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Past year's research funding grew by 16 percent

Number of awards also grows

By William Gilroy

Despite an environment in which the federal government's funding for research is remaining flat and, in some cases, declining, incoming Notre Dame sponsored-research dollars continued a trend of strong growth, reaching a record high during the recently completed 2006-07 fiscal year.

The total of \$83.1 million is a 16 percent increase over the fiscal year 2005-06 mark of \$71.1 million. In 1999-2000, University research dollars totaled just \$38.9 million.

"We are energized by the passions of our faculty and the support that our research programs have received from various sources," says Don Pope-Davis, dean of the Graduate School. "This new momentum will enhance the research development of the University, and support our vibrant intellectual community. We are confident that our students, our University and the community at large will benefit from these considerable efforts."

In addition to the record monetary total, Michael Edwards, assistant vice president and director of the Office of Research, says, "Of equal importance is the fact that the number of awards increased significantly, from 405 in fiscal year 2005-06 to 486 during the past fiscal year."

Federal research sponsorship accounted for 75 percent of last year's

incoming research dollars. "The most significant increases in awards came from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF)," Edwards says.

NIH awards increased from 49 to 57 in fiscal year 2007, while NSF awards increased from 80 to 117 during the same period.

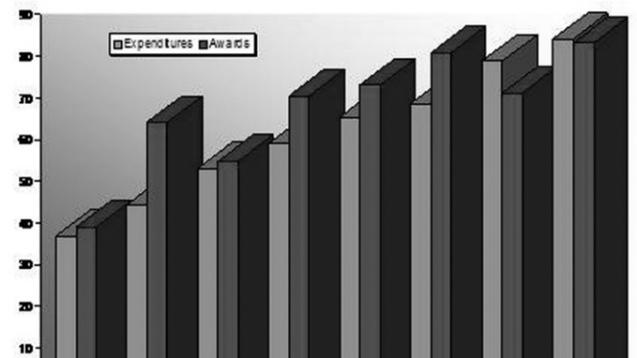
"Given the status of the federal budget, Notre Dame's success is a strong, positive statement regarding the University's commitment to growing the research enterprise, the quality of our research, and the dedication of our faculty engaged in the research enterprise," he says.

Notre Dame's centers and institutes are proving to have a significant impact on the University's sponsored-research activity, receiving 60 percent of last year's research dollars.

Included in last year's \$83.1 million are some notable research awards:

- **Frank Collins**, biological sciences, for his work in malaria monitoring and control
- **John Borkowski**, psychology, a continuing grant from the NIH to prevent child neglect in high-risk mothers
- **Joan F. Brennecke**, chemical and biomolecular engineering, a renewal from the Department of Energy for a project using ionic liquids for utilization of waste heat from distributed power generation systems
- **David M. Lodge**, biological sciences, from the Great Lakes Protection

Research Support 2000 - 2007



This chart of research support from 2000 through 2007 illustrates the upswing in awards during the past year. A final total of \$83.1 million represents a 16 percent increase over 2005-06. Some 486 proposals were funded, compared with 405 last year. *Image provided by Jennifer Morehead, Office of Research.*

Fund for risk assessment and management of Great Lakes invasive species

• **Christian Smith**, sociology, from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to support tracking the religious lives of American youth into emerging adulthood

• **Rev. Thomas G. Streit, C.S.C.**, biological sciences, for his continuing project to eliminate lymphatic filariasis in Haiti

• **Michael Wiescher**, physics, a continuing grant from the NSF to support JINA (the Joint Institute for Nuclear Astrophysics), an interdisciplinary approach to nuclear astrophysics

The momentum in research funding is accompanied by a series of changes intended to help Notre Dame continue its evolution into a world-class research university.

Since last December, all University researchers have been assigned a team to support their proposal work and awards management. The team consists of a pre-award administrator, a post-award administrator, and a research accountant.

In addition, the Office of Research is implementing a new Web-based software suite that assists researchers with proposal preparation and award management. The office also has established satellite offices in the colleges of science and engineering and, in keeping with the University's commitment to enhancing and expanding the undergraduate research experience, the office recently appointed Cecilia Lucero assistant director for undergraduate research.

