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A Message from UAHS Leadership



Joe G.N. "Skip" Garcia,
MD

August 4, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

Over the next two Fridays (August 5th and August 12th) the University of Arizona Health Sciences and the Colleges of Medicine (Phoenix and Tucson) will be presenting to the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) Health Affairs Committee. These meetings will provide an opportunity to share with ABOR updates on our efforts to position the Colleges of Medicine as national leaders in medical education and training, clinical service delivery, and biomedical research.



Kenneth S. Ramos,
MD, PhD

Across the country, academic medical centers are experiencing fundamental changes in how they operate and health-care reform is challenging academic medicine to reinvent approaches to the tripartite mission. Every aspect of academic medicine is undergoing transformation: how students and residents are educated and integrated into clinical care, how care is delivered, how the research enterprise is organized and funded, and how the missions come together in new and meaningful ways.

Here in Arizona, we are experiencing these changes in rapid, real time. Our historic, 30-year academic affiliation agreement with Banner Health was established to create a statewide health-care organization and a comprehensive new model for academic medicine. With our partners at Banner Health, we are developing a statewide health system that provides an outstanding training experience, provides high-quality and cost-effective care for all of the state's citizens, and serves as a platform for new knowledge and discovery.



Charles B. Cairns, MD

Change at any level can be disruptive and unsettling. We have not been immune to some of the consequences of change, including the departure of well-regarded faculty and staff colleagues in both Colleges of Medicine. While recognizing the accomplishments of these former colleagues, we remain steadfast in our commitment to move forward in our efforts to improve the health of Arizona.

We look forward to sharing with ABOR our ongoing efforts, aspirational plans, and responses to the challenges of leading a high-performing academic medical center. As always, we welcome your thoughts and suggestions and we thank you for your contributions in support of our unique, tripartite mission.

With appreciation,

Joe G.N. "Skip" Garcia, MD
Senior Vice President for Health Sciences

Kenneth S. Ramos, MD, PhD
Interim Dean, College of Medicine – Phoenix

Charles B. Cairns, MD
Dean, College of Medicine – Tucson

Upcoming ABOR Health Affairs Committee Meetings:

Date: Friday, August 5, 2016 (Phoenix)

Time: 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Locale: Phoenix Biomedical Campus
Health Sciences Education Building
Lecture Hall B102

Date: Friday, August 12, 2016 (Tucson)

Time: 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Locale: University of Arizona
Vine Annex Building
Rooms 102 & 104

