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Office of Faculty Affairs

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From the Desk of the EAD/ADFA



The American Association of Dental Editors and Journalists (AADEJ) has been busy with the release of a guidance paper on the use of generative AI in academic writing, and planning their season of educational programs. In January, an AADEJ panel released critical guidance on generative AI use in dental publishing. **Dr. Jeffrey Platt** participated as a member of the stakeholder panel, providing his expertise, which led to the development of the consensus statements, *Guidance for Authors, Editors, and Publishers on the Use of Generative AI*.



This paper presents “best-practice guidelines for the ethical use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI) and large language models (LLMs) in the creation, editing, and publication processes in dental writing and publishing.” To access the guidance document, visit: <https://commons.ada.org/individualscholarship/9/>.

The AADEJ Dental Editors University that will be held in Chicago on March 12-13 will provide additional information regarding the consensus. **Dr. Vanchit John** has been invited to present on his experience editing the Journal of the Indiana State Dental Association.

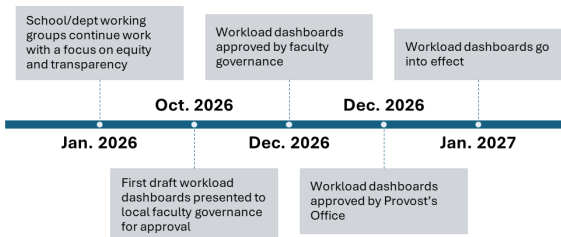
We have entered the Dental License renewal season. With the March 1, 2026 expiration date approaching, there is the requirement of completion of an ethics and jurisprudence course. Our CE department has provided two opportunities to take the course at the school. There is **one remaining program** planned for February 13 from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. Since you cannot renew your license until you have completed this training, if you have not done so yet please take advantage of this opportunity. Since updating of dental licenses is part of the credentialing process, the staff in Finance and ICT will be working to recredential everyone by the March 1, 2026 deadline to ensure no disruption in services. Faculty will not need to upload copies of dental licenses nor email them anywhere, staff will manage identification of those who have completed their renewal through the online licensing board website. However, to not overburden them with last-minute filings, we are requesting that



faculty renew their licenses as soon as possible. We appreciate your help in this process.

Annual Performance Reviews have been uploaded to Elements, the Annual Review has been submitted, and now the process of department chairs and supervisors reviewing the documents begins. Thank you to all faculty and staff who helped with the transition to Elements. As with anything new there are growing pains, but overall, we are successfully navigating this new system.

The Office of Faculty Affairs is beginning the next step in the university’s workload initiative, Workload Part 2: Equity and Transparency. **Part 2: Equity and Transparency** will assess faculty workload equity by creating dashboards and expectations. The timeline for Part 2 is:



A new task force has been created to collect and examine workload data and to develop expectations and a dashboard. The task force members are **Dr. Gabe Chu, Dr. Wei-Shao Lin, Ms. Bingqi Liu, Dr. Shaun Matthews, Dr. Laura Romito, Ms. Patrice Roulette Landis, and Mr. David Zahl**.

As we head into the spring, a friendly reminder that **Digital Accessibility: Title II Changes are required to be in place by April 24, 2026**. Many of you have been working diligently to update your documents and PowerPoint presentations that you plan to distribute to students in preparation for the deadline. OFA and the Office of Education and Academic Affairs, along with the university, have



provided training sessions throughout the year. Thank you to **Mr. Jeremy Fry** who has held hands-on lunch and learn training sessions over the past month or two. He is continuing this by holding sessions Monday–Thursday, 12:00 to 1:00 pm in Coleman Hall room 209 from now until April 23rd.

Faculty Development Opportunities

There are many opportunities for professional development during the month of February. The following list of programs were selected from various resources on the IUI Campus including the Office of the Provost (OP), the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), the Indiana University School of Medicine, Office of Faculty and Professional Development (OFAPD), the IU Office of Research (OR) and the IUI Library. Campus programs are at no cost to faculty.



February

**ENHANCE
YOUR
TEACHING
AND
RESEARCH
SKILLS.**

Friday, February 6th

Post-Tenure Review Workshop

Time and Location: 10:00 – 11:30 am

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Friday, February 6th

Fun With EndNote!

