UPCOMING EVENTS

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SPOTLIGHTS

Curtain to Rise for New Adult Health Clinics at Banner – University North

It’s a week until showtime for Banner – University Medicine North, the new $100 million, 208,000-square-foot outpatient clinical facility at 3838 N. Campbell Ave., Building 2. **Drs. Monica Kraft**, department chair, and **Tammy Clark Ojo**, vice chair for clinical
affairs, got a tour Dec. 21. See photo galleries of this and other tours and news and webposts about the big event, including for the Dec. 11 public “sneak peak” and a Dec. 14 UA News feature spotlight on that event complete with video...

Local Publications Pay Homage to UA Health Sciences, DOM Docs in 2017

Dementia, breast cancer, game-changing medical technologies, top doctors, women who lead, UA as a ‘hotbed of innovation’ and a special report on the UA College of Medicine – Tucson anniversary, “Picking up Speed at 50”—all were themes for magazine coverage for the UA Health Sciences, the college and Department of Medicine in the past year. Among faculty spotlighted in BizTucson, Tucson Lifestyle and Arizona Physician were Drs. Pavani Chalasani, Mindy Fain, John Galgiani, Mathew Hutchinson, Monica Kraft, Akinololu Ojo and Andrew Weil...

DOM Takes Third of College of Medicine – Tucson Faculty Teaching Awards

Eleven of 36 awards presented at the UA College of Medicine – Tucson’s 38th Annual Faculty Teaching Awards and the Vernon & Virginia Furrow Awards went to faculty and housestaff in the Department of Medicine. Dr. Amy Sussman took four and Dr. John
Bloom took two, including the Basic Science Educator of the Year Lifetime Award that came with an honorary chair. Other winners included Drs. J.P. Ferreira, Tirdad Zangeneh, Randy Horwitz, Laith Ghazala (past chief resident) and Sarah Low.

FACULTY

DOM Docs Tout Patient Care in ‘Doctorpedia’ Videos
Several DOM faculty physicians participated in filming this fall of educational videos for the start-up video-based informational website Doctorpedia that educates online health-care seekers and connects them with doctors and fellow patients. Recruited by Dr. Joe Alpert, they include Drs. Janet Campion, Steve Klotz, Eugene Trowers and Merri Pendergrass. See photos and sample videos.

DOM Faculty Show in Force for College Research Fair
See a photo gallery from October’s Innovations & Inventions Research Fair hosted as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations of the UA College of Medicine – Tucson. A number of presenters represented the Department of Medicine on everything from asthma to cancer to diabetes research. They include (in order of appearance): Drs. Monica Kraft, Julie Ledford, Jordan Lancaster, Hani Babiker, Mindy Fain, Yves Lussier, Larry Mandarino and Paul Langlais.

FACULTY

ACP Chapter to Honors DOM with Three Top Awards
Two physicians with the UA Department of Medicine—Chair Dr. Monica Kraft, and Dr. Kevin Moynahan, deputy dean of education, UA College of Medicine – Tucson—were announced as honorees to be recognized Oct. 20-22 at the 2017 Scientific Meeting of the American College of Physicians (ACP) – Arizona Chapter. In addition, Morgan Whitaker was named Medical Student of the Year Award. Dr. Eugene Trowers served as event program chair.

Four 'Influential Health, Medical Leaders' Recognized
University of Arizona Health Sciences-affiliated faculty members and its clinical partner, Banner– University Medical Center Tucson were recently announced the winners of Tucson Local Media’s annual Influential Health and Medical Leaders Awards. See mentions for the UA Cancer Center’s Dr. David Alberts, Emad Elquza, Frederick Ahmann and Simran Sindhu.
RESEARCH

BIO5 to Host 2nd Annual UA Core Facilities Fair
The University of Arizona Office of Research, Discovery and Innovation (RDI) will host the second annual UA Core Facilities Fair on Monday, Feb. 20, at the UA BIO5 Institute, Room 103, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a networking reception to follow in the lobby of the new BioSciences Research Laboratory building.

COM-T to Sponsor Jr. Scientists for Italian Research
Interested in Translational Medicine? Want to attend the Eureka Translational Medicine course in Italy? The UA College of Medicine – Tucson will sponsor four junior scientists—post-doctoral/resident or assistant professor level—to attend the Eureka Institute for Translational Medicine Certificate Course in Sicily, Italy, April 8-14, 2018. Deadline to apply Nov. 27.

DOM Blog: All of Us AZ Enrolls First 1,000 Participants
In July 2016, the University of Arizona and Banner Health were picked as one of four initial Regional Medical Centers in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) All of Us® Research Program, a cornerstone of the Precision Medicine Initiative. By October, it reached a milestone in helping to enroll a million people in a genetic database to determine precision medicine solutions to the world’s most challenging health issues.

