcia
Ethan Goins
Cameron Martin
Alexa Mederos
Jordan Thomas
Mary Jane Zeh
This concentration provides the basic skills for separating the morally beneficial from the morally troubling practices of medicine and enables future physicians to better serve and advocate for their most vulnerable patients. A range of topics are covered, including the cultivation of virtue, the role of narratives in ethics, social and environmental justice, social determinants of health, and health equity. This concentration accesses mentors from various regional partners, numerous IU campuses, and from across the U.S.

Coursework
Introduction to Medical Ethics
Ethics and Health Equity
Bioethics Journal Club
Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

Co-Directors
Rev. Joe Kotva, PhD
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Medicine
Mark D. Fox, MD, PhD
Associate Dean and Director, IUSM-South Bend

Staff, Mentors & Instructors
Dave Lassen, PhD
Community-Engaged Learning Program Director, Center for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame
Kathleen Eggleson, PhD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine
Lauren M. Ladd, MD
Associate Professor of Clinical Radiology & Imaging Sciences
Leah K. Sieck, MD, MS
Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiology & Imaging Sciences
Louis B. Cantor, MD
Jay C. & Lucile L. Kahn Professor Emeritus of Glaucoma Research and Education
Brianne Brenneman
Assistant Professor of Public Health, Goshen College
Paul Shetler Fast
Executive Director Maple City Health Care Center
Ashley Gilmore, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine and Assistant Vice Chair for Health Equity
Ji Seon Song
Assistant Professor of Law, The University of California, Irvine School of Law

Center for the Homeless
DePaul Academy
Unity Gardens
La Casa de Amistad
St. Joseph County Health Department
Maple City Health Center
Mosaic Health & Healing Arts
Real Services
Youth Service Bureau
YWCA North Centeral Indiana
Motels4Now
Imani Unidad
Church Community Services
Center for Community Justice

Student Participants
Class of 2027 – All South Bend
Camryn Barnett
Kennedy Onuoha
Medha Somayaji
Matthew Turner

Class of 2026 – All South Bend
Christopher Abrinko
Mahmoud Al-Fadhl
Madeline Andrews
John Bales
Caymah Dennis
Claire Harper
Jonathan Harris
Morgan Lain
Joshua Scott
Jackson Stone

Class of 2025 – All South Bend
Delaney Cordell
Tyler Dietzel
Blake Jarosinski
Mackenzie Johnson
Margaret Kovalan
Mary O’Connor
Eli Schantz
This concentration provides a deep dive into the latest genetic developments and concepts that are transforming the practice of medicine. Students may explore clinical research, clinical case reports with literature reviews, or other areas of interest in the rapidly changing field of medical genetics.

**Coursework**
- Effective Communications in Genomic Medicine
- Genomic Medicine Journal Club
- Online Clinical Case Review
- Essential Lab Rotation
- Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

**Co-Directors**
- Vinaya Murthy, MPH, LCGC
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Medical and Molecular Genetics
- Brittney-Shea Herbert, PhD
  Associate Professor of Medical and Molecular Genetics, Vice Chair of Education

**Staff, Mentors & Instructors**
- **Amy Breman, PhD**
  Associate Professor of Clinical Medical and Molecular Genetics, Division Director, IU Genetic Testing Laboratories
- **Erin Conboy, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Medical and Molecular Genetics, Co-Director of the Undiagnosed Rare Disease Clinic
- **Evan-Jacob Garcia, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Medical and Molecular Genetics
- **Brett Graham, MD, PhD**
  Associate Professor of Medical and Molecular Genetics, Associate Director of Clinical Genetics
- **Molly McPherson, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Medical and Molecular Genetics
- **Stephanie Ware, MD, PhD**
  Joe C. Christian Professor and Chair of Medical and Molecular Genetics, Program Leader in Cardiovascular Genetics, Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research
- **Theodore E. Wilson, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Medical and Molecular Genetics

**Student Participants**

**Class of 2027**
- Kaylee Tutrow, Indianapolis (leave of absence, graduate study)

**Class of 2026**
- Cristina Contreras Burrola, Indianapolis (leave of absence, research)
- Joseph Cooper, Indianapolis
- Kimberly Felipe, Fort Wayne
- Matthew Gregory, Indianapolis
- Grant Hammons, West Lafayette
- Mirindi Hammons, Indianapolis
- Tejasvi Kakani, Indianapolis
- Evelyn McGuire, Terre Haute
- Katherine Stanley, Indianapolis
- Helapita Ralalage Sagara Wijeratne, Indianapolis (leave of absence, graduate study)

**Class of 2025 – All Indianapolis**
- Rebecca Bruns
- Muqsit Buchh
- Kristine Farag
- Sruthi Ganapaneni
- Jasmine Moawad
- Ethan Wood

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I have had a great experience working with [my mentor], and we are well on our way to completing a great research project [on perceptions of pharmacogenomics among low-income residents of central Indiana]. I have presented at two conferences. I have also submitted an abstract to the 2024 ACMG conference in Toronto [the major society for medical genetics]... the next step is selecting a journal to write for and beginning work on our manuscript.

