

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**FACULTY PRESENTATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA:  
“THE TRAUMAHAWK APP: BEAMING CRASHES INTO THE TRAUMA BAY  
TO HELP PREDICT INJURIES”**

**Action Requested:** Receive the presentation.

**Executive Summary:** A smart phone app being developed at the University of Iowa in collaboration with the University’s National Advanced Driving Simulator and the Iowa Department of Transportation, may one day help save lives. An interdisciplinary team of researchers and clinicians, led by Dr. Daniel McGehee, have created a prototype “TraumaHawk” app that sends photographs from the scene of a motor vehicle crash to providers at hospital emergency rooms long before the victims arrive at the hospital. Early access to photographs of the crash of a vehicle can help improve triage and transportation of the victims, assist the trauma center staff in better predicting injuries and treatment options, and even aid the implementation of remote treatment. At present, hospital trauma teams often learn that patients are in transit to the hospital only minutes before arrival, and information may not be exchanged between the medical team and the very busy paramedic team. The goal of the project is to help law enforcement and first responders collect specific photos of the crashed vehicle, and automatically send the photos to hospital emergency personnel within 30 seconds. The current project also develops on-the-scene training for recording photographic evidence and training of emergency personnel in how to interpret the information collected. This presentation will include highlights of the recent successful implementation of the TraumaHawk app by Iowa State Troopers and the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

Dr. Daniel V. McGehee is director of the Transportation and Vehicle Safety Research Division at the University of Iowa Public Policy Center and adjunct professor in the Colleges of Engineering, Medicine, and Public Health. Dr. Christopher Buresh is associate professor emergency medicine in the Carver College of Medicine.