Founders’ Week Jr. Investigator Poster Forum a Smash
Dozens upon dozens of posters were on display with attendees mixing for a few hours Nov. 17 in the UAHS Plaza for the UA College of Medicine – Tucson Founder’s Day Junior Investigator Poster Forum. It was part of a broader calendar of Founders’ Week activities coinciding with the college’s 50th anniversary. Each presenting author’s name was entered into a Fitbit raffle — had to be there to win. See photo gallery.
Dr. Swazo Latest Bressler-Alpert Travel Award Winner

Dr. Roberto Swazo, resident, UA Internal Medicine Residency Program – South Campus, is the third person this academic year to win a Bressler-Alpert Society Travel Award. He’ll present his research at the 47th Critical Care Congress of the Society of Critical Care Medicine in San Antonio in February. The award is funded via the society, whose members include current and former department faculty.

South Campus Resident Picked for Spring 2018 Health Policy Internship by American College of Physicians

As a 2018 American College of Physicians (ACP) resident health policy intern, Dr. Radhamani Kannaiyan—a third-year resident in internal medicine—spends four-weeks in Washington, DC, next spring. In that time, she will be developing legislative knowledge and advocacy skills by working directly with ACP’s DC staff and will participate in ACP’s annual Leadership Day, May 22-23, activities.

Four Residents Win at ACP Arizona Scientific Meeting

As well as previously announced Laureate Award and Researcher of the Year and Med Student of the Year awards for the UA Department of Medicine, four physicians in the UA Internal Medicine Residency Programs at both campuses won prizes in the case report and research poster competitions—Drs. Francisco Mora, Marlena Szewczyk, Sara Sari and Thomas Hanzlik. See photos and who else competed.

Open Agenda for Cerner Insight Sessions for Clinicians

The Cerner Insight Sessions for University of Arizona providers and clinical staff at Banner – University Medical Center Tucson and South have been revised based on physician feedback to be more open in their format and flexible to allow one-on-one question and answer (Q&A) sessions with individual doctors, it was announced Dec. 6. Learn more.
CLINICAL

Step Required to Push Banner Profile to Public View
Can’t find your Banner Health profile update even though you revised the content? New information on how Find-A-Provider profiles are listed for physician, mid-level and advanced practitioners requires a review to ensure recent changes are live. The Kyruus site used to edit profiles is not public facing, so edits may still need to be pushed to BannerHealth.com for patients to view them. See other tips to increase inquiries...

IN OTHER NEWS

Cardiology

The UA Sarver Heart Center hosted its 2017 Annual Cardiovascular Disease Research Fair on Nov. 29 in Kiewit Auditorium. Division of Cardiology physicians were aplenty for the “speed-dating” format that allows fellows, residents, post-docs and students a chance to speak to multiple researchers, learn about studies they may want to work on and further develop relationships with potential mentors. See the photo gallery...

The University of Arizona Sarver Heart Center added three cardiologists to its faculty this summer. They include Drs. Sophia Airhart, Khadijah Breathett and Satinder Singh. All provide patient care at Banner – University Medical Centers in Tucson. Learn more about them here...

Endocrinology

An article coauthored by UA researchers—including Drs. Paul Langlais and Larry Mandarino—in the UA Division of Endocrinology affiliated with the UAHS Center for Disparities in Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism, made the October 2017 cover of the journal Molecular & Cellular Proteomics. A paper on the UA-led study into how insulin controls glucose uptake by cells in the issue reveals the discovery of a new series of protein networks and identifies new biology that may have broader disease implications...

IN OTHER NEWS
Gastroenterology
The UA Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology hosted two important events this fall—a Gastroenterology/Hepatology Community Meeting on Oct. 17 and an inflammatory bowel disease training workshop on Nov. 17 facilitated by the University of Chicago’s Dr. David Rubin and Cornerstones Health of Los Angeles. Both were a huge success, said interim division chief Dr. Steve Goldschi...
Genistein, a major compound in soy foods, might aid in the proper functioning of a gene that can malfunction to cause breast cancer. A UA Cancer Center team led by Drs. Donato Romagnolo and Ornella Selmin is exploring the gene's potential to treat a form of breast cancer and help prevent the disease.

To identify collaborative cancer-related research projects for funding to start Sept. 1, 2019 (pending NIH approval), the Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention invites interested investigator teams. NACP is working to define and eliminate obstacles to health equity in areas of Native American cancer incidence, mortality, survivorship, and representation. Full proposals are due by Feb. 5, 2018.

**Infectious Diseases**

An uptick in Valley fever cases reported this fall indicates a likely sharp increase in infections in 2018 for humans and animals, according to Drs. John Galgiani and Lisa Shubitz at the UA Valley Fever Center for Excellence. Meanwhile, federal clearance for a rapid assay test developed with assistance of the center and UA BIO5 Institute's Dr. Anne Wertheimer should help reduce delays in diagnosing the respiratory fungal disease caused by spores endemic to area soils.