*Joseph Cooper, Scholarly Concentration in Genetics in Medicine, Indianapolis, Class of 2026*
Health Care Integration and Healthy Aging – Fort Wayne

Older adults are one of the fastest growing demographics in the United States. With the increasing aging population, it is important to equip future physicians with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively coordinate care for aging individuals. Students will learn the importance of collaboration among healthcare providers and specialists, along with community resources to provide patient-centered, value-based care that addresses the physical, emotional, and social needs of older adults while navigating complex healthcare systems. After completing the Health Care Integration and Healthy Aging Scholarly Concentration, students will have a deep understanding of how an integrated approach to healthcare can enhance the well-being and quality of life of aging individuals.

**Coursework**
- Population and Public Health Approaches to Aging
- Health Care Integration and Healthy Aging Journal Club
- Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

**Co-Directors**
- Robert D. Sweazey, PhD
  Assistant Director, IUSM-Fort Wayne
- Leslie A. Hoffman, PhD
  Associate Professor of Clinical Anatomy, Cell Biology & Physiology

**Fort Wayne Regional Campus Dean and Director**
- Fen-Li Chang, MD, PhD

**Staff, Mentors & Instructors**
- Justin Blackburn, PhD
  Associate Professor, Health Policy and Management
- Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
- Amy Dawson, MD MPH FAAFP
  Fort Wayne Medical Education Program

**Scott Myers, MD**
Assistant Clinical Professor
**Jan Nes, MSW, LCSW, ACSW**
Associate Clinical Professor, IU School of Social Work
**Douglas E. Vaughan, MD**
Professor of Medicine, Potocsnak Longevity Institute Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
**Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH, AGSF**
Director of Geriatrics Education, Department of Medicine
**Fen-Li Chang, MD, PhD**
Associate Dean and Director, IUSM-Fort Wayne

**Student Participants**
**Class of 2026 – All Fort Wayne**
- Gabrielle Lutz
- Allison Nelson

**Class of 2025**
- Margaret Bielski, Indianapolis
- Jason Li, South Bend
- Noah Todd, Fort Wayne
A partnership with the Regenstrief Institute, this concentration provides students with an understanding of the components and relationships necessary to create, implement, and use clinical information systems effectively. Through coursework and hands-on experiences, students learn to leverage technology systems in increasingly complex health care systems.

**Coursework**
- Health Informatics Scholarship
- Public Health Informatics Scholarship
- Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

**Co-Director**
Brian E. Dixon, PhD
Research Scientist, Center for Biomedical Informatics and Center for Health Services Research, Director of Public Health Informatics, Regenstrief Institute, Inc.

**Staff, Mentors & Instructors**
- John (JT) Finnell, MD
  Professor of Emergency Medicine
- Kurt Kroenke, MD
  Professor of Medicine
- Jess Halterman, BS
  Fellowship Coordinator, Center for Biomedical Informatics
- Bryan McConomy, MD
  Clinical Informatics Fellow, Regenstrief Institute/IUSM
- Erick Christensen, MD
  Clinical Informatics Fellow, Regenstrief Institute/IUSM
- Randall Grout, MD
  Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
- Josh Vest, PhD
  Professor of Health Policy & Management
- Suranga Kasthuriratne, PhD
  Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
- Titus Schleyer, PhD
  Professor of Medicine
- Shaun Grannis, MD
  Professor of Family Medicine

**Student Participants**
Class of 2025
Eashan Kumar, Indianapolis
(leave of absence, graduate study)

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I enjoyed the collaboration with Purdue University. It fostered my interests in engineering, research, and medicine without adding time to my medical school education.

My mentorship team brought in a unique sent of individuals who graciously and generously brought me into their worlds of expertise, and I am thankful to have done this program.

I feel I am stronger in connecting with patients on the person-to-person level, allowing me to provide better care!
In this concentration, students learn how to help patients implement evidence-based lifestyle choices leading to better health outcomes and participate in research on effectiveness of particular lifestyle interventions. Students work with a team of exercise physiologists, nutritionists, mental/behavioral health counselors, social workers and other health professionals and have access to resources at the Human Performance Laboratory at Ball State University.

**Coursework**

- Introduction to Public Health
- Lifestyle Medicine
- Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

**Co-Directors**

- Larry B. Fromm, PhD
  Adjunct Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
- Michael D. Litt, PhD
  Adjunct Associate Professor of Medical & Molecular Genetics
- Lynn Witty, MD
  Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Muncie Regional Campus Dean and Director**

Derron Bishop, PhD

**Staff, Mentors & Instructors**

Derron Bishop, PhD
Associate Dean and Director, IUSM-Muncie

**Student Participants**

**Class of 2026 – All Muncie**

- Ugonna Adindu
- Darian Ghaffari
- Riley Gill
- Elissa Hachem
- Joel Ochoa-castro
- Maggie Sutton
- Mia Trueblood

**Class of 2025**

- Evan Aders, Bloomington
- Avery Dawes, Muncie
- Alexandra Frank, Muncie
- Jacob Kirby, Muncie
- Zachary McLain, Muncie
- Sarah Montgomery, Bloomington
- John Strobel, Muncie

Scholarly Concentration students exhibit excitement at the prospect of additional learning opportunities. I enjoy watching them turn an idea in an area of interest into a research concept that will teach them how to appropriately investigate a question, and make it pertinent to the eventual improvement in patient outcomes. In our concentration, we’re able to educate them on the benefits of working personally with individuals or communities to promote positive health choices and prevent illness by challenging the status quo for scholarly insight and unbiased investigation.