She searches the phone book for fellow Rwandans

By Carol C. Bradley

Editor's Note: This is one in a series of personal stories of immigrants and immigration in support of the upcoming Notre Dame Forum.

At the time of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, Alice Cyusa, financial and reporting manager for the biological sciences' Haiti Program, was finishing a master's degree in economics at Odessa State University in the Ukraine. "After I graduated, I couldn't go back home, so I went to Switzerland," she says.

In 1997, Cyusa (pronounced *cue-sa*) returned to Rwanda, and she and her husband, Jean, got jobs in banking — she was a loan officer at a bank in Kigali, the capital, while her husband worked for the World Bank. "Everything was fine, life was good," Cyusa says. "I had another baby." But in 1998, her husband became the target of government persecution — he was arrested, released, and rearrested. In 2000, he fled Rwanda. Cyusa soon

followed. "My family was no longer safe in Rwanda," she says.

Traveling with her children and fake documents, she fled first to Uganda, then to the United States and Atlanta, where her sister-in-law lived. But she didn't have a work permit, and didn't have the money to apply for asylum. A friend told her there was a program that could help her — the

Notre Dame Legal Aid Clinic. "Two days later, I got on a bus and came to South Bend," she says.

Cyusa lived at the Center for the Homeless for six months while the clinic lawyers worked on her case. She volunteered at Notre Dame in the

continued on page 2



Rwandan refugee Alice Cyusa's goal is for her family to become Americanized without losing their Rwandan roots. *Photo by Carol C. Bradley.*

Forum update

The third annual Notre Dame Forum, which is to focus on immigration, has been rescheduled from Wednesday, Sept. 26 to 3 p.m. Monday, Oct. 8 in the Joyce Center. But the conversation on immigration already is moving forward, both with ND Works profiles and with a newly launched Web site, forum.nd.edu.

Panelists announced thus far are Cardinal Roger Mahony, the Archbishop of Los Angeles and U.S. Sen. Melquiades Rafael "Mel" Martinez, (R-Florida). Ray Suarez Jr., senior correspondent for The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, will moderate the panel. Classes will be cancelled so that students and faculty may attend the forum.

The Forum Web site invites viewers to sign up for updates including news, faculty commentaries, polls, photo galleries, and faculty/student blogs.

Botanical books illustrate science, pseudo-science

By Carol C. Bradley

On display in the Hesburgh Library's Department of Special Collections, John Gerard's 1634 book "The herball, or, generall historie of plantes" is open to a page illustrating a tree that grew — or so legend had it — in the outer islands of Scotland.

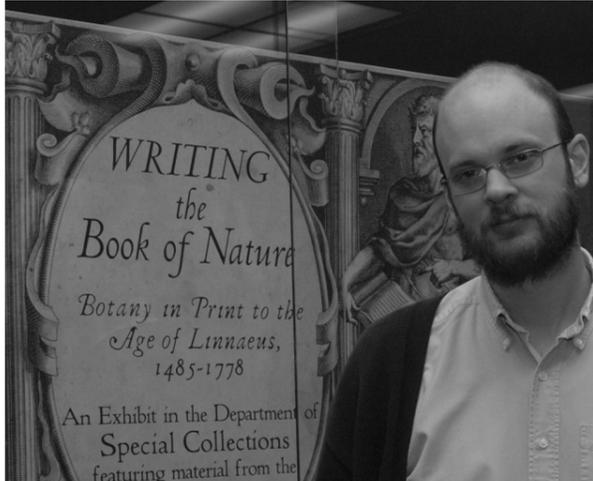
The tree, says rare books librarian Benjamin C. Panciera, supposedly grew barnacles that, when ripened, hatched into geese. "I don't know if the eggs of the geese were supposed to grow more barnacle trees," Panciera says. "The myth had already been discredited for a century when Gerard credulously repeated the tale in his book."

The Hesburgh Library's Department of Special Collections is paying tribute to the 300th anniversary of the birth of Swedish botanist Carolus Linnaeus with an exhibition of rare botanical manuscripts documenting the developing science of botany from the 16th through 18th centuries.

Carl von Linné (1707–78), known more widely as Carolus Linnaeus, invented the binomial taxonomic system still used by scientists today, that classifies all living things into kingdom, class, order, genus and species.

