

[View it in your browser.](#)



September 2019

## Message From The Chair

It is a season of abundance, the harvest—if you will—of seeds sown in prior years. And our department continues to reap the rewards of that, as those who attended or watched the DOM General Faculty Meeting on Sept. 4 can attest while viewing the “**Accolades and Awards** segment. The printed handout from the meeting itself was 11 pages long. Credit for all those kudos go to you, the faculty and support staff that made it possible. You’ll see the kudos in a Spotlight article on the meeting below as well as in individual news items in this newsletter.



One way we measure success is through research funding. And the UA Department of Medicine once again has risen on the NIH Awards Ranking from the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research, moving up eight additional spots to 31st nationally with nearly \$41.2 million in federal funding in 2017-18—the latest year numbers were available. With almost \$30 million more since 2015, the research gains make up not quite two-thirds of the gains by the UA College of Medicine – Tucson in the same timeframe. You’ll see more detail on the funding in the first Spotlight item below.



Another measure of success is the education and training of students, residents and fellows we work with throughout the year. Our vice chair of education, **Dr. Amy Sussman** noted at the last two faculty meetings her thanks to all the doctors and divisions that delivered when asked for assistance as the number of students in clerkships doubled with the College of Medicine’s curriculum shift on clinical training. The resulting “overlap” with the prior year’s class lasted from February to July.

“That’s gratifying to see because not only were we successful, but I think we have a record number of students going into internal medicine this year. It’s a wonderful testament to how our department pulled together. Thank you to everybody,” she said.

That said, we’ve begun collating information related to our 7-year **Academic Program Review (APR)** self-study as part of our reporting to the College of Medicine, the UA and Arizona Board of Regents. Again, I’ll be proud to include many of the accomplishments

below on a department level, division level and program level in the report from that self-study. In late February, we'll host an ACGME-like site visit.

Among key areas we'll focus on in the interim are diversity and inclusion, work-life balance and faculty instructional development issues—all of which were discussed at our recent DOM Leadership Meeting as well. I am looking to recruit vice chairs to coordinate some of the committee work on these, so please reach out to me if you are interested in serving.



Speaking of vice chairs, we also need a new clinical affairs vice chair, too, as **Dr. Tammy Ojo** leaves to join her husband,

nephrologist **Dr. Akinlolu Ojo**, who is now executive dean for the University of Kansas School of Medicine. See more photos from their Aug. 13 farewell event [at this link](#). Congratulations to them both. Again, contact my office to apply.

### Monica Kraft, MD

Robert & Irene Flinn Professor of Medicine  
 Chair, Department of Medicine  
 University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson

---

## UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>OCT</b> 2	Discovering New Medicines in Arizona Summit	<b>OCT</b> 2	AZBio Awards Ceremony	<b>OCT</b> 2	UA Arthritis Center presents: Dr. Marvin Slepian – ‘High Tech Health’
<b>OCT</b> 7	ID Guest Speaker: UTHealth’s Dr. David Griffith	<b>OCT</b> 8	DOM Guest Speaker: Cleveland Clinic’s Dr. Leslie Wong	<b>OCT</b> 8	ENDO Grand Rounds: Vanderbilt’s Dr. Alyssa Hasty
<b>OCT</b> 14	Advances in Aging with Dr. Amanda Sokan – ‘Spirituality & Wellbeing’	<b>OCT</b> 17	3rd Annual Innovations and Inventions Research Fair	<b>OCT</b> 24	Governor’s Celebration of Innovation Awards & Tech Showcase
<b>OCT</b> 25	Discover Pharmacy Open House	<b>OCT</b> 26	Spotlight on Stomach Cancer Symposium	<b>OCT</b> 29	Flinn Foundation Buffmire Lecture with Dr. Randy Christensen

---

## SPOTLIGHTS



# AZBIOAWARDS™

ARIZONA'S PREMIER BIOSCIENCE EVENT

**Monica Kraft, MD**  
The University of Arizona

**Arizona Bioscience  
Researcher of the Year**

October 2, 2019



Top 2019 Research Honor at Arizona Bioscience Week Goes to DOM Chair  
The Arizona Bioindustry Association (AZBio), in an announcement posted Sunday night, named internationally renowned physician-scientist and UA Department of Medicine Chair **Dr. Monica Kraft** as its choice for Arizona Bioresearcher of the Year for 2019 based on her work on precision medicine therapies to treat severe asthma. This is the third year in a row that a UA faculty member has won the honor. It will be bestowed at an Oct. 2 ceremony at the Phoenix Convention Center, following the “**Discovering New Medicines in Arizona Summit**” at the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix, where several DOM faculty (including Dr. Kraft) are presenting...

**NO FLU FOR YOU**

*Fight the flu!*

Help save lives.  
Get your flu shot.

