



20 26

HOSTED BY: SPACE
STAFF PROFESSIONALS ACROSS
THE CONTINUUM OF EDUCATION



HUMANIZING THE CONTINUUM: FROM SUPPORT TO STRATEGIC VOICE

JUNE 26, 2026 • 11:00AM - 4:00 PM EST • ZOOM

<https://spaceinmeded.org/staff-track-2026/>

WELCOME

2026 STAFF TRACK CONFERENCE



Thank you for attending the Staff Track 2026 Virtual Conference! We're excited to have you join us and have prepared a fantastic program filled with valuable sessions and opportunities to connect.

This guide is designed to help you easily navigate the virtual conference experience, including step-by-step instructions for accessing all sessions. Inside, you'll find:

- Conference Schedule
- Session Evaluations

We encourage you to explore the sessions, actively engage, and share your feedback.

Once again, thank you for your participation. We hope you enjoy the conference and find it both informative and inspiring!

We are SOCIAL! Use the **#StaffTrack2026** and follow us on all of our social media platforms for updates, highlights, and more!



[HTTPS://SPACEINMEDED.ORG/STAFF-TRACK-2026/](https://spaceinmeded.org/staff-track-2026/)

2026 STAFF TRACK CONFERENCE

PLENARY SPEAKER



Gary L. Beck-Dallaghan, PhD |
He/Him/His

Assistant Dean for Accreditation

*Teaching Professor, Department of
Biomedical & Translational Sciences*

*Carle Illinois College of Medicine
University of Illinois Urbana-
Champaign*

Gary L. Beck-Dallaghan, Ph.D., is the assistant dean for accreditation at Carle Illinois College of Medicine at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He leads the accreditation and educational quality improvement initiatives for the college.

Dr. Beck-Dallaghan has nearly three decades of experience in medical education. For over 20 years, he was at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine, where he began his journey as the secretary to the chairman in the department of surgery. He transitioned and became the surgery residency coordinator before joining Pediatrics as the clerkship administrator in 1997. After starting in pediatrics, he completed a masters in mathematics and doctorate in educational psychology. In 2013, he became the assistant dean for medical education. In 2018, he joined the University of North Carolina School of Medicine as director of educational scholarship. During that time he published nearly 80 peer-review articles with a variety of collaborators. He also spent a brief period as assistant dean for evaluation and assessment at the University of Texas at Tyler School of Medicine.

Nationally, he is actively involved in several medical education organizations, including the Alliance for Clinical Education, Accreditation Preparation and Quality Improvement, and Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics.

Gary L. Beck-Dallaghan, PhD

2026 STAFF TRACK CONFERENCE PROGRAM

WELCOME - 11:00- 11:30 AM

Deb Birnbaum, MBA

Educational Affairs Innovations
Director and Scholarly
Concentrations Program Director,
Indiana University School of
Medicine
SPACE Chair

Tyrese Hinkins-Jones, Ed.S, M.Ed

Director, Programs - Medical
Education
Emory University School of
Medicine
SPACE Past-Chair and Founder

SESSION #1 - 11:30 - 12:30

INTRODUCTION OF PLENARY SPEAKER - 12:30 PM

Temikia Brown, MA
Evaluation, Assessment, & Medical
Research Associate
Baylor School of Medicine

PLENARY SPEAKER - 12:30 - 1:30 PM

Gary L. Beck Dallaghan, Ph.D.
Humanizing the Continuum:
From Support to Strategic Voice

SESSION #2 - 1:45 - 2:45 PM

SESSION #3- 2:45 - 3:45 PM

CLOSING SESSION - 3:45 - 4:00 PM

Yasmin Rice-Green, Chair, Staff
Track Planning Committee
Deb Birnbaum, MBA

SESSION #1

11:30AM – 12:30PM
MAIN ROOM

WORKSHOP

1) Transforming Dysfunctional Teams

Dysfunctional teams in HPE reduce productivity and erode morale and trust. This workshop gives staff practical tools to identify dysfunction and rebuild accountability, collaboration, and psychological safety.

Presenters:

Andrea Berry

Amanda Ramos

PLENARY SPEAKER - 12:30PM-1:30PM

[HTTPS://SPACEINMEDED.ORG/STAFF-TRACK-2026/](https://spaceinmeded.org/staff-track-2026/)

SESSION #2

1:45PM – 2:45PM

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

(SAME BREAKOUT ROOM -15MIN EACH)

1) Catching the White Whale: Getting Evaluations that are Better AND More Timely

Objective: Timely and meaningful student evaluation is a critical component of undergraduate medical education and a key requirement for accreditation. This study aimed to improve turnaround times, and enhance the quality of feedback provided to students. **Presenters: Karen Webster and Krista Jackson**

2) Optimization of the Selection Process of Graduate Medical Education Program Coordinators with no prior experience: A Qualitative Analysis using a Standardized Human Resources Framework

Objective: This qualitative study applies a standardized Human Resources framework to optimize GME program coordinator selection, identifying multi-stakeholder insights and evidence-informed hiring practices to improve recruitment and early success. **Presenter: Jamila Russeau Donnal, PharmD**

3) Leveraging AI to Design High-Impact Medical Education

Objective: The session will highlight steps medical educators can take to leverage artificial intelligence (AI), carefully curated source materials, and rigorous human oversight to create high quality, evidence-based educational modules.