The exhibit, "Writing the Book of Nature: Botany in Print, 1485–1778," will be on display in Special Collections at the west end of the library concourse through August 30.

Most of the books on display are from the Edward Lee Greene collection, Panciera notes. The collection, one of the premier rare books collections in the library, is one of the top collections of its kind in the country, according to Panciera. "The bulk of the collection is material that would be contemporary to Greene — 1850 to 1910. But he was interested in the history of botany in the pre-Linnean period, 16th to early 18th century."



Rare books librarian Benjamin C. Panciera finds humor and surprise in some of the 17th- and 18th-century books of the Edward Lee Greene collection. **Photo by Carol C. Bradley.**

A botanist and avid collector of books on the history of botany, Greene — a contemporary of Rev. Julius A. Nieuwland, C.S.C., and Notre Dame honorary degree recipient in 1894 — had originally trained for the ministry but decided to pursue botany instead. In 1904, he entered the Smithsonian Institution as an associate in botany, with the Smithsonian retaining the right to purchase his collection of 4,000 volumes for a fixed price of \$20,000 during Greene's 10-year contract.

When the contract expired and the Smithsonian still had not purchased the collection, Greene made arrangements to transfer his collection to Notre Dame, where he had been offered a position as professor of botany and curator of

botanical collections. When Greene arrived on campus, his health was already failing, and he died just a few months later.

Greene's collection of pressed plant specimens became the foundation of the Greene-Nieuwland Herbarium, housed in the Museum of Biodiversity, Jordan Hall of Science. Joseph T. Ross, special collections cataloguer and co-curator of the exhibition, notes that he still occasionally finds leaves and flowers Greene pressed between the pages of his books.

The rare botanical books on display include a mix of scientific and the fantastic. In one display case rests "De secretis mulierum item De Virtutibus herbarum, lapidum & animalium," printed in Amsterdam in 1662. The small volume (the title translates to "On the secrets of women, plants and miner-

als") is open to a section on the magical properties of the sage plant. "If sage is buried in cow manure," Panciera says, "it'll turn into a worm. The blood of that worm, when placed on a man's chest, renders him completely anesthetized for 15 days. If the worm is buried, a rainbow will spring forth. This edition was printed in the 17th century, and further editions continued to be printed well into the 18th century," he points out. "Even in the age of reason, people were still reading this."

Special Collections exhibitions are open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; there is no admission fee. For more information, contact the department at 631-0290.



Administrators and supporters of the Alliance for Catholic Education sing the alma mater during the ACE commencement ceremony July 14. From right are John Staud, Dennis Jacobs, Rev. Timothy Scully, C.S.C.; Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., and Joyce Johnstone. Father Hesburgh stepped in to deliver the Commencement address when First Lady Laura Bush canceled to attend the funeral of former First Lady Lady Bird Johnson. A place setting for Father Hesburgh, shown on page 1, includes a hand-written note from Mrs. Bush thanking Father Hesburgh for his help. **Photo by Matt Cashore.**

He turned his daydreams into his first novel

By Kyle Chamberlin

As the number of University academic functions dependent on computers grows, so too does Charles Hurley's job. The associate registrar in charge of technology, Hurley translates into electronic form the tools used by the University's deans such as registration and grading.

The 1993 graduate's role at the University, like those of many in the field of computers, is largely routine. All successful electronic applications come as the result of painstaking, often tedious work by meticulous employees like Hurley.

One would expect the overseer of such a complex technical function to have personal hobbies like open source coding and online gaming. But this techie does something a little different to escape the routine of the workplace: He writes fiction.

Hurley, who also graduated from Notre Dame's M.S.A. program and will soon complete his M.A. in Theology, published his first novel in January. Titled "Tristen Joseph Versus Germany and the Green Bay Packers," the book is a result of seven years of off-and-on writing.

A recurring daydream from childhood inspired the tale that Hurley started putting on paper soon after college. But with a career, postgraduate studies, a wife and three young children, there was little time in his schedule to be an author. He confides that most of the book was completed between the hours of 9 p.m. and 2 a.m., after the rest of his family was in bed and the house was quiet.