*Lynn Witty, MD, Co-Director, Scholarly Concentration in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Muncie*
A partnership with the world-renown Kinsey Institute, this concentration helps students understand how various topics related to sex, gender, and sexuality intersect with the practice of medicine. It also provides an opportunity to work with Kinsey researchers.

Coursework
Introduction to Human Sexuality
Critical Issues in Sexuality and Health
Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

Co-Directors
Charles N. Rudick, PhD
Assistant Director of Medical Education, IUSM-Bloomington and Assistant Dean for Curriculum, Phase 1

Justin R. Garcia, PhD
Executive Director and Senior Scientist, Kinsey Institute, and Ruth N. Halls Endowed Professor of Gender Studies

Jessica Hille, JD, PhD
Assistant Director for Education, Kinsey Institute

Staff, Mentors & Instructors
Greg Carter, PhD, MSN
Assistant Professor, IU School of Nursing

Jacek Kolacz, PhD
Assistant Research Scientist, Kinsey Institute

Virgina Vitzthum, PhD
Senior Scientist, Kinsey Institute

Catherine Sherwood-Laughlin, HSD, MPH.
Clinical Professor, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health

Alison Greene, PhD
Assistant Professor, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health

Zoe Peterson, PhD
Senior Scientist, Kinsey Institute

Student Participants
Class of 2026 – All Bloomington
Emma Mazurek
Adaobi Okolocha
Molly Ruggles
Camryn Zuch

Class of 2025
Samantha Ake, Bloomington
Evan Barnett, Bloomington
Natalie Myers, Bloomington
Leah Peipert, Fort Wayne
Katherine Trudeau, Bloomington
(leave of absence, graduate study)
Hannah Witting, Indianapolis

93% of participants say the program has prepared them to serve or lead in their community, organization or profession as they continue their career.
SCHOLARLY CONCENTRATIONS

Medical Education – Bloomington

In this concentration, students learn skills and practices to be effective medical educators and clinical instructors. They examine how to assess teaching effectiveness, student learning and knowledge gains through an introduction to medical education research, methodologies, and scholarship literature.

Coursework
Pedagogical Methods in the Health Sciences
Introduction to Clinical Case Study Development for Non-didactic Learning
Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

Co-Directors
Charles N. Rudick, PhD
Assistant Director of Medical Education, IUSM-Bloomington and Assistant Dean for Curriculum, Phase 1
Valerie D. O’Loughlin, PhD
Professor of Anatomy, Cell Biology & Physiology
Polly R. Husmann, PhD
Associate Professor of Anatomy, Cell Biology & Physiology

Bloomington Regional Campus Dean and Director
Katherine M. Hiller, MD, MPH

Staff, Mentors & Instructors
David Rogers, EdD, EMT-P, NRP, FAHA
Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine
Jessica Byram, PhD
Assistant Professor of Anatomy, Cell Biology & Physiology

Student Participants
Class of 2026 – All Bloomington
Elsie Gasaway
Elizabeth Kerns
Adrian Morales
David Randall
(leave of absence, graduate study)

Class of 2025 – All Bloomington
Maxwell Bohrer
A collaboration with the Medical Humanities and Health Studies Program in the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, this concentration offers an interdisciplinary course of study which provides medical students with qualitative humanistic and socio-cultural perspectives on health care. Students will study more comprehensively, and in-depth, the social, cultural, and humanistic determinants and consequences of health, disease, and healing from literary, historical, and bioethical perspectives.

Coursework
Introduction to Medical Humanities: Perspectives on Health, Disease and Healing
Medicine and the Humanities: Examining the Human Condition
Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

Co-Directors
Emily S. Beckman, DMH
Director, Assistant Professor, Medical Humanities and Health Studies, IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI

Jane A. Hartsock, JD, MA
Director, Clinical and Organizational Ethics, IU Health

Staff, Mentors & Instructors

Elizabeth Nelson, PhD
Assistant Professor, Medical Humanities and Health Studies, IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI

Paul Helft, MD
Professor of Medicine and Director, Charles Warren Fairbanks Center for Medical Ethics

Peter Schwartz, MD, PhD
Director, IU Center for Bioethics, Associate Professor of Medicine

Richard Gunderman, MD, PhD
Chancellor’s Professor of Radiology, Pediatrics, Medical Education, Philosophy, Liberal Arts, Philanthropy, and Medical Humanities and Health Studies and John A. Campbell Professor of Radiology

Kenzie Mintus, PhD
Associate Professor, Sociology, IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI

Diane Prenatt, PhD
Professor of Literature, Marian University

Brandon Brown, MD, MA
Vice-Chair, Radiology and Imaging Sciences, Associate Professor, Radiology, Pediatrics, OB/GYN, Philosophy, Medicine

Colin Halverson, PhD
Assistant Professor, Medicine

Angeline Larimer, MFA, MA
Affiliate Faculty, Medical Humanities and Health Studies, Communication Studies, IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI

Katharine Head, JD
Associate Professor, Communication Studies, IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI

Student Participants
Class of 2026
Caroline Bice, Indianapolis
Elias Chahoud, Indianapolis
Ana Danner, Fort Wayne
Adrienne Gaughan, Indianapolis
Jesus Olivera, Indianapolis
Nathan Shigley, Indianapolis
Toria Tucker, Bloomington
Micah Williams, Indianapolis

Class of 2025
Ashley Egler, Indianapolis
Jordan Finch, Indianapolis
Daniel Martin, Indianapolis
Gabrielle Omoregie, West Lafayette
Ananya Tadikonda, Indianapolis
Margaret Tharp, Indianapolis

The Medical Humanities scholarly concentration was one of the best decisions I’ve made for myself in medical school. It allows scholarly engagement, discussion of complex topics, and maintenance of wellness through engaging in a side of medicine that is highly important but often neglected in medical education. I highly recommend the experience to anyone else who is interested.

