Greetings from the UA Senior Vice President for Health Sciences

I am excited to announce that the search for the next permanent dean of the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix is in its final stages. Three outstanding candidates have accepted invitations to return to campus as finalists and their visits will include an open forum for conversation with faculty, students and staff. Detailed information on each of these visits will be announced in the coming weeks.

It is my great pleasure to congratulate the UA College of Medicine – Tucson for being honored with INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine’s 2016 Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award. A big thanks to Dr. Francisco Moreno, assistant vice president for diversity and inclusion at UAHS and deputy dean of diversity and inclusion at the College, and his team, for making significant progress to improve the diversity in the recruitment, education and training of our nation’s future physician-educators, practitioners, researchers and leaders.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. David Marrero as the new director of the UAHS Center for Border Health. Dr. Marrero is a distinguished expert in diabetes education and research whose research has focused on medication adherence, community health programs, early diabetes intervention and translational medicine. He will lead UAHS’ efforts to develop programs and strategies to improve health and wellbeing along the U.S.-Mexico border and across the greater Southwest.

Congratulations to UA Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health Professor Nicolette Teufel-Shone for receiving the Native Research Network award for Excellence
in Training. Dr. Teufel-Shone has worked with Native American communities in the Southwest for more than 25 years, supporting community capacity to address chronic disease prevention and to leverage local assets to build sustainable approaches to health equity. The Native Research Network honored Dr. Teufel-Shone for her commitment and mentorship to Native American investigators at the Center for American Indian Resilience.

In this issue of UAHS News, you also will read about our latest accomplishments in research, recent honors and awards. Of particular note, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation awarded a $100,000 grant to UAHS researchers to focus on promoting and increasing mammography screening among Latinas in Arizona. Drs. Jorge Gomez and Usha Menon, principal investigators for the grant, are targeting their efforts on the U.S.-Mexico border population to break down barriers that keep Latinas from scheduling and completing their breast cancer screenings.

Finally, with Homecoming festivities rapidly approaching, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our UAHS alumni and friends. We’re excited that all of the College receptions will be hosted at the UA Health Sciences campus, Friday, Oct. 28, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Remember to wear your Wildcat red and blue and Bear Down!

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

UA Receives $10.3M to Help Unlock the Mystery of Alzheimer's in Women

Of the more than 5 million Americans of all ages who have Alzheimer’s disease in 2016, more than 3 million are women.
UA Team Questions Safety of Nutritional Supplement Selenium

A 12-year study led by a team of UA Cancer Center researchers is bringing into question the safety and efficacy of selenium, a popular nutritional supplement touted to combat and reduce the risk of colorectal cancer.

Dr. Marrero to Lead New UA Health Sciences Center

David G. Marrero, PhD, an expert in the field of clinical trials in type 2 diabetes and translational research, has been appointed director of the newly established UAHS Center for Border Health.

UAHS Promotes Collaborative Research with Multidisciplinary Program Feasibility Awards

The UA Health Sciences has awarded four faculty members multidisciplinary program feasibility awards providing seed funding toward the submission of competitive NIH grants.

Grant Will Help Increase Mammograms and Breast Cancer Awareness for Latinas

The Breast Cancer Research Foundation has awarded a $100,000 grant to UAHS researchers to focus on promoting and increasing mammography screening among Latinas in Arizona.
New Spanish-Language Classes for Health Sciences

To improve the cultural competency of future health-care providers looking to serve Hispanic communities, the UAHS Hispanic Center of Excellence and the UA Department of Spanish and Portuguese have introduced Spanish-language classes for health sciences students.

How Does Vitamin D Affect Prostate Cancer in African American Men?

Prostate cancer is the most commonly occurring cancer in men and the chance that someone will get prostate cancer depends on a lot of factors.

UA College of Medicine – Tucson Earns 2016 Health Professions Diversity Award

Recognized for its commitment to diversity and inclusion in the health professions, the UA College of Medicine – Tucson has been honored with INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine’s 2016 Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award.

UA Researchers Launch App to Help Track Zika Virus

Scientists at the UA Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health have introduced Kidenga, a free smartphone app for Android and iOS that allows users to report mosquito activity and symptoms of illness and helps to detect outbreaks.
Dr. Teufel-Shone Honored for Mentorship of Native American Students and Researchers

Nicolette Teufel-Shone, PhD, has received the Native Research Network award for Excellence in Training for her commitment and mentorship to Native American investigators at the Center for American Indian Resilience.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| OCT 25 | Walks With Campus Leaders: Dr. Yves Lussier |
| OCT 28 | UAHS Homecoming Reception |
| NOV 14 | State of the UA Health Sciences with Joe G.N. "Skip" Garcia, MD |

UAHS IN THE NEWS

Doctors: More research needed to rid Arizona, California of rampant valley fever
The Arizona Republic

Pokemon Go 'increases risk of death by distraction'
BBC News

UA Health Sciences Receives $1 Million Gift to Support Integrative Medicine
Natural Practitioner Magazine
View a monthly listing of UA Health Sciences grant awards here.