The exaggerated, yet plausible, comedy follows the lives of two young boys growing up in fictional

West Graveland, Ind. Bored with their Midwestern lifestyle, they pass the time by playing pranks on neighborhood adults. As the pranks grow in size and scope, the boys mature into men and the depth of their friendship is revealed.

When Hurley discloses that he, himself, grew up in South Bend, we might speculate that the novel is

Internet retailers; word of mouth, including from Hurley, is part of the process of getting it into the traditional distribution stream. If the book gains steam, as evidenced by online sales, brick and mortar bookstores will start to take notice.

Even if "Tristen Joseph Versus



Charles Hurley, associate registrar, says he's not a prankster, even though pranks figure prominently in his first novel. **Photo by Julie Flory.**

autobiographical. But Hurley claims his youth was virtually prank-free and that his own childhood experiences served more as a lens than an inspiration for the story.

"All writers have events occur in their lives that are an impetus for a book," Hurley says. "But in most peoples' lives, the events, even major ones, aren't that exciting. So you must enhance reality to make a good story."

When he finished writing, a good story was precisely what Hurley had. Leaning on his technological savvy, he sidestepped the slow-moving and hyper-selective traditional publishing industry for a digital printing technology house named PublishAmerica. The house makes the book available through

Germany and the Green Bay Packers" never tops the New York Times Best Sellers List, Hurley is hoping that his fellow employees get a chance to read his work. Anyone who knows this associate registrar from the workplace may not be surprised by how imaginative he is. But they may need reminding that those stories about pranks are only fiction.

Cyusa, continued from page 1

Office of Human Resources as part of one of the Center's programs for residents.

She found her current position by checking campus job postings online. The job description could have been written with her in mind. "The Haiti Program was looking for someone with accounting experience, who speaks French, with management skills and experience working in developing countries," she says. She's held the position for three years. "I am one lucky immigrant," Cyusa says. "Asylum seeker or refugee, we are all immigrants. I was very blessed."

Cyusa made a two-week trip to Haiti over the summer. The Haiti Program, part of the biology department's Center for Global Health and Infectious Diseases, works to eradicate the parasitic disease lymphatic filariasis. Cyusa helps subgrantees Hôpital Sainte Croix and the Congregation of the Holy Cross in Haiti administer a \$4.2 million grant from the Gates Foundation.

Regarding her journey to legal status, a job and eventual citizenship, Cyusa says, "Without ND Legal Aid, I couldn't have done it. They helped me fill out paperwork and went to Chicago with me to court. I know they helped almost every single Rwandan person living in the Michiana area."

The Rwandan community in Michiana numbers around 300, Cyusa says. Many were in the area as students in 1994, and were unable to return home. About half, she notes, came

afterward as refugees. "My people say everything in life happens for a reason. There's a reason I was brought here. Because we were new (to the Rwandan community), we were the perfect people to build a bridge between those who came before 1994, and those who came after."

With the idea of creating a Rwandan organization in mind, Cyusa went through the South Bend/Mishawaka phone book — it took her a week — and looked for Rwandan names. "We needed something in common," she says. "We have one language, the mother language Kinyarwanda. We all have the same cultural traditions."

In 2005, 250 Rwandans gathered at the Center for Social Concerns, and BEWRA was founded. The name means, "be proud," she notes, but can also be read as "be Rwandan." The goal of the organization is to teach children the language, games and traditions of the country. "We are trying to build a community," she says. Although Rwanda is a country of deep ethnic and political divisions, her hope is that children of Rwandan immigrants will grow up as friends — becoming simply Rwandan Americans, "Or American Rwandans," she says. One day, she hopes, there may be a Rwandan cultural center in South Bend.

"My goal is to be Americanized without losing our traditions and culture, and to pass those traditions down to our children. I made a promise that my children will know their roots. Maybe, by God's help, my dream will be fulfilled."



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Summer health tips

By Carol C. Bradley

Watching for signs of heat-related illness is important for everyone, including employees working outdoors, students, athletes and summer visitors, say Dr. Richard Jacobs, University Health Services physician.

