

Call for Transparency and Accountability in IUSM Leadership Transition

6/5/26

The appointment of the next Dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM) raises serious concerns for faculty, students, and alumni concerning the qualification of the candidate and the search process.

Indiana University School of Medicine is the largest medical school in the United States, educating approximately 1,450 medical students, more than 1,400 residents and fellows, and 9,000 faculty and staff across nine campuses statewide. The school generates more than \$500 million annually in research funding and serves as a critical component of Indiana's healthcare workforce, healthcare system, and biomedical research enterprise.

To the surprise of the IUSM community, a previously unknown third candidate for Dean was announced in mid-May. Less than a week after his campus visit, Dr. Scott Boden was named the Dean of IUSM effective September 8th. The unexpected nature of the announcement of the third candidate and the quick appointment have raised concerns among faculty, students, and alumni regarding whether candidates were sufficiently evaluated for the unique challenges and strategic opportunities of leading a statewide, nine-campus medical school. The process lacked meaningful assessment of experience managing a large, geographically distributed academic medical enterprise. In addition, limitations on participation by faculty government, students, and alumni, left these significant stakeholders with no indication of how their judgment could have played a meaningful role in the final decision.

This statement expresses deep concerns about disregard of shared governance, irresponsible institutional stewardship, and long-term damage to a complex academic medical enterprise that serves communities throughout Indiana. It is important to communicate these concerns and enter them into the public record before any appointment decision is made.

IUI-AAUP Executive Committee