Greetings from the UA Senior Vice President for Health Sciences

We celebrate a major milestone this month: The one-year anniversary of the University of Arizona’s 30-year academic affiliation agreement with Banner Health. This partnership has allowed the UA Health Sciences to build on strengths in key research areas, including population health and health outcomes, health disparities, precision health and neuroscience. The agreement also provides resources that support our missions in education, research and patient care. This affiliation is helping our academic health center enhance students’ educational experience and improve health-care delivery throughout Arizona and beyond.

In other good news, let’s give a big “shout-out” to the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix for earning provisional accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. The decision keeps the College on the path to full accreditation in 2018. Congratulations to all the faculty, students and staff on this accomplishment and for your contributions and dedication to medical education.

I also am pleased to announce that the Mountain West Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center at the UA Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health received a $1 million grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to advance public health preparedness training in Native American communities. Through collaborations with tribal governments, this program aims to build public health and emergency management capacity and capabilities to ensure healthier and safer tribal communities.

In this issue of UAHS News, you also will read about our newest appointments, latest
discoveries, as well as honors and recent research grants. For example, the UA College of Nursing achieved the prestigious Quality Matters certification, a national benchmark for online and blended course design; UA College of Pharmacy students have been volunteering to teach elementary school-aged children with asthma how to manage their disease; and UAHS researchers at the UA Department of Family and Community Medicine and the UA Native American Research and Training Center recently published a study in the journal *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* dispelling myths about Native Americans and alcohol consumption.

With your help, we continue to build the UAHS infrastructure to encourage the pioneering spirit of innovation and collaboration to create a learning and research environment like nowhere else in the world.

Joe G.N. “Skip” Garcia, MD
UA Senior Vice President for Health Sciences

### $1 Million Grant to Advance Preparedness Training in Native American Communities

The Mountain West Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center received a $1 million grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to advance public health preparedness training in Native American communities.

### UA College of Medicine – Phoenix Granted Provisional Accreditation

The UA College of Medicine – Phoenix has been granted provisional accreditation by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, or LCME. The approval is the next step in the process for full accreditation.
Dr. Garcia Selected for American Thoracic Society’s Prestigious 2016 Trudeau Medal

Joe G.N. “Skip” Garcia, MD, senior vice president for health sciences at the UA Health Sciences, has been selected to receive the prestigious 2016 Trudeau Medal from the American Thoracic Society.

College of Nursing Courses First at UA to Earn Quality Matters Certification

Two online doctoral courses offered through the UA College of Nursing have become the first at the UA to achieve Quality Matters certification, a national benchmark for online and blended course design.

UA College of Pharmacy NCPA Chapter Reaches Out to Children with Asthma

For nearly two decades, the UA College of Pharmacy’s student chapter of the National Community Pharmacists Association have been volunteering their time and expertise to teach elementary school-aged children with asthma how to manage their disease.

Stereotypes about Native Americans and Alcohol Debunked

Native Americans are more likely to abstain from alcohol than whites, and heavy drinking and binge drinking rates are about the same for both groups.
Dr. Ojo Appointed Associate Vice President for Clinical Research and Global Health Initiatives

Akinlolu O. Ojo, MD, MPH, PhD, MBA, an international leader in chronic kidney disease and kidney transplantation research and clinical care with a focus on health disparities and an expert in global health research, has been appointed associate vice president for clinical research and global health initiatives at the UA Health Sciences.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| MAR 2 | Living Healthy With Arthritis Lecture |
| MAR 3 | Donald K. Buffmire Visiting Lectureship in Medicine |
| MAR 9 | Mini-Medical School 3.0 - Medicine: A Glimpse of the Future |

UAHS IN THE NEWS

UA College of Pharmacy faculty member develops inhalers to treat lung diseases

*Medical News Today*

10 of the world's most gorgeous research centers

*BisNow*

UA gets grant to improve state's rural hospital system

*Becker's Hospital Review*
View a monthly listing of UA Health Sciences grant awards here.