Time and Location: 10:00 am – 11:00 am, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUSD Library

[Register](#)

Monday, February 9th

PDS Consulting: Strategies for Finding Funding (OR)

Time and Location: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm, Online – Zoom

Presenter: Proposal Development Services

[Register](#)

Monday, February 9th

PubMed Searching

Time and Location: 1:00 – 2:00 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUSD Library

[Register](#)

Monday, February 9th

Introduction to Systematic Reviews

Time and Location: 3:30 – 4:30 pm, Online – Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Tuesday, February 10th

Basics of EndNote

Time and Location: 12:00 – 1:00 pm, Online – Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Making STEM Accessible: Visuals, Notation and Inclusive Design

This session will explore practical strategies for making STEM visuals and notation more inclusive and usable for all learners. From graphs and diagrams to equations and LaTeX, you'll learn how to design content that works with screen readers and other assistive technologies. It will focus on writing effective alt text for complex images, handling handwritten materials, and creating accessible mathematical notation. Whether you teach, research, or create STEM content, you'll leave with tools to make your materials clearer and more accessible.

This session will cover:

- ⇒ Writing alt text for STEM visuals
- ⇒ Creating accessible math and scientific notation, including LaTeX
- ⇒ Strategies for handling handwritten content

⇒ Tools and techniques for improving accessibility in STEM disciplines

Participants will leave with strategies to make STEM content more inclusive and easier to navigate for all students. The session will be held on Monday, February 23, 2026 from 12:45–1:45 pm, online via Zoom. Register [here](#).

This webinar is part of a yearlong series designed to build accessibility literacies across Indiana University. Sessions will be held online through April 2026. All sessions will be recorded, so if you want to attend but have other commitments, you can register to receive access to the recordings even if you can't attend live.



Professional Development Cont'd

Wednesday, February 11th

Grantsmanship 201: How to Approach Corporate and Foundation Funding (OR)

Time and Location: 1:00 – 2:00 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IU Corporate and Foundation Relations

[Register](#)

Friday, February 13th

Best Practices for Managing Your Research Data

Time and Location: 1:00 – 2:00 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Tuesday, February 17th

Maximize Your Literature Search in PubMed

Time and Location: 1:00 – 2:00 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Thursday, February 19th

Advanced EndNote

Time and Location: 12:00 – 1:00 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Friday, February 20th

Your article's accepted...Now what? NIH Compliance, Scholarly Presence, and more!

Time and Location: 12:00 – 1:00 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Tuesday, February 24th

What goes into an exhaustive systematic review search?

Time and Location: 3:30 – 4:30 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Wednesday, February 25th

Altmetrics for P&T: Alternative indicators of scholarly impact

Time and Location: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Wednesday, February 25th

Basics of EndNote

Time and Location: 1:00 – 2:00 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

Thursday, February 26th

LabArchives: Optimizing Research Workflows Using Templates, Widgets, and Forms

Time and Location: 12:00 – 1:00 pm, Online - Zoom

Presenter: IUI Library

[Register](#)

February

Valentine's Day, February 14, 2026



Post-Tenure Review Workshop

This workshop will be for faculty going through the 2026 Post-Tenure Review. In this workshop you can expect to get an overview of the timeline, what is expected of your role in the process, and how to submit your materials in Elements@IU.

The workshop will be held on Friday, February 6, 2026 from 10:00–11:30 am, online via Teams. Register [here](#) to attend and for more information.



IUSD Research Day



RESEARCH DAY

2026

SAVE THE DATE

 Thursday April 16, 2026

 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

 IU Indianapolis Campus Center

Abstract submissions accepted

 January 7 - February 18, 2026

The 34th annual IUSD Research Day event will be held at the IU Indianapolis Campus Center, fourth floor, on Thursday, April 16, 2026 from 12:30 to 4:30 pm.

IUSD Research Day is an annual

event highlighting the research advances and accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff. It is a great opportunity to become familiar with the various research activities at the School of Dentistry. Students, faculty and staff across all disciplines are encouraged to attend the event and view the poster presentations. More information regarding the keynote speaker, research and clinical case poster sessions, and the awards program will be announced soon.

Abstract submissions are currently being accepted for the annual IUSD Research Day

2026 event. Abstracts for research poster and clinical case report poster presentations must be submitted by Wednesday, February 18, 2026. Please note that this deadline will not be extended.

If you are interested in submitting an abstract, please visit <https://dentistry.iu.edu/research/research-day/index.html> for more information, including abstract submission guidelines and to submit your abstract.

If you have questions about Research Day, email kseering@iu.edu. We hope to see you there!

IDA Nominations

NOMINATE NOW

The IUSD Faculty Awards Committee is soliciting nominations for the prestigious Indiana Dental Association Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year Award. This annual award honors an exceptional faculty member at IUSD, chosen by you, the IUSD community. The recipient will receive a significant monetary award and a plaque, with the announcement made at the Faculty Recognition Lunch during the June Faculty Empowerment Program.