Margaret Tharp, Scholarly Concentration in Medical Humanities, Indianapolis, Class of 2025
Quality and Innovation in Health Care – Evansville

This program trains future clinicians to improve quality, safety, and efficiency in healthcare systems. Students use real-world evidence to identify needs and assess practical solutions to problems. Scholarly Concentration projects may lead to quality improvement initiatives and/or health care innovation.

By participating in interactive, workshop-style courses alongside various health care professionals, students master widely recognized approaches for continuous improvement and design thinking. Through completion of coursework and a quality improvement project, students can earn Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certification. Students gain experience applying quality improvement and innovation frameworks that can be used in any specialty throughout their careers.

Coursework
Introduction to Health Care Innovation and Implementation
Lean Six Sigma for Health Care Professionals
Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

Co-Directors
Kara Garcia, PhD
Assistant Research Professor of Radiology & Imaging Sciences and Navigator for the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute

Arthur L. Chlebowski, PhD
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Assistant Professor, Department of Engineering, University of Southern Indiana

Evansville Regional Campus Dean and Director
Steven G. Becker, MD

Staff, Mentors & Instructors
Barbara Cash, MHA, CSSMBB
Quality Systems Manager, Deaconess Health System, Adjunct Instructor, IUSM-Evansville

Greg Folz, CCRP
Former Administrative Director, Research Institute of Deaconess Clinic

Mary Ann Shifflett, PhD
Six Sigma Black Belt, Deaconess Health System, Contract Assistant Professor, University of Southern Indiana, Adjunct Instructor, IUSM-Evansville

Tapan Mehta, MD
Physician

Amanda Boehleber, MD
Physician

Kenneth Spear, MD
Health Officer, Vanderburgh County Health Department

Subha Raman, MD
Professor of Cardiology, Chief of Cardiology, Director of the Cardiovascular Institute, and VP for Cardiovascular Services

Majed Koleilat, MD
Physician

William Smith, MD
Physician

Tammy Sajdyk, PhD
Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics and Associate Director of the Translational Research Development Program, Indiana CTSI

Susan Ely, PhD
Assistant Professor of Engineering, University of Southern Indiana

Erin Reese, RN
Immunization Nurse, Vanderburgh County Health Department

Jing Su, PhD
Assistant Professor of Biostatistics & Health Data Science

Emily Scott, MD
Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics

Student Participants
Class of 2026
Gabriel Araya, Evansville
Elizabeth Bell, Terre Haute
Jacob Hedberg, Evansville
Taylor Kenyon, Terre Haute
Landon Upshaw, Evansville

Class of 2025 – All Evansville
Brittany Gass
Ryan Heumann
David Pereira
Troy Wesson

Having the opportunity to work with doctors and other health care professionals who have taken up additional quality improvement roles within their hospital systems has provided me with a better understanding of how I can pursue quality innovation in health care as a medical professional.

Christopher Blanco, MD, Internal Medicine Resident, Tufts Medical Center, Scholarly Concentration in Quality and Innovation in Health Care, Evansville, Class of 2023 graduate
Working in rural medicine gives you the opportunity to think outside of the box and come up with care plans that can be tailored to widely different people. I feel the Rural Health scholarly concentration has taught me how to handle many of these situations while moving forward in my career.

Reese Miller, MD, Anesthesiology Resident, Indiana University School of Medicine, Scholarly Concentration in Rural Health, Terre Haute, Class of 2022 graduate

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**Rural Health – Terre Haute**

*This concentration offers students an opportunity to learn and engage with rural communities through research using diverse methods and topics. Coursework and projects teach students how community and behavior unique to rural populations impact public health issues.*

**Coursework**
- Introduction to Public Health
- Introduction to Rural and Agricultural Health
- Rural Health Journal Club
- Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

**Co-Directors**
- Ellen M. Ireland, PhD, MPH
- Robin L. Danek, PhD, MPH

**Terre Haute Regional Campus Dean and Director**
- Taihung (Peter) Duong, PhD

**Staff, Mentors & Instructors**
- **Jiali Han, PhD**
  - Professor, Chair of Epidemiology, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
- **James Wilcox, MD**
  - Assistant Professor of Clinical Family Medicine
- **Eric Reyes, PhD**
  - Associate Professor, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- **Hongmei Nan, MD PhD**
  - Professor, IU Center for Global Health

**Student Participants**

**Class of 2026 – All Terre Haute**
- Molly Barten
- Katheryn Bell
- Travis Owen
- Katelyn Rusiniak
- Abby Wetzel

**Class of 2025**
- Kameron Bell, Terre Haute
- Evan Curl, Bloomington
- Chase Salmon, Terre Haute

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*I think the scholarly concentration experience provides students with more confidence in their ability to create and lead research projects in the future. Students in our concentration come in with a wide range of prior research experience, but our projects really give them the start-to-finish practice on design and execution of multiple stages of a research study.*

Ellen Ireland, PhD, Co-Director, Scholarly Concentration in Rural Health, Terre Haute
This concentration provides students with an understanding of the historical and contemporary barriers that exist for the nation’s medically underserved in urban areas. Students will investigate authentic cross-cultural and linguistic issues in health care and be able to demonstrate how sensitivity to such issues improves health care for all. Through scholarly project work, students will act as advocates by developing interventions to address or reduce health disparities.

