

Campus News

MS1's Get First Gulp by Brian Meek

Not to beat a dead horse, but the new members of the IUSM are starting to understand what it's like to drink from a fire hydrant (send new metaphor ideas to bdmeek@iupui.edu). Coming off our first set of exams, there are probably a few things all MS1's can relate to: Lack of sleep...check...Elevated anxiety...check...Broken-in desk chair... check... Controversy over our very first exam in medical school...*priceless*, and EBM no less. All in all though, the transition is similar to what many of us have experienced before, and most are starting to settle nicely into the medical student lifestyle. Anatomy has remained the king of classes we fear the most, and as expected, the number of students in the Emerson Auditorium balcony is increasing nicely. We have also just experienced the joy that is the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, with primary presentation of fatigue and identity crisis following the morning session. Anyway, the MS1s are just getting started, and as the year moves on there will be a lot more to talk about. Right now we are all just a little happy that the first set of exams is behind us and the second set is not too close. Cheers.

MS3: Congrats! by Anthony Harris

Congratulations to the Class of 2006, for your successful completion of the first block of rotations! It's mind boggling to think that we have completed one-third of our third year of medical school.

After talking to quite a few of our classmates, I find that everyone is enjoying third year far better than second. As we proceed through our respective rotations, it is imperative that we keep in mind our responsibility to pass down to our sophomore classmates the valuable tidbits of intangible knowledge we pick up. Therefore, I am asking that each of us, at the end of our rotations, take a moment to write down five to ten "pearls" of knowledge that may be imparted to upcoming students. If possible, please include how the competencies affected your clinical experience. You can place your pearls in a safe location (or in my mailbox). At the end of third year, we will be able to provide rising juniors with a compilation of information and suggestions. What I desire to accomplish is to not only give the 411 on what to study, but also to provide critical nuggets of "Do's and Don'ts" for each rotation. The objective of this effort is to ease the tensions of underclassmen concerning the "eminent danger of failing a competency."

I'm confident that together we can ensure the transition from books to clinical years is smoother and more fruitful, not only for our classmates but also for generations of medical students to come.

MS2: Living off the Phat (Parties) by Samson Chan and Adri Lona

The MS II's are living the idyllic life, off the fat of our first year. We've been partying every weekend. The semester kicked off with Sabrina and Soriaya's porn party. We can't report on it because what happened there stays there. Then we lived it up at Victoria's house where the meddies brought a keg and Victoria's parents served paté. We also celebrated Mike Ha's entrance into retirement age. And Joe Frank showed the philanthropic side of the MSII's by helping make Rock for Riley a huge success. But lest you think second year is all fun and games, Dr. Wong's neuro web exams terrorized us for two weekends. But the real rain on this parade will be the impending doom known as The Blocks, which will begin Friday, October 8th. Time to start getting really religious.

MS4's: Busy is a four letter word by Toni Lin

"F" is for "Fourth Year," but it also stands for "Freaking Stressed!" Oh wait, maybe that's just me...

The Senior class members find themselves split between several activities: gathering letters of recommendation, studying for the USMLE Step 2, doing rotations at other schools, and completing core clerkships. One (very) informal poll found that 50% of IU seniors were reconsidering their specialty choice, while the other half has picked up a second job to pay for Step 2 CS.

This month, ERAS, the residency equivalent of AMCAS, began accepting idealized personal statements, exaggerated CVs and mildly favorable letters of recommendation. Underclassmen: Now is the time to make Melissa Titus, Dennis Deal and Nancy Mitchell your three best friends.

The MSIV Bankroll

First Aid for Step 2	\$39.95
Signing up for Step 2 - Clinical Knowledge	\$435
Registering for Step 2 - Clinical Skills	\$975
Rescheduling because you weren't ready yet	\$50
Never having to draw the Loop of Henle again	priceless

Center Campus Update: Running the Race in Bloomington by Dayna Ingram

It is now six weeks after classes started and I'm having a hard time remembering the first day. The nervousness we all felt anticipating what this semester would bring has been replaced by excitement for Fall Break. The normal getting to know you conversation amongst classmates has been replaced with an asynchronous recitation of the intercostal muscles before an exam. Yet despite all our curriculum requires of us academically, Bloomington has provided all the enjoyments of a college atmosphere as well as the comforts of a beautiful Indiana town.

Getting acquainted with life in Bloomington has been an adventure. We gather from talking to second years that some things have changed since last year- and this fact became apparent early on. For one thing, the lack of parking has made our daily treks to campus an ordeal. Last year parking was readily available to medical students who had proper parking permit. However, this year Indiana University as well as the Bloomington Transit System have rerouted and eliminated many of the most accessible routes to campus. I personally spent twenty minutes one day looking for a parking spot only to find one fifteen minutes away from campus.

The close-knit group of twenty-eight students in the Bloomington first year class has been advantageous both academically and socially. Several students have found it beneficial to study with others while others tend to focus better with individual study. Furthermore, there is never a lack of leisure opportunities, whether you wish to enjoy a quick afternoon run at the centrally located Bryan Park, shop at the nearby College Mall, or let go of all your worries as you party the night away at the many nearby local hotspots.

Getting involved in the community has been something that we students have plunged into as well. On September 18th, dedicated first and second year medical students participated in the 5th annual Hoosiers Outrun Cancer 5K Run/Walk. The event is sponsored by the Bloomington Hospital and Healthcare System and donates all proceeds to the hospital's Olcott Center for Cancer Education. This year over 3,000 people participated, making it the largest 5K run/walk event for Monroe County. For many people, the event is a very emotional and memorable event as they honor a loved one who fought a battle with cancer. First year student Masood Zaman was impressed by the large number of people who came from all of Monroe County to contribute in some way. "You realize that what you went through and lived through is someone else's reality," says Zaman. In seeing the names of cancer survivors and victims displayed, Zaman also noticed how many lives cancer affects. "You realize that it's somebody's aunt, mother, or daughter." The event raised over \$140,000 for the Olcott Center.

After what has happened the past few weeks, I couldn't have asked for a better start to my medical experience. I have no doubt that we students will continue to appreciate all the benefits of beginning our medical careers in Bloomington.



Janine Zee-Cheng, Bloomington first year, studies for anatomy.



Bloomington's Jordan Hall where medical administrative offices are found.