To be eligible, the recipient must be a full-

time professor or associate professor at IUSD, be tenured, tenure-track, or clinical-track faculty, and must **not** have won this award in the past five years. The past five recipients of this award are Dr. Anderson Hara (2021), Dr. LaQuia Vinson (2022), Dr. Angela Bruzzaniti (2023), Dr. Kelton Stewart (2024) and Dr. Wei Shao Lin (2025).

Departments with five or fewer full-time tenured and/or clinical-track faculty may nominate one individual, and departments with more than five full-time tenured and/or clinical-track faculty may nominate up to two individuals. Nominations must include a brief paragraph (up to one page) outlining the

major reasons for the nomination, highlighting significant accomplishments since January 2025.

The committee will evaluate candidates based on their activities in Elements, considering continuous quality teaching, scholarly activity, and excellence in service at IUSD. For a list of eligible faculty and the criteria and evaluation rubric, or for more information, please contact our office at iusdofa@iu.edu.

Please send your nominations via email to the Chair of the Faculty Awards Committee, Dr. Allison Scully, at scullya@iu.edu by 12:00 pm on Wednesday April 1, 2026.

Assessment Institute Proposals

Proposals are currently being solicited for the 2026 Assessment Institute, which will be held at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown Hotel on October 18-20, 2026. The Assessment Institute, hosted by IU Indianapolis, is the oldest and largest higher education event in the United States focused on assessment and improvement.

Proposals are due by Friday, March 6, 2026. Preference will be given in the selection process to those proposals that include in-

formation about assessment findings and their use to improve student learning and/or institutional processes or services.

The Assessment Institute is partnering with Research & Practice in Assessment (RPA), an online journal, to identify select sessions to be considered for the RPA Best Scholarly Presentation Award. Visit <https://assessmentinstitute.indianapolis.iu.edu/program/proposals.html#special> for more information.

Visit the previously mentioned website to submit a proposal online, and to view the Assessment Institute general session topics.

The Institute will also include special thematic keynote sessions emphasizing: Engaged Learning, Innovative Instruction, Leading Improvements, Strategic Directions, and Student Success.

Registration for the Institute will open in April 2026, with early registration ending July 15, 2026.

Grant Writing Workshops

On Grant Writing is a series of workshops offered through the IU School of Medicine's office of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development that aims to demystify the process of grant writing by providing strategies and best practices. It explores the complexities of securing funding for scientific research and expanding research development opportunities. The goal is to equip participants with the skills and insights needed to successfully grow their research. This series has some upcoming opportunities which are available to all IU community members interested in strengthening their grant-writing and research development skills. See below for the



following workshops being offered.

⇒ [How to Write a Clear and Compelling Aims Page](#)

This session will help you to: identify the purpose and importance of the Aims page; review the aspects of writing contributing to an effective Aims page; and develop awareness of rhetorical patterns conveying the researcher's story. It will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 from 12:00—1:00 pm online via Zoom.

⇒ [Developing Training Plans for NIH K and F Grants](#)

In this session you will: explore how to incorporate training plans into a proposal; highlight the candidate section and career development; and discuss how to select a

primary mentor and mentoring team. This session will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 from 12:00—1:00 pm online via Zoom.

⇒ [Review Processes for non NIH-Grants \(Veteran Affairs, Department of Defense, etc.\)](#)

This session will teach you how to: differentiate review criteria across federal agencies; interpret reviewer expectations and scoring norms; and apply strategic framing to strengthen proposals. It will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 from 12:00—1:00 pm online via Zoom.

Visit <https://medicine.iu.edu/faculty/programs-and-events/programs/grant-writing> for more information on these workshops and to register.

SoTL Journal Club

If you are interested to learn about how the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) can enhance your teaching and research, support student success, and prepare you for a strong promotion and tenure case, especially in teaching, then you are invited to join the virtual Spring 2026 SoTL Journal Club, to explore SoTL literature in student success and course completion. In a collaborative and interdisciplinary setting, you will engage in structured discussions, critical analysis, and reflections, focusing on an article each meeting. You will leave with ideas

for your own teaching practices, your SoTL study, and new strategies to enhance your disciplinary research.

Open to all IU campuses, those new to SoTL and experienced SoTL scholars are welcome. Especially encouraged to participate are faculty in the lecturer and clinical tracks who are currently working on their promotion and tenure dossier to join.