Coursework
Healthcare Disparities in an Urban Setting, Course 1
Healthcare Disparities in an Urban Setting, Course 2
Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

Co-Directors
Amy W. Han, PhD
Director of Clinical Education, IUSM-Northwest-Gary, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry
Baraka Muvuka, PhD, MPH, MCHES
Assistant Professor of Clinical Family Medicine, Director of Research, IUSM-Northwest-Gary

Staff, Mentors & Instructors
Roland Walker, MD
Commissioner, Gary Health Department, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Michael McGee, MD
Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine
Kobie Douglas, MD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Program Director, IUSM-Northwest-Gary Psychiatry Residency, Medical Director, Regional Health Systems
Ramana Yedavalli, MD
Assistant Professor of Interventional Radiology
Joshua Mangum, Ph D
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anatomy, Cell Biology & Physiology
Tatiana Kostrimanova, PhD
Professor of Histology
Victor Garcia
Foodbank of Northwest Indiana
Jason Zaideman
Operation Combat Bike Saver
Samer Ajam, MD
Assistant Professor of Cardiology
William Forgey, MD
Assistant Professor of Family Medicine
Jonathan Guerrero, Pham D, BCPS, MSeD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology
Kyle Gospodarek, MD
Lecturer of Clinical Medicine
Michelle LaTurner
Gabrielle Li
Miatta Ndama
Pooja Patel
Luke Peterson
Satya Sanapati
Michael Yallourakis
William Zhang

Class of 2025 – All Northwest-Gary
Nicholas Crowe
Will Hutwagner

I highly highly recommend it [Scholarly Concentrations Program], because not only does it nudge you into the right direction of getting a good project out there ... it pushes you to do something important and good, that could be helpful for the community that you’re going to be living in for the next 4 years.

Mohamed Aldallal, Scholarly Concentration in Urban Medicine and Health Care Disparities, Northwest-Gary, Class of 2024
A partnership with IU’s Kelley School of Business, this concentration prepares future physicians to apply the fundamentals of business in clinical environments. Merging evidence-based management with evidence-based medicine, students learn how to improve medical outcomes, reduce costs, and lift staff morale.

**Coursework**
- Value Creation and Financial Performance in Health Care Systems
- Business Management of the Patient Experience
- Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

**Co-Directors**
- Gregory L. Katzman, MD, MBA
  Service Chief, Radiology, Richard L. Roudebush VA Hospital, Professor of Radiology & Imaging Sciences
- Kyle J. Anderson, PhD
  Clinical Assistant Professor, IU Kelley School of Business

**Staff, Mentors & Instructors**
- Todd Saxton, PhD
  Associate Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship and Kelley Venture Fellow, IU Kelley School of Business
- M. Kim Saxton, PhD, MBA
  Clinical Professor of Marketing, IU Kelley School of Business
- Janelle Cissell
  Associate Director, IU Kelley School of Business

**Student Participants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2029</th>
<th>Gloria Xue, Indianapolis  (leave of absence, graduate study)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2026</td>
<td>Keyshla Nieves, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Christopher Garcia, Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>Tyler Given, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Salil Gupta, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Amir Hailat, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Cameron Harmon, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Tejas Kandharkar, Evansville</td>
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<td>August Katz, Bloomington</td>
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<td>Syeda Mobashir, West Lafayette</td>
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<td>Radha Patel, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Shyam Polaconda, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Mychael Spencer, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>Nikola Vuckovic, South Bend</td>
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<td>Hannah Wang, Northwest</td>
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<td>Jalyn Warren, Indianapolis</td>
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<td>William Wilson, Terre Haute</td>
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<td>Carson Wyatt, Evansville</td>
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<td>Andrew Zoss, Fort Wayne</td>
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</tbody>
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**Class of 2025**
- Iyad Ali, Northwest-Gary
- Sunjay Anekal, Bloomington
- Jonathan Arnold, Indianapolis
- Abigail Beard, Bloomington
- Aditya Belamkar, Indianapolis
- Frank Dijak, Indianapolis  (leave of absence, graduate study)
- Cameron Edwards, Indianapolis
- Kathleen Ho, Indianapolis
- Natalie Jacobson, Indianapolis
- Nicole Jansen, Indianapolis
- Rigel Jaquish, Indianapolis
- Alexander Johnson, Bloomington
- Heidi Keiser, Indianapolis
- Niloy Lahiri, Indianapolis
- Brianna Lawrence, Bloomington
- Brayan Caprison, Bloomington
- Cameron McClaine, Bloomington
- Thomas Murphy, Bloomington
- Laeticia Nkuibet, Indianapolis
- Oseme Okoruwa, Evansville
- Bhavesh Patel, Indianapolis
- Osama Saadoon, Muncie
- Jack Sansone, Indianapolis
- William Stanton, Evansville
- Luke Swartz, Terre Haute
- Omkar Tamhankar, Northwest-Gary
- Natalie Vellutini, Northwest-Gary
- Youngjun Woo, Indianapolis
A partnership with the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health at IUPUI, this concentration provides foundational knowledge in public health. This includes an understanding of the U.S. health system; how social barriers can impact health and health care; trends impacting public health; and evidence-based interventions, among other topics.