"People need to realize that taking in adequate fluids is important," he says. "Often, people don't realize they're becoming dehydrated until it's almost too late. Before your thirst mechanism registers that you're thirsty, you've already lost 2 percent of your body fluids."

If thirst is no guide, how do we know how much fluid we need? "Make an effort to drink fluids on a regular basis. When it's hot and you're sweating a lot, you're losing a lot of fluid. You should be drinking small amounts frequently," according to Dr. Jacobs.

And most likely you don't need sports drinks unless you're spending hours outdoors engaging in strenuous activity. For most people, water is just fine. It's also important to cover up when you can, he adds—wear a wide-brimmed hat, use sunscreen, and look for shade.

Danger signs of dehydration can be monitored by urine output—if urine becomes dark and concentrated, you're not drinking enough. Other warning signs are feeling light-headed, dizzy or nauseous. "If you're not sweating anymore, you're in trouble," Jacobs says. "You may need an ER visit and IV fluids."

Some medications make dehydration worse, he adds, especially diuretics. And, he notes, alcohol is diuretic. "You need more water, not more alcohol. It's important to drink in moderation when you're outdoors in the heat."

You should also wear sunscreen if you're going to be outdoors. A common misperception, Jacobs notes, is that you put sunscreen on once before you go out. "You need to reapply it every two hours. Even those that advertise that they're waterproof will wear off if you're sweating, or swimming."



Dr. Richard Jacobs, University Health Services, reminds employees that dehydration can sneak up on them. In hot weather, stop for frequent water breaks. *Photo by Carol C. Bradley.*

Jacobs also recommends using insect repellent. Bug bites cause discomfort, but mosquito bites can also spread serious illnesses such as West Nile virus.

Another summer malady that shows up in his office with surprising frequency is poison ivy, both with the regular student population and with sports campers, Jacobs says. "A lot of them come from other areas of the country where there isn't any poison ivy, and they aren't aware of the danger of getting off the paths."

When it comes to all these summer health issues, prevention is really the key. "If we're mindful of the problems, we have the tools to prevent them."

Gather up those medical records

If you've recently had a physical examination or plan one soon, be sure to have your physician provide you with a few key results that will be important in the health assessment. A form on the Human Resources Web site describes what you'll need, but the data represents basic and familiar information: height, weight, blood pressure, glucose, and blood test results on total cholesterol and both LDL and HDL cholesterol.

The University announced in June that it is providing access to the WebMD Health Quotient assessment to eligible employees. The questionnaire and a subsequent telephone-based health coaching session can help individuals make significant investments in their continued good health.

Such gains are proven to translate to savings in medical costs and medical insurance premiums and improved quality of life for individuals.

FYI

Summer film at the Browning

Upcoming films at the Browning Cinema, DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, include the 2007 Thai film "Syndromes and a Century," which will be screened at 7 and 10 p.m. Thursday, July 26, through Saturday, July 28.

Eighteen different directors come together for 2007's "Paris, Je T'aime," a cinematic homage to the City of Light. The film will be screened at 7 and 10 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 2 through Saturday, Aug. 4.

The Summer Shakespeare Film Series includes three films related to campus' annual summer theater festival. Films in the series include the 1935 Max Reinhardt adaptation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 9; 2004's comedy-drama "Being Julia," Friday, Aug. 10 at 7 and 10 p.m.; and Kenneth Branagh's "Love's Labour's Lost," Saturday, Aug. 11 at 7 and 10 p.m.

The 2006 documentary "Gypsy Caravan" contrasts the lush musical contribution of the Roma with the lives and society of the world they live in. The film will be screened at 7 and 10 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16 through Saturday, Aug. 18.

Admission to films is \$5 for faculty and staff, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for students. Tickets are available by calling 631-2800 or visiting performingarts.nd.edu.



For more events information, see agenda.nd.edu

Nominations being accepted for Team Irish awards

There's still time to nominate colleagues you admire for the Presidential Team Irish Awards, a new employee recognition program. Nominations for the honor are being accepted through the end of this month and can be found on the Office of Human Resources' Web site under the "What's New" section.

The award will honor collaborative teamwork on a project, process or initiative that demonstrates the University's core values of integrity, accountability, and leadership in mission and excellence. A selection committee of judges representing a cross section of departments and employees will select the winners. Teams should be comprised of from three to a dozen full- and part-time employees who work to accomplish a goal.

