Interested in a career in health care? Love technology too?

Technology is a viable career path if you want to work in health care. Learn the technical skills you will need to succeed at the School of Informatics and Computing. Some of the world’s largest health care companies recruit our students, here are just a few:

- Abbott
- Cardinal Health
- Cerner
- Cigna
- Connecticut General Life Insurance
- Eli Lilly
- EPIC
- GE healthcare
- Hill-Rom
- Humana
- IU Health
- Mayo Clinic
- McKesson
- Medical Protective
- Medronic
- Nyhart
- Optum Insight
- Predictive Physiology & Medicine
- Resurrection Health
- Seimens healthcare
- Wellpoint

“The demand for IT skills in health care organizations is quickly on the rise. We have seen explosive growth in this industry, in part due to recent government-driven incentive programs for electronic medical record systems in health care organizations. Cerner looks for students with an interest in both health care and technology to help us grow our business in consulting, engineering, clinical, and business-based opportunities. There will always be a core IT aspect to what we do, but improving the quality of health care is what we are truly passionate about at Cerner.

Cerner has formed a great partnership with Indiana University, and we love to recruit IU students! They bring a high level of professionalism and passion for what they do, whether that be in engineering, clinical roles, business, or elsewhere. Whether you want to be a manager, project manager, architect, or something else, we have multiple opportunities that will align with your career goals.”

— Katie Waldo
Sr. Campus Recruiter, Cerner

Brendan Iglehart

Major: Informatics, computer science cognate and Health Administration through SPEA

Hometown: Davenport, IA

Brendan has always been interested in health care. And technology. But he didn’t know how to combine them until he took Honors Intro to Informatics during the fall of his sophomore year. In that class he realized the ability to take both of his interests and build a future in health-related IT. Last summer, Brendan completed an internship for a health insurance company where the programming and analytical skills he learned in only two semesters as an informatics student helped tremendously. He’s not sure what exactly his path will be just yet, but he knows the future will be bright thanks to the School of Informatics and Computing.
mid heated debate over health care reform, one discipline increasingly finds its star on the rise: health informatics. Dedicated to the acquisition, analysis, and meaningful use of patient data, the field of health informatics is commanding attention with its ability to deliver new information systems and technologies to achieve higher quality health care at lower cost.

What’s the value of such promise? It’s $19 billion, according to policy makers and health care leaders.

That is the amount signed into law last year by President Barack Obama as part of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA), continuing a plan set in motion by former President Bush to digitize every American’s health record by 2014. Physicians and hospitals that adopt electronic medical records and participate in related health information technologies (HIT) will receive incentives from that federal funding.

Those physicians and hospitals will need help. So, academic institutions will also receive funding to train and educate the next generation of information-savvy health informaticists. These pros will navigate the privacy and security concerns associated with e-records, help reduce health-care related disparities among demographic groups, and design and develop personalized medicines and treatments.

The Chronicle of Higher Education recently identified health informatics as one of five degrees on the rise, and the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education has accredited nearly 300 academic programs across the nation, including IU’s program.

Job prospects in the field are taking off, too, with career reports in publications like U.S. News and World Report and Kiplinger consistently ranking health informatics among the top occupations.

Last year, The Economist cited Indiana as one of the country’s most important hubs of activity in the life sciences, an enviable pole position among other states in the union. Indiana boasts five active health information exchanges (HIE) and an HIT-ready network of hospitals and physicians.

Indiana University is well positioned to capitalize on the ARRA investment and the rapid growth of health informatics. The School of Informatics at IUPUI offers the state’s only graduate and doctoral programs in health informatics, as well as a new graduate certificate program in clinical informatics designed for licensed, practicing health care professionals.

With nearly a quarter of all Indiana job growth stemming from the life sciences, graduates of IU programs also benefit in the state’s strong life sciences industry.

MAJOR INITIATIVES
Research in the discipline is growing by leaps and bounds. A sampling of recent health-related research endeavors on the Indianapolis and Bloomington Indiana University campuses includes at least eight major projects.

• Informatics supports the Indiana Biobank, part of the $60 million Physician Scientist grant made by the Lilly Endowment to the IU School of Medicine.

• The School of Informatics and School of Medicine are collaborating with the Regenstrief Institute and the business community about “design-build” techniques to solve existing problems in health care and identify products with commercial potential.

• A strong alliance exists between the School of Informatics and the Advancing Health and Life Science IT (ALHIT) economic development group, commissioned by BioCrossroads and charged with increasing the number of health and life science IT companies in the state.

• The Midwestern Conference for Health Games (www.midwesthealthgames.org), organized by the School of Informatics, will be held on the IUPUI campus this fall. This first-ever event is supported by the Games for Health Project, sponsored by the Pioneer Portfolio of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

• A secure Web portal designed for the IU Cancer Center (IUCC) increases quality of life for patients and families by providing personalized access to accurate, easy-to-interpret information and tools they can use to manage their illness, symptoms, and treatment.

• Low-cost, structure-based prediction techniques are being devised to better understand the protein function or malfunctions that cause disease and hold important clues to possible cures.

• An NC1-funded project is identifying systems-level breast cancer biomarkers.

• A personalized health information management system will provide patient-centered information and knowledge utilizing text and data mining techniques.

In addition, researchers in Bloomington are designing an electronic food diary for dialysis patients, investigating the use of text-messaging for encouraging healthy lifestyles, and developing technologies to assist elderly adults maintain independence and teens in managing diabetes.