**Coursework**

- Introduction to Public Health
- Population Health for Clinicians
- Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship

**Co-Directors**

- Paul K. Halverson, DrPH, FACHE
  Founding Dean, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
- Amanda D. Benadaret, MD, MPH
  Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
- William Tierney, MD
  Associate Dean of Population Health and Health Outcomes, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
- Jordan A. Holmes, MD
  Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology
- Priscilla Barnes, PhD, MPH
  Associate Professor, IU-Bloomington School of Public Health

**Staff, Mentors & Instructors**

- **Jeffrey Peipert, MD, PhD**
  Chair, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
- **Sherri Bucher, PhD**
  Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Investigator, Global Network for Women’s and Children’s Research, USAID-AMPATH
- **Sara Wiehe, MD, PhD**
  Associate Dean for Community and Translational Research
- **Sarah Stelzner, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
- **Christopher Callahan, MD**
  Professor of Medicine, Investigator, Center for Aging Research, Regenstrief Institute, Inc. and Director, Sandra Eskenazi Center for Brain Care Innovation
- **Megan McHenry, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
- **Caitlin Bernard, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics & Gynecology
- **Heidi Beidinger-Burnett, PhD**
  Assistant Professor, Eck Institute of Global Health at University of Notre Dame and Campus Liaison for the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute
- **Ruben Hernandez, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Family Medicine
- **Chi Wah “Rudy” Yung, MD**
  Professor Emeritus of Ophthalmology
- **Sylk Sotto, EdD, MBA, MPS**
  Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs, Development and Diversity and Assistant Professor of Medicine
- **Emily Cha, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedic Surgery
- **Brian Gray, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Surgery
- **Olena Mazurenko, MD, PhD**
  Associate Professor, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
- **Bob Einterz, MD**
  Emeritus Professor, Founding Director, IU Center for Global Health, Donald E. Brown Professor for Global Health, Associate Dean for Global Health, St. Joseph County Health Department
- **Sally Dixon**
  Fetal Infant Mortality Review Program Coordinator, HOPE, St. Joseph County Health Department
- **Tammy Toscos, PhD**
  Adjunct Assistant Professor, Health Informatics
- **Jill Connors, PhD**
  Assistant Research Professor of Surgery
- **Kathryn Haider, MD**
  Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology and Director of Clinical Research
- **Tami Hannon, MD**
  Professor of Pediatrics and Professor of Medical and Molecular Genetics
- **Jim Lemons, MD**
  Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
- **Matt Turri, MD**
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine
- **Kara Garcia, PhD**
  Assistant Research Professor of Radiology & Imaging Sciences and Navigator for the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute
- **Linda Williams, MD**
  Professor of Neurology
**Staff, Mentors & Instructors, continued**

Dustin Nowaskie, MD  
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California

Gregory Westin, MD  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Carl Pafford, MD  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine

Lauren Bell, MD, MPH  
PGY6 Resident in Pediatrics

Seethal Jacob, MD, MS  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Benjamin Nti, MD  
Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine

Adam Eckred, PhD  
Associate Professor, O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs

Sara Naramore, MD  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics

Phil DeCicca, PhD  
Professor of Health Economics, Ball State University

Don Sanders, MD  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Dennis Saviaiano, PhD  
Professor of Nutrition Science, Purdue University

Kathi Ridley-Merriweather, MS  
Doctoral Candidate, IU Health Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center

Megan McHenry, MD, MS  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Mohammed Al-Haddad, MD, MS  
Professor and Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Michael Murphy, MD  
Professor of Surgery

Suzann Lupton, PhD, JD  
Associate Dean of Student Services, Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environment Affairs

Joshua Huot, PhD, MS  
Assistant Professor of Anatomy

Brownsyne Tucker-Edmonds, MD, MPH  
Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Associate Dean for Health Equity Research

Matt Dietrich, PhD  
Senior Data Analyst, Luddy School of Informatics

Debra Litzelman, MD  
Professor of Medicine

Syril Keena Que, MD  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Dermatology

Titus Schleyer, DMD, PhD  
Professor of Medicine

Nadia Needleman, MS  
Program Coordinator, Center for Health Policy, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health

Leslie Hulvershorn, MD  
Associate Professor and Chair of Psychiatry

Chandy John, MD, MS  
Professor of Pediatrics

Roman Natoli, MD, PhD  
Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery

Subha Raman, MD  
Professor of Cardiology

Olawale Ojo, MD, MSC  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry

Temel Tirkes, MD  
Professor of Radiology and Imaging Services

Christine Motzkus, MD, PhD, MPH  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine

Cassidy McNamee, MPH  
Policy Analyst, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health, Program Manager, Scholarly Concentration in Public Health

Nir Menachemi, PhD  
Interim Dean and Professor, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health

(continued on next page)

**SCHOLARLY CONCENTRATIONS OFFERED STATEWIDE**

It was really a great experience and I think exemplifies how the School of Medicine can help spark the possibility of a research career among our students early in their career development. Courtney (Seigel) is a superstar; I’m delighted she’s interested in Neurology!