Presenters: Sara Guastello and Allison Rentfro, PhD

WORKSHOPS

(INDIVIDUAL BREAKOUT ROOMS A, B, C)

A) The Pressure to be Positive: Unraveling Toxic Positivity in Our Lives

This workshop explores the concept of toxic positivity, the tendency to enforce happiness and dismiss negative feelings, and its impact on mental well-being. Participants will learn how to recognize toxic positivity in themselves and others.

Presenters: Karen Webster, Althea Scott, and Suzanne Kodya

B) From Tension to Trust: Communication, Advocacy, and Collaboration

An interactive workshop that equips staff members with practical conflict management and self-advocacy skills. Participants will learn strategies to improve communication, strengthen collaboration, and navigate workplace challenges.

Presenters: Amanda Arnold, Marcina Lang, and Kelly Breffle

C) The Middle Voice: Practical Strategies for Advocacy Across Faculty, Learners, and Leadership in Medical Education

Medical education staff serve as the middle voice between leadership, faculty, and learners. This interactive workshop offers practical advocacy tools, communication strategies, and action planning for effective collaboration.

Presenters: Melinda Ingiaimo, Taylor Elkins, and Eric Engle

[HTTPS://SPACEINMEDED.ORG/STAFF-TRACK-2026/](https://spaceinmeded.org/staff-track-2026/)

SESSION #3

2:45PM – 3:45PM

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

(SAME BREAKOUT ROOM -15MIN EACH)

1) LCME and ME: Peer-to-peer learning for reaccreditation awareness and readiness

Objective: Peer-led LCME awareness and readiness. Presenters: Greg Null, Katie Maietta, Allison Serra

2) From Fragmented to Aligned: Data-Driven Innovation and Transparency as a Mechanism for Educational Integrity in Medical Education

Objective: See how staff professionals can build an AI-integrated, relational database to unify fragmented curricula. We demonstrate mapping objectives and exams to USMLE frameworks, yielding a transparent, accreditation-ready system that empowers faculty. Presenter: Robert Badeau, PhD, MSc, PMI-CPMAI

3) Developing a Responsive, Multi-Touch Wellness Strategy for Medical Students Through Staff-Led Programming

Objective: To describe the development, implementation, and importance of a responsive, staff-led wellness programming model designed to support learner well-being through targeted, community-centered interventions aligned with student needs and academic stress points throughout the medical education continuum. Presenter: Mercedes Esquivel

WORKSHOPS

(INDIVIDUAL BREAKOUT ROOMS A, B, C,)

A) It Takes a Village: Building a Digital Accessibility Hub

.We will be going over the importance of ADA and how to create a support system

Presenters: Meredith Chandler and Laura Foley

B) Design Before You Build: A Curriculum Design Studio for LCME Aligned, LMS Ready Courses

Participants will engage in a supportive, low-stress environment while translating LCME- and AAMC-recommended best practices into concrete, scalable curriculum design strategies.

Presenter: David Gomez

C) Design Your Network: Connecting with the Person behind the Title

In this interactive workshop, participants will explore how to intentionally build meaningful professional relationships using principles from Human-Centered Design and Cohen and Bradford's Influence Without Authority model

Presenters: Antonina Johnston and Laura Foley

[HTTPS://SPACEINMEDED.ORG/STAFF-TRACK-2026/](https://spaceinmeded.org/staff-track-2026/)

CLOSING REMARKS

3:45PM – 4:00PM

DEB BIRNBAUM, MBA – CAIR MEMBER AT LARGE (SPACE)

YASMAIN LAKISHA RICE - 2026 STAFF TRACK PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR

ON BEHALF OF STAFF TRACK 2026 PLANNING COMMITTEE, THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

VIEWPOSTER PRESENTATIONS



[Scan to view Staff Track Posters](#)

[HTTPS://SPACEINMEDED.ORG/STAFF-TRACK-2026/](https://spaceinmeded.org/staff-track-2026/)

THANK YOU!

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2026 STAFF TRACK PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Deb Birnbaum, MBA

Educational Affairs Innovations Director
Scholarly Concentrations Program Director
Indiana University School of Medicine

Temikia Brown, MA

Evaluation, Assessment, & Medical Research Associate
Baylor College of Medicine

Yasmain Greene, MSL

Chief Autopsy Technician
Travis County Medical Examiner's Office

Tyrese Hinkins-Jones Ed.S, M.Ed.

Director, Programs - Medical Education
Office of Medical Education and Student Affairs
Emory University School of Medicine

Jane Sicard

Associate Director of Healthcare Education
UMass Chan



THANK YOU!

2026 CONFERENCE

**Your feedback is important to us.
Please take a few moments to complete the
survey and let us know how we did!
Thank you for helping us improve future events!
<https://forms.office.com/r/ssrRXLB2xy>**



[HTTPS://SPACEINMEDED.ORG/STAFF-TRACK-2026/](https://spaceinmeded.org/staff-track-2026/)

THANK YOU!

2026 CONFERENCE

THANK YOU TO OUR HOST!



Hope to see you at Staff Track 2027!

[HTTPS://SPACEINMEDED.ORG/STAFF-TRACK-2026/](https://spaceinmeded.org/staff-track-2026/)

