Greetings from the UA Senior Vice President for Health Sciences

Thanks to all of you who attended my “State of the UA Health Sciences” presentation on September 29. It was gratifying to see such a strong turnout.

If you missed the presentation, I had the great pleasure to announce our new name, “the University of Arizona Health Sciences (UAHS).” The name change represents a move to clearly identify Arizona's academic health center as an integral part of the University of Arizona, one of the nation's premier research universities. The presentation, which focused on the ongoing implementation of our strategic initiatives to advance the UA’s health research, education and clinical programs, can be viewed here.

I would like to congratulate Dr. Kenneth Ramos, associate vice president for precision health sciences, for his well-deserved election to the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. Dr. Ramos is one of the world’s foremost experts in the study of gene-environment interactions and personalized and genomic medicine. Since his arrival at the UA Health Sciences, he has been leading our precision health efforts aimed at developing novel, individually targeted diagnostic, predictive and therapeutic approaches to disease. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Ramos on this outstanding recognition of his career accomplishments.

Also in this edition, you will learn that the Center for Rural Health (CRH) was awarded a grant to help Arizonans sign-up for health insurance in 2016. The CRH will focus on enrollment and re-enrollment of hard-to-reach uninsured people living in rural and underserved communities in Arizona.
At the completion of my second year as senior vice president for health sciences, I am pleased to see the ongoing fulfillment of UAHS’s goals and excited to move forward on the implementation of our five-year health sciences strategic plan. As we work together to become one of the nation’s premier academic health centers, I remain greatly impressed by the support and extraordinary efforts of UAHS faculty, students and staff.

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

University of Arizona Health Sciences is the New Name for the Arizona Health Sciences Center

The move strengthens the connection of Arizona's academic health center with the University of Arizona, one of the nation’s premier research universities, and leverages the pride associated with UA.

Dr. Ramos Elected to Prestigious National Academy of Medicine

Kenneth S. Ramos, MD, PhD, PharmB, associate vice president for precision health sciences at the UA Health Sciences, has been elected to the prestigious National Academy of Medicine.

Valley Fever Awareness Week Underscores Significant Research into Tools to Fight this Respiratory Disease

With federal agencies supporting efforts to develop better diagnostic tools and vaccines against the respiratory disease, a public education campaign by the UA Valley Fever Center for Excellence gains momentum.
UA Center for Rural Health Awarded $2 Million Grant to Help Arizonans Sign Up For Health Insurance

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded the Center for Rural Health at the UA Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health a three-year, $2 million Marketplace Navigator grant.

Dr. Garcia Named Recipient of 2015 La Estrella Award From Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Joe G.N. “Skip” Garcia, MD, University of Arizona senior vice president for health sciences, has been selected by the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as the recipient of the 2015 La Estrella Award.

Project Taking Charge Educates Community Members about Health

Project Taking Charge, a free six-month program offered to members of the community by the UA colleges of medicine, nursing, pharmacy and public health.

UA Receives $1.5 Million for Firefighter Safety Research

To reduce cancer exposure rates among first responders and investigators, the UA Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health and UA College of Engineering have received $1.5 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
Dr. Standley Recognized for Breakthrough Wound Healing Research

Paul Standley, PhD, assistant dean of Curricular Affairs and professor of Basic Medical Sciences and Physiology at the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix, has been involved in researching Manual Medicine Treatments and their abilities to impact wound healing for the past 20 years.

Lecture in ‘Dementia: A Global Challenge’ Series, to Focus on Vascular Cognitive Impairment

Duk L. Na, MD, an international authority on neurological aspects of dementia, will kick off the fall “Dementia: A Global Challenge” lecture series at the UA College of Medicine – Tucson on Friday, Nov. 20.

UA College of Nursing Faculty Member Marks 30 Years Serving LGBT Community

Jose Pares-Avila, DNP, MA, RN, who recently joined the UA College of Nursing as a clinical assistant professor, is celebrating 10 years as a second-career nurse, and 30 years serving the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 4</td>
<td>Mini-Medical School 3.0</td>
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<td>Nov 7</td>
<td>Symptom Management for Cancer Survivors</td>
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<td>Nov 17</td>
<td>Founders Day College of Medicine – Tucson</td>
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<td>UAHS IN THE NEWS</td>
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| Gene variant tied to time sitting, body mass index  
*Reuters* |
| The crazy reason it costs $14,000 to treat a snakebite with $14 medicine  
*The Washington Post* |
| Arizona gets $3.5 mil to fight pain killer overdoses  
*KPHO Phoenix* |

**RESEARCH**

View a monthly listing of UA Health Sciences grant awards here.