*Linda Williams, MD, Professor of Neurology, Scholarly Concentration in Public Health mentor*
<p>Student Participants</p><p><strong>Class of 2027</strong></p><p>Supriya Chittajallu, Fort Wayne</p><p><strong>Class of 2026</strong></p><p>Noor Abdullah, Indianapolis<br/>Lauren Alexander, Indianapolis<br/>Ashley Alvarado, Indianapolis<br/>Julia Amstutz, Indianapolis<br/>Jinan Ayub, West Lafayette<br/>Geneva Baumberger, Bloomington<br/>Luke Brennan, Indianapolis<br/>Jalpana Chowdury, Bloomington<br/>Amr Kais, Bloomington<br/>Uzair Khan, Indianapolis<br/>Lucia Li, Indianapolis<br/>Eric Micco, Northwest-Gary<br/>Cristina Olvera-Jaramillo, Muncie<br/>Alexa Petrucciani, Indianapolis<br/>Margaret Phiri, Indianapolis<br/>Pari Revankar, West Lafayette<br/>Vanessa Schweiterman, Bloomington<br/>Mary Slaughter, Indianapolis<br/>John Wang, Evansville<br/>Lauren Ward, Indianapolis<br/>Kylie Wertz, Bloomington<br/>Aaron Williams, Fort Wayne<br/>Grace Yuan, Evansville</p><p><strong>Class of 2025</strong></p><p>Hannah Eikelberg, Muncie<br/>Maria Fernandez Olivera, Muncie<br/>Jayla French, Indianapolis<br/>Nico Frey, Indianapolis<br/>Samuel Gutierrez, Indianapolis<br/>Madeline Hathoot, Indianapolis<br/>Beau Mansker, Indianapolis<br/>Josey Noel, Indianapolis<br/>Victor Olufusi, Indianapolis<br/>Michael Partridge, Muncie<br/>Payal Patel, Indianapolis<br/>Neal Vandeventer, Terre Haute<br/>Katherine Vogel, Indianapolis<br/>Hallie Waters, Bloomington<br/>Jennifer Watters, Indianapolis<br/>Klaudia Wojciechowska, West Lafayette</p><p>Religion and Spirituality in Medicine</p><p><strong>In this concentration, students are introduced to major spiritual traditions and how they interact with spiritual concepts in health. A diversity of religious traditions, as well as non-religious spiritual traditions are covered. Course sessions will be led by a spiritually diverse faculty, with discussion of spiritual traditions preferentially led by leaders within those traditions.</strong></p><p><strong>Co-Directors</strong></p><p>Alex Lion, DO<br/>Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics<br/>Mona A. Raed, MD<br/>Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics</p><p><strong>Staff, Mentors & Instructors (non-exhaustive list)</strong></p><p>Anastasia Holman MDiv, MBA, BCC<br/>Director of Chaplaincy Education, IU Health<br/>Robyn Axel-Adams MS, MDiv, BCC<br/>Charles Warren Fairbanks Center for Medical Ethics<br/>Alexia Torke, MD, MS<br/>Professor of Medicine, Section Chief, Palliative Care<br/>Rabbi Bruce Pfeffer, MAHL, BCC<br/>Director of Chaplaincy, IU Health</p><p><strong>Academic Accomplishments</strong></p><p>2024 National Conference on Medicine and Religion, planned and hosted by Scholarly Concentrations co-directors and faculty from IU School of Medicine and IU Health</p><p><strong>Awards/Grants received</strong></p><p>Trustee’s Teaching Award to Dr. Alex Lion<br/>PLUS Grant – $50,000 from IU School of Medicine Faculty Affairs and Professional Development used to support Co-Director Alex Lion’s time to mentor three concentration students’ research related to the Team Based Spirituality curriculum, for a research assistant and biostatistics support. The PLUS award also allowed Dr. Lion to work collaboratively with IU Health on this project.</p><p><strong>Student Participants</strong></p><p><strong>Class of 2026</strong></p><p>Clayton Hicks, Indianapolis<br/>Chaman Kumar, Terre Haute<br/>Robyn Axel-Adams MS, MDiv, BCC<br/>Charles Warren Fairbanks Center for Medical Ethics<br/>Alexia Torke, MD, MS<br/>Professor of Medicine, Section Chief, Palliative Care<br/>Rabbi Bruce Pfeffer, MAHL, BCC<br/>Director of Chaplaincy, IU Health</p><p><strong>Class of 2025</strong></p><p>Hannah Eikelberg, Muncie<br/>Maria Fernandez Olivera, Muncie<br/>Jayla French, Indianapolis<br/>Nico Frey, Indianapolis<br/>Samuel Gutierrez, Indianapolis<br/>Madeline Hathoot, Indianapolis<br/>Beau Mansker, Indianapolis<br/>Josey Noel, Indianapolis<br/>Victor Olufusi, Indianapolis<br/>Michael Partridge, Muncie<br/>Payal Patel, Indianapolis<br/>Neal Vandeventer, Terre Haute<br/>Katherine Vogel, Indianapolis<br/>Hallie Waters, Bloomington<br/>Jennifer Watters, Indianapolis<br/>Klaudia Wojciechowska, West Lafayette
The IUSM Scholarly Concentrations Program encourages student scholarly work and is also a vehicle for scholarship. Here is program-related scholarship for 2023.

