From the Phoenix Business Journal:

Notebook

UA's Phoenix medical school GME program granted full 10-year accreditation

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The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education has granted the University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix's graduate medical education program full, 10-year sponsoring institutional accreditation.

The GME accreditation follows full accreditation the medical school received in June from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, a peer-review process of quality assurance that determines whether an MD program meets established standards. All new medical schools undergo a rigorous process of preliminary, provisional and full accreditation designed to standardize and optimize the quality of medical education across the United States and Canada.

Celebrating its 10-year anniversary, UA's Phoenix medical school admitted its first class of first-year medical students in August 2007.

Each of the college's 24 residency and fellowship programs now will undergo separate, rigorous, individual accreditation processes.

Gaining full accreditation seemed to be touch and go there for awhile, especially the Phoenix medical school was put on accreditation warning status in 2015.

At the time the LCME expressed concerns that Dr. Stuart Flynn, the founding dean of the Phoenix medical school, wasn't being given enough control to run the school in the wake of what was then a new partnership with Phoenix-based Banner Health.

Then, last year, the Arizona Medical Association urged the Arizona Board of Regents to conduct an
immediate investigation into the departure of the senior leadership team of the Phoenix medical school when Flynn left to take another position in Texas.

At its June 4, 2016, annual meeting, ArMA's House of Delegates approved a vote of no confidence in the executive leadership and leadership of University of Arizona Health Sciences, which oversees UA's two medical schools and other health programs in Phoenix and Tucson.

That month, Ann Weaver Hart announced that she wouldn't seek an extension to her contract as president of UA.

By December 2016, Skip Garcia — who was blamed for many of the medical school's problems — resigned from his position as head of UA's Health Sciences.

Then by October 2016, ABOR dropped its inquiry.

Now that Dr. Robert Robbins has taken over as UA president and Dr. Guy Reed is dean for the Phoenix medical school, the waters are becoming calmer at UA.

Reed said UA has reached the significant milestone of accreditation because of the passion and tremendous work of many individuals.

"This achievement acknowledges the strength and excellence of our college and furthers our mission to train exemplary physicians, scientists and leaders," Reed said.

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