Two blogposts and a feature article posted days before World AIDS Day put the spotlight on clinicians and researchers at the UA Division of Infectious Diseases. They showcase the work of Drs. Elizabeth Connick, Lori Fantry, Anca Georgescu and Steve Klotz, the AIDS Education & Training Center, and an HIV Adherence Clinic for the UA College of Pharmacy and UA Petersen HIV Clinics at Banner – UMC Tucson and South.
Infectious Diseases

Collaboration between the UA Department of Emergency Medicine, UA Division of Infectious Diseases and UA College of Pharmacy five years ago has helped make HIV screening a routine part of ER culture and led to more integrated care for at-risk patients. Today, with remarkable prevention drugs available and antiretroviral drugs to control infection, that’s more important than ever. Patients now receive unprecedented access to timely treatment courtesy of the ER and Petersen HIV Clinics at Banner – UMC Tucson and South...

Integrative Medicine

Dr. Esther Sternberg, director of research in the UA Division of Integrative Medicine and the Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine, will lead outreach and education efforts of the National Library of Medicine, after being named chair of the board of regents for the NIH unit that serves as one of the world’s largest biomedical libraries. Dr. Sternberg is also director of the UA Institute for Place and Wellbeing...

Nephrology

In 2017, the DOM put the social media spotlight on many important initiatives via Twitter, its new Facebook webpage and the Workplace by Facebook app, launched in June to serve as an intranet for the UA College of Medicine – Tucson—the first higher education institution to adopt it. Often, that spotlight was via photo and photo gallery posts. This includes shots of Nephrology’s Drs. Prabir Roy-Chaudhury and Diego Celdran Bonafonte showing innovative devices to help improve care for kidney dialysis patients for which both won recent grants to help develop. See multiple other DOM galleries here, too...

Dr. Frank "Chip" Brosius will headline the next lectures in the DOM Research Seminar Series on Jan. 11, noon-1 p.m., COM-T 5403. He is a professor of medicine in the UA Division of Nephrology as well as a professoremeritus at the University of Michigan, where he was nephrology chief for more than 12 years. Come here him talk about "Abnormal JAK-STAT Signaling in Acute and Chronic Kidney Diseases"...
The UA pulmonary division hosted the first of its Winter Lung Series Conferences on Dec. 8 at the UA BIO5 Institute. The lecture on interstitial lung disease (ILD) also was sponsored by the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation (PFF). Speaking on “Optimizing Patient Outcomes in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis” was Dr. Evans Fernández, of National Jewish Health’s ILD Program and Autoimmune Lung Center. Dr. Sachin Chaudhary, ILD program director at the UA – College of Medicine – Tucson, noted the local program is among 40 nationally that belong to the PFF Care Center Network. See archived video and a photo gallery from the talk here…

Dr. Monica Kraft, a pulmonary specialist on allergies and recent winner of a $2.74 million NIH/NHLBI grant to further develop precision medicine therapies for asthma treatment, presented Nov. 9 at the DOM Research Seminar on “Surfactant Protein A as an Innate Immune Modulator in Asthma.” Originally scheduled to speak, Dr. Judith Voynow, a pediatric pulmonologist and cystic fibrosis specialist with Virginia Commonwealth University and the Children’s Hospital of Richmond, Va., couldn't attend due to a sudden conflict...

A roundup of news from the UA Arthritis Center includes: Dr. Kent Kwoh interviewed in a Healio Rheumatology video at the American College of Rheumatology annual meeting; center hosts “#GivingTuesday” online fundraising campaign Nov. 28; Dr. Dominick Sudano makes Rheumatology News for work with the UA Telemedicine Center to expand care to Arizona’s rural communities; Yuma lecture series; "Meet the UA Arthritis Researchers" event, Nov. 1; and Dr. Shariq Chudhri gets mention in U.S. News & World Report on statins, cardiovascular disease and rheumatoid arthritis—save date for 16th Annual Living Healthy with Arthritis Conference, Jan. 27…

Holiday Galleries Help Spread Good Cheer at End of Year—Bye 2017
See photos from year-end seasonal gatherings across the department...

Dr. Jennifer Barton Named Director of BIO5 Institute
Assistant director (2009-12), interim director (2015-17) picked for top job...
AMES Travel Grants to Present Medical Ed Research Now Available
UA Academy of Medical Education Scholars considers requests up to $750...

UA Startup ProNeurogen Advances Therapies in Vascular Dementia
UA team wins two U.S. patents for novel approach to treating diseases causing memory loss, cognitive impairment...

Aging Center Co-Director Seeks 'Holy Grail of Gerontology' at BIO5 Lab
Dr. Janko Nikolich-Žugich thinks immunity from disease might be possible...

Don't Know What You Missed on 'Workplace,' Check Update for Latest
Photos, video include Class of 2021 blessing ceremony, solar eclipse, State of College address, new faces, receptions, Buffmire Lecture and more...

DOD Grant Allows UA to Study Link of Traumatic Brain Injury, Dementia
Physician-scientist team wins $1.3M to look at long-term consequences...

UA Skin Cancer Institute Presents 8th Annual Melanoma Walk, Nov. 4
This is a family- and pet-friendly event features prizes and giveaways, music, food, a silent auction and activities for kids...