The SoTL Journal Club will meet virtually on three Fridays:

⇒ February 13, 1:00 – 2:15 pm

⇒ March 6, 1:00 – 2:15 pm

⇒ April 10, 1:00 – 2:15 pm

Registering for an event automatically registers you for all three meeting dates. Outlook calendar invitations for the meeting dates will also be sent to participants. Visit [here](#) to register.

The Scholarship of Teaching of Learning involves faculty (sometimes in partnership with their students) undertaking systematic inquiry about student learning – informed by prior scholarship on teaching and learning – and going public with the results. Visit [here](#) for more information on SoTL.

AF/VF Teaching Award

Nominations for the 2025-2026 Volunteer Faculty Teaching Awards and Adjunct Faculty Teaching Awards are now being accepted. These awards recognize the outstanding contributions of our volunteer and adjunct faculty members who have made a significant impact on the learning experiences of IU School of Dentistry students and residents.

All IUSD Indianapolis and Fort Wayne vol-

unteer and adjunct faculty are eligible. Nominees must have completed at least three years of service with the Indiana University School of Dentistry and be **up to date on their required compliance requirements**. Award recipients should demonstrate a sustained level of teaching excellence and have a positive impact on student learning.

We encourage you to submit your nominations and to motivate your staff and students to participate in this important recognition process.

Please contact our office at iusdofa@iu.edu for a copy of the nomination form and with any questions. Nominations should be submitted to iusdofa@iu.edu by the deadline of Friday, May 1, 2026.

ADEA Leadership Institute Fellows

Congratulations to Dr. Monica Gibson and Dr. Allison Scully, who have been selected as 2026-2027 ADEA Leadership Institute Fellows. The [ADEA Leadership Institute](#) is a yearlong program designed to develop the most promising individuals at academic dental institutions to become future leaders in dental and higher education. As the flagship program for exceptional mid-career faculty and administrators, the ADEA Leadership Institute goes well beyond standard professional development. Fellows who have graduated from the Institute can hold positions ranging from department chairs to program directors to deans of dental schools.

Orientation for the Leadership Institute begins in March 2026, with Phases 1-4 continuing through March 2027.

Dr. Monica Gibson, associate professor, department of Periodontology, had this to say about this opportunity: "Being chosen for the ADEA leadership role is immensely significant to my career. It validates my dedication to academic dentistry and empowers me to actively shape the future of dental education and professional leadership. I am thankful to be given this opportunity."



When asked about her attendance to the Institute, Dr. Scully, associate professor in the Pediatric Dentistry department, said, "It is an honor to be selected as a member of the 2026-2027 ADEA Leadership Institute. I am excited to network and collaborate with a group of highly qualified peers and mentors to explore dental education from a broader perspective and gain an expanded outlook on the surrounding environment."



Congratulations!

IUSD Faculty Survey Request

Dr. Allison Scully is requesting participation from IUSD faculty members in a survey entitled, "Faculty Perspectives on Peer Reviews of Teaching." The purpose of this survey is to assess full-time faculty member's awareness, use, and perceptions of peer reviews of teaching at Indiana University School of Dentistry.

The survey will take around **5 minutes** to

complete, and **the results of the survey will be used in conjunction with the Office of Faculty Affairs in planning future resources and support for IUSD faculty.**

This study has been approved by the IU IRB [Protocol: 29425]. A study information sheet is attached to this newsletter email with more details.

To participate, please follow the link below or scan the QR code to begin the survey—<https://redcap.uits.iu.edu/surveys/?s=Wf7HWR8AP4C9RMFA>.

Thank you in advance for your time and responses. Please contact PI Allison Scully with questions at scullya@iu.edu.



ADEA Webinars

ADEA eLearn

ADEA is offering a couple webinars in the month of February. Please see below for opportunities to attend.

⇒ [Curriculum Review: Bridging the Gap Between Feedback and Innovation](#)

This interactive webinar will explore the rationale for ongoing curriculum evaluation, emphasizing the importance of educational quality, accreditation standards and alignment with emerging patient and societal needs. Ideal for educators, administrators and curriculum developers, this webinar aims to bridge the gap between feedback and meaningful educational innovation. This webinar will be held on Friday, February 6, 2026 at 12:00 pm.

⇒ [Pillars of an Exceptional Dental Practice](#)

This webinar provides an essential overview of the business and operational aspects of running a successful dental practice. It delves into the characteristics of high-performing practices, offering insights into daily workflows, patient relations and leadership dynamics. Learners will also be introduced to a range of products and technologies that support efficient practice management. This webinar will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

Please visit the above webinar links to register for these events, and for more information.