### Published in *Academic Medicine*

**Residency Program Directors’ Views on Research Conducted During Medical School: A National Survey**


### Published in *Medical Science Educator*

**The IUSM Medical Education Scholarly Concentration: Training Medical Students to Become Future Clinical Educators**


### 2023 AAMC Regional Medical Campus Conference Poster Presentation

**Assessing a Longitudinal Educational Experience for Continuous Quality Improvement**

Authors Deborah R. Birnbaum, MBA; Anthony Masseria, MEd; Sarah Walsh, MPH.

### Concentrations Receive Mini-Grant Awards

The following concentrations received grant funding for health equity projects involving medical students from the IU School of Medicine’s Health Resources and Services Administration Prime grant. The HRSA Prime grant funds efforts to enhance training and inspire more graduates to serve more underserved and vulnerable populations, and address health inequities.

- **Care of Hispanic/Latino Patients, West Lafayette**
  - Use of Spanish-speaking Standardized Patients in the pre-clinical training of medical students. Ray Mungua-Vazquez, MD, PhD (Principal Investigator), Francoise Brosseau-Lapre, PhD (Co-PI) and Matthew Tews, DO (Co-PI). Student Investigator: Gloria Garcia

- **Quality and Innovation in Health Care, Evansville**
  - Assessment of Survivor Cancer Care in the Adolescent and Young Adult Population in Rural Southwestern Indiana. Kara Garcia, PhD, and Tamara Sajdyk, MD (Co-PIs). Student Investigator Brittany Glass

- **Rural Health, Terre Haute**
  - Point of Care Ultrasound Training with Musculoskeletal Evaluation Uptake at Rural Clinics. Ellen Ireland, PhD (PI) and James Wilcox, MD (Co-PI). Student Investigators: Roarke Tollar; Ben Herman; Myanna Cook; and Natalie Cox

- **Urban Medicine and Health Care Disparities, Northwest-Gary**
  - Addressing Health Inequities in Northwest Indiana Through Longitudinal Student-Led Community Based Participatory Research Partnerships. Baraka Muvuka, PhD, Elizabeth Ryan, EdD, and Amy Han, PhD (Co-PIs). Student Investigators: Emma Love; Sydnye Nosbusch; Antonio Presutti; Daniel Green; Hunter McCollum; Will Hutwagner; Erin Brown; Mohamed Shakeeb Aldallal; Deeb Omari
LEADERSHIP

Scholarly Concentrations Program Team

Program Director
Deb Birnbaum, MBA

Program Coordinator
Michelle Marie Polanco, BA

Executive Associate Dean of Educational Affairs and Program Champion
Paul M. Wallach, MD

Scholarly Concentrations Program Ad-Hoc Committee

Bradley L. Allen, MD, PhD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Fen-Lei Chang, MD, PhD
Associate Dean and Director, IUSM-Fort Wayne

Peter Duong, PhD
Associate Dean and Director, IUSM-Terre Haute

Laura Hinkle, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine

Caitlyn Mulcahey
4th year Medical Student

Harish Rao, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics

Amee Sangani
4th year Medical Student

Scholarly Concentrations Program Operations Team

Erich Bauer
Educational Technology Consultant

Deb Birnbaum, MBA
Scholarly Concentrations Program Director

Troy Felton
Senior Software Engineer

Scott Hemmerlein
Manager of Application Integration, Web and Business Intelligence

Dave O’Korn
Software Engineer

Michelle Marie Polanco, BA
Scholarly Concentrations Program Coordinator

Amanda Ybarra, MA
Registrar

Scholarly Concentrations Evaluation and Assessment Team

Bradley L. Allen, MD, PhD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Student Education

Deb Birnbaum, MBA
Scholarly Concentrations Program Director

Anthony Masseria, MSEd
Evaluation Program Manager

Michelle Marie Polanco, BA
Scholarly Concentrations Program Coordinator

Roles and Responsibilities

Executive Associate Dean
Vision and leadership; review and approve topics; partnerships

Curriculum Council Steering Committee
Curricular leadership; review and approve proposals

Scholarly Concentrations Program Ad-Hoc Committee
Review and recommend for approval to Steering Committee

Program Director
Ongoing direction and management of statewide program

Program Coordinator
Handles various aspects of program operations, data management and reporting

Associate Dean and Director of Regional Campus
Campus champion, responsible for overall campus success

Scholarly Concentration Co-Directors
Develop and manage concentration, curriculum, scholarly projects. Student success

Scholarly Concentration Project Mentor
Guide students through scholarly project, manuscript, poster

Course Director
Development of course syllabus, course content, assessment

Liaison Librarian
Support students and educators with library resources

Lead Advisor
Student academic advising; partner with co-directors when needed