



IU Chapter of Universities Allied for Essential Medicine Presentation to the IU Bloomington Faculty Council

Tuesday, November 1st, 2011

Who we are:

We are members of the IU chapter of Universities Allied for Essential Medicines, a student based organization working to increase access to medications to the world's poor. We have over 110 chapters in 14 countries. We believe that every university-developed drug, diagnostic, vaccine, or medical device should be licensed with a concrete, effective, and transparent strategy to make affordable versions for low-income countries for essential medical care.

Our goal today:

We would like the IUPUI Faculty Council to endorse the IU Strategy for Global Access to Health. With the IU School of Medicine's Faculty Steering Committee's and Dean Brater's endorsement of the proposal, we would like to present the proposal to the University faculty council before approaching President McRobbie asking for IU to commit to the statement of principles.

We believe the best way for the university to move forward from this strategy is to endorse The AUTM's Statement of Principles and Strategies for the Equitable Dissemination of Medical Technologies. The statement currently has a distinguished group of signatories including the NIH, the CDC, Harvard, Yale, Duke, Brown, the University of Illinois, and more.

Why this is important:

The World Health Organization estimates that ten million people die every year because they cannot afford existing drugs. Approximately one-third of the global population does not have regular access to essential medicines, and in the poorest parts of Africa and Asia this figure rises to well over 50%. An estimated 100 million people are pushed into poverty each year by the high costs of medical care.

Why Universities:

Universities can play a significant role in increasing access to medicines for people in low and middle income countries. Many of these people have no access only due to the cost of medications. A 2000 US Senate Report found 15 of 21 drugs with the greatest therapeutic impact were developed using federally funded research. Universities have a stated goal of being for the public good and a history of taking leadership roles in important ethical issues.

Attached:

1. Indiana University Strategy for Global Access to Health
2. Statement of Principles and Strategies for the Equitable Dissemination of Medical Technologies