ADEA also offers previous webinars that you can view on demand, ranging from topics such as dental education, patient care, and faculty and student success. Visit <https://elearn.adea.org/on-demand> for a full list of available webinars.

Bridges to Success

Bridges to Success: The Power of Kaizen in Our Daily Work



At the IU School of Dentistry, we often speak about excellence, growth, and our commitment to serving our learners, patients, and community. Yet true and lasting improvement rarely comes from sweeping changes or grand initiatives. Instead, meaningful progress is most often born from small, intentional, and consistent steps forward.

This principle is at the heart of the Japanese philosophy known as **Kaizen**—a concept that translates to “change for the better” (*Kai* = change, *Zen* = good). Originating in post-World War II Japan and popularized within manufacturing and business environments, Kaizen has since become a universally adopted approach to improving systems, organizations, and individual performance. The idea is beautifully simple: **small, steady improvements over time lead to extraordinary results.**



Kaizen in Our Teaching, Clinical Care, and Research

In reflecting on this philosophy, I found myself considering the daily rhythms of our school—classrooms filled with future oral health providers, clinics serving patients from across our state and beyond, and research labs advancing the science and practice of oral health. Each area is complex and requires coordination, creativity, and resilience. And each contains countless moments where small improvements can create significant, long-term impact.

- **In our teaching**, a 1% improvement might be refining one lecture slide, reframing a concept that students struggle with, or incorporating a more active learning technique. Over time, these small enhancements enrich the educational experience for every learner.
- **In clinical care**, Kaizen might look like adjusting a workflow to reduce patient wait time, enhancing communication within teams, or simplifying a documentation process. A small improvement can directly influence patient satisfaction and provider efficiency.

- **In research**, incremental progress is at the heart of scientific discovery. A 1% improvement might be refining a protocol, organizing data more efficiently, or carving out an extra 10 minutes each day for writing or analysis.

Given the current resource challenges facing our school—and dental academia as a whole—Kaizen offers a sustainable path forward. It allows us to pursue excellence without becoming overwhelmed. Aiming to improve just **1% over a set period** honors both our ambitions and our humanity.

Why 1% Matters

A 1% change may seem insignificant at first glance. But applied consistently, its impact compounds. Improvement becomes habit. Habit becomes culture. And culture becomes the foundation upon which excellence is built.

Simply put: **Kaizen transforms not just systems, but people.** It empowers each of us to shape our environment, our work, and our contributions to the mission of the IU School of Dentistry.

Call to Action: Your 1% Challenge

As members of this dynamic community, I invite you to participate in a simple, personal Kaizen exercise:

1. **Identify one area of your work**—teaching, clinical care, administration, research, service—where you can strive to improve by just 1% over the next week or month.
2. **Select one specific action or task, and write it down** to solidify your commitment.
3. After your chosen period, reflect on three questions:
 - Were you successful in making a 1% improvement?
 - What impact did this small change have on your work or your environment?
 - If not successful, what obstacle(s) prevented you from reaching your goal?

Even a small step forward is a step toward a better version of ourselves and a stronger IU School of Dentistry. Let's build that future—1% at a time.

Kelton Stewart, DDS, MS
Assistant Dean of Faculty Development
Office of Faculty Affairs

HIPAA TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- If you have yet to take your required annual HIPAA training, please be sure to attend one of the following sessions being offered. All are in room DS 114 unless otherwise listed.
- ⇒ Monday, February 23 - 12:00—1:00 pm
 - ⇒ Tuesday, March 17 - 12:00—1:00 pm (rm. DS 117)
 - ⇒ Friday, April 17 - 12:00 – 1:00 pm
 - ⇒ Wednesday, May 6 - 12:00—1:00 pm
 - ⇒ Thursday, June 4 - 12:15—1:00 p.m.

HIPAA
COMPLIANT

Indiana University

School of Dentistry

Office of Faculty Affairs

1121 West Michigan Street,
Room 102

Indianapolis, IN 46202-5186

Phone: 317-274-4561

Fax: 317-278-1071



DOSSIER PREPARATION

DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

TIME: 1:30—3:00 PM

LOCATION: ONLINE—TEAMS

PRESENTER: WILLIE MILLER

[REGISTER](#)

Excellence in Research

Date: Friday, February 20, 2026

Time: 1:30—3:00 pm

Location: Online—Teams

Presenter: Willie Miller

[Register](#)

This workshop is designed for tenure-track faculty with research as their area of excellence, research professor-track faculty, and research scientists. It will review campus standards for excellence in research, methods of demonstrating excellence, and model cases.