FROM THE ARCHIVES



Elvis Presley performs at the Joyce Center in 1975. The King of Rock and Roll died of heart failure two years later, on Aug. 17, 1977. *Photo provided by Elizabeth Hogan, University Archives.*

John T. Rooney, MBA program

Lisa M. Schoen, food services administration

James E. Seacord, varsity strength and conditioning

Toni L. Taylor, human resources

Charleen H. Vinalon, admissions

Sara G. Wonderlich, sports information

Daniel D. Yeaman, power plant

Don Pope-Davis assumes the position of vice president and associate provost on Aug. 15. He will lead and manage the Provost's Office's

involvement in the faculty recruitment and hiring process, tenure and promotions procedures, mentoring programs for faculty, and the creation and administration of new programs to help prepare faculty leaders to carry out administrative tasks.

Pope-Davis has served most recently as dean of the graduate school and is a professor of psychology.

Joseph A. Russo, director of student financial strategies, recently received a statement of appreciation from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) for his 21 years of service as executive editor of the NASFAA "Journal of Financial Aid."

DISTINCTIONS

The University congratulates the following employees who are celebrating significant employment anniversaries this month.

35 years

Michael J. Danch, athletics

30 years

Janet L. Million, Air Force science

25 years

Montey G. Holloway, philosophy

Guillermo A. O'Donnell, political science

Robert F. Smogor, Snite museum

Juli A. Tate, economics and econometrics

20 years

Margaret H. Hartman, Kellogg institute

Daniel E. Kavanaugh and **Gregory C. Pavnica**, security

Lesley P. Krueger, physics

Eileen A. Miller, procurement

James M. Moriarty, athletics-medical

Milind Saraph, operations and engineering

Sandra K. Schiele, development

Diane C. Sikorski, University Libraries

Jackie S. Wyatt, Film, Television, and Theatre

15 years

Kristine L. Cantrell, Language Resource Center

Gina Costa, Snite museum

Andrew S. Durrenberger, preventive maintenance

Thomas W. Gammage, athletics grounds

Carol C. Kaesebier, general counsel

Chao-Shin Liu and **H.F. Mittelstaedt**, accountancy

Catherine Robertson, philosophy

Rhonda S. Singleton, psychology

Johanes Suhardjo, engineering-dean's office

10 years

William D. James, investment

Dana R. Marsh, executive MBA

John T. McGreevy, history

Denise M. Murphy, human resources

Daniel J. Saracino, admissions

Carolyn Y. Woo, business-dean's office.

The University welcomes the following employees, who joined the faculty and staff during June. They are:

Anna Marie Agniel, performing arts administration

Mark Suhovecky, physics

Lauren C. Brewster, volleyball

Charles E. Lamphier, **Sarah T. Popek**, **Emmeline T. Schoen**, **Elizabeth A. Stowe**, Alliance for Catholic Education

Matthew Cashore, Media Group

Brendan L. Donovan and **Kathryn M. Scheussler**, football

Nathan J. Elliot and **Jessica L. Schuman**, residence life

Erik Flores Valencia, registrar's office

Adam L. Frisch, **Charles F. Gund**, **Stephen D. Hutchings**, **Patrick E. Miller**, **Karl Q. Sault** and **Emmanuel N. Zervoudakis**, naval science

Elizabeth A. Grisoli, news and information

Eula Hernandez, catering

Sara J. Kassen, development

Kathryn E. Lam, graduate school

Aaron A. Nichols, film television, and theatre

Jonathan Noble, provost's office

Gregory A. Pearce, recreation sports

New center to ready cancer research for 'next level'

By Gail Hinchion Mancini

Few who attended the dedication of the Raclin-Carmichael Hall fewer than two years ago will forget the comments made by Dr. Rudy Navari, a Notre Dame faculty member, cancer researcher, and director of the Indiana University School of Medicine-South Bend (IUSM-South Bend) program housed in that building.

Standing before dignitaries including the presidents of IU and Notre Dame, the governor and several state legislators, Dr. Navari described a vision that included greatly improved medical research facilities. "When I walked through the building before it was completed, in June 2005, it was clear to me we did not have enough research space," Navari recalls. "People sort of chuckled when I said, at the dedication, that we need a new building. But it was not big enough."

Many years often pass between the initial discussion of a university building and its actual grand opening, and such was the case with Raclin-Carmichael, which moved the joint IU-ND medical program from a 30-year tenure in the basement of Haggard Hall to a splendid, free-standing teaching and research center at Edison Road and Notre Dame Avenue. That clock in mind, it seemed reasonable to expect expansion of the medical school and research complex by about 2030.

However, two events announced since last spring should teach us all a little something about the power of optimism: fast action by legislators and a generous gift that mean the start of a new era in cancer research.

As early as next summer, Dr. Navari anticipates seeing ground broken for a \$20 million cancer research center housing the joint projects of IUSM-South Bend and Notre Dame cancer researchers. IU's scientists are part of the medical school faculty housed in Raclin-Carmichael. Notre Dame's cancer researchers, some who work with IU Medical School students and collaborate with the IU faculty, have projects scattered throughout Notre Dame's biology, chemistry and engineering facilities. By putting their research efforts under one roof, in a building adjacent to Raclin-Carmichael, Dr. Navari says he sees an expanded research faculty and eventual status as a regular annual recipient of National Cancer Institute funding.

The project represents one of those perfect marriages of hope and aspiration. One player was South Bend native Charles M. "Mike" Harper, a successful food industry executive, who wanted to give a gift that would "make a difference," Navari says. Harper donated \$10 million toward a cancer research center in memory of his late wife Josie, also a native South Bend resident, who died of lung cancer.



Dr. Rudy Navari knew Raclin-Carmichael Hall had too little space for research before it opened in June 2005. An addition is to begin next year. **Photo by Matt Cashore.**

In order to realize an expanded research facility, however, the Indiana General Assembly would have to honor the Indiana University School of Medicine's request for \$10 million in matching funds. With cancer research as one of the highest priorities for the University, and a priority for a state trying to grow its base of scientific innovation, the proposal won approval in the 2007 budget bill. (As a measure of this project's lightning-fast speed,

consider that the widening of State Road 23 has been several years in discussion, is finally approved, but has yet to begin, and is not expected to be completed until 2012.)

Growth in cancer research at Notre Dame has been on the fast track since a period in the mid-1990s that saw the first postdoctoral fellowships and affiliation with Indianapolis-based cancer research collaboration, the Walther

Cancer Institute, part of the Notre Dame Cancer Institute, where research centers on the work of some 30 faculty and 20 postdoctoral fellows.

Collaborations drive the center's work, including a clinical research partnership known as the Hoosier Oncology Group. The Walther-affiliated group engenders cooperation between medical center scientists and community practitioners, allowing cancer patients to be treated within their own communities while contributing significantly to cancer research. The group and Dr. Navari are undergoing a study of olanzapine, a drug that shows great effectiveness in reducing nausea and vomiting in patients receiving chemotherapy.

The cancer center maintains a close working relationship with the researchers of the Keck Center for Transgene Research, also located in Raclin-Carmichael. A research focus on the genetics of colon cancer tumors, in cooperation with two local hospitals, is providing promising direction toward the development of an anticancer drug. The Keck and Walther organizations are pursuing future collaborations with the local hospitals using prostate and breast cancer tissue samples.

The Raclin-Carmichael building allowed Keck researchers to bring their work under one roof, a move that, according to Dr. Navari, "will lead to the kinds of collaborative sharing that foster creative new research ideas. It also provides a rich intellectual environment for our graduate and undergraduate student researchers, and inspiration for them to consider a career in cancer research."

Picnic Memories



Above, Deb Gee, foreground, and Paula Horne, administrative assistants in the College of Engineering dean's office, play bocce ball at the June 22 staff picnic.

Food services' Quinton Edenburg, below, helped feed a crowd of over 2,000 staffers.



Above, building services' Nancy Vasquez plays horseshoes. Below, South Dining Hall's Kelly Holcomb and Timothy Beard get their pictures taken at the luau-themed picnic.

Photos by Carol C. Bradley