**WASH'EM!**  
HOW TO KILL FLU GERMS:

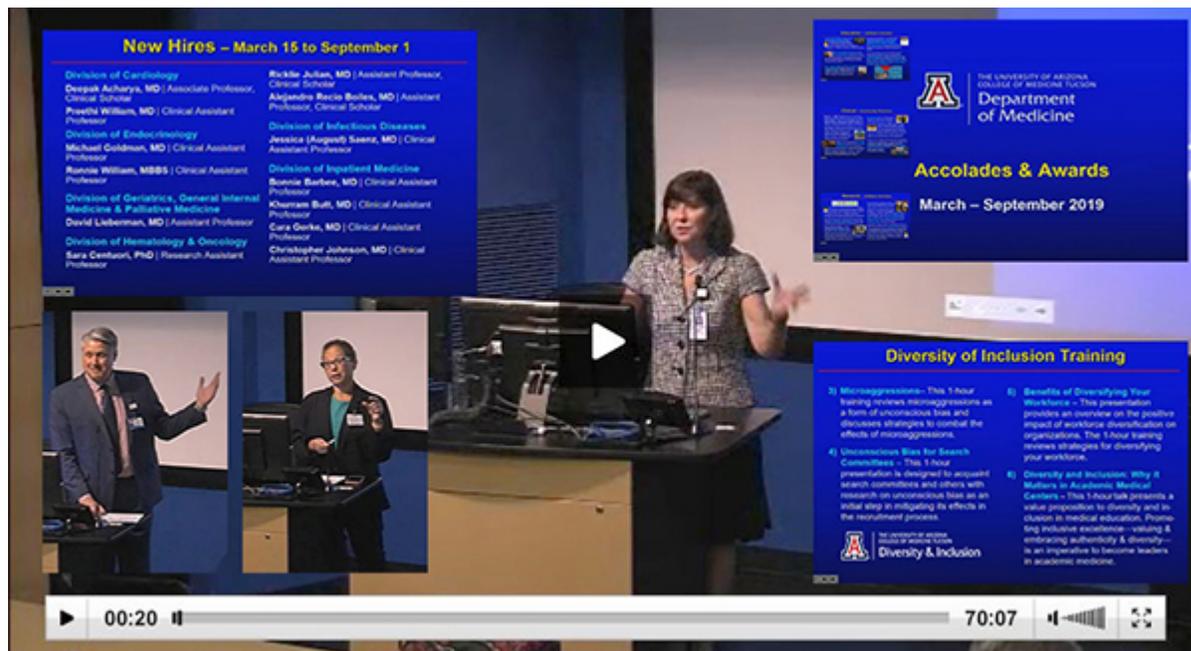
1. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold). Rub your hands together.
2. Apply soap. Work the lather between your fingers, under your nails, between your thumbs, and around your wrists.
3. Rinse well.
4. Dry your hands completely using a clean towel or air dryer.
5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

For more info, visit [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu) and [www.azdhs.gov](http://www.azdhs.gov)

Arizona Department of Health Services | UArizona | UArizona Health | UArizona Cancer Center

## Flu Season Approacheth – Get Thee to a Shot Clinic

Yeah, it's that time of year again. Time to get your flu shot. In this article, you'll find information on where and when you can get your flu shot on the UA main campus, UA Health Sciences Campus, Banner – University Medicine Tucson facilities and State of Arizona offices and facilities. See flu shot clinic schedules, eligibility criteria and clinical exemption forms. UAHS campus dates set for Oct. 1, 4 and 11. Banner Health campaign started Sept. 23...



## Fall Faculty Meeting Offers Six-Month Snapshot of Kudos for Department

On a week front-ended by the Labor Day holiday, the UA Department of Medicine



General Faculty Meeting, Sept. 4, was full of wonderful

accomplishments of its physicians and researchers — from a series of international keynote addresses for **Dr. Yves Lussier**, director of the UAHS Center for Biomedical Informatics & Biostatistics, to **Dr. Julie Bauman's** pick for the ELAM Fellowship for Women. Among topics discussed: diversity and inclusion, strategic communications, clinical access initiatives, and completion of an Academic Program Review self-study by February 2020. For a full report on accolades & awards, new hires and upcoming events, see [this link...](#)

## RESEARCH



### Dr. Hecker a Finalist for Award at 2019 Governor's Celebration of Innovation & Expo

**Dr. Louise Hecker**, an associate professor with the UA Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, UA BIO5 Institute member and research investigator with the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System, is a finalist for the Academia Award at the 16th Annual Governor's Celebration of Innovation Awards, Oct. 24 at the Phoenix Convention Center. Earlier this year, she was named "Inventor of the Year" by Tech

Launch Arizona for her lab's work on small molecule Nox4 inhibitors to treat fibrotic diseases...

[more](#)



### Phoenix Arizona Drug Discovery Summit, Oct. 2, Includes Several from UA Department of Medicine

Several UA Department of Medicine faculty members will be among presenters and panelists at the “Discovering New Medicines in Arizona Summit,” hosted (8 a.m.-3 p.m.) at the UA College of Medicine – Phoenix by the UA College of Pharmacy and UA Cancer Center as part of Arizona Bioscience Week activities. They include: **Drs. Julie Bauman, Jennifer Carew, Louise Hecker, Monica Kraft, Julie Ledford** and **Lawrence Mandarin**. Attendance is FREE. Register today!...

[more](#)



### Many Heads Are Better Than One for UA BIO5 Institute's 'Wall of Fame'—17 Researchers in Fact

A likeness for **Dr. Monica Kraft**, chair of the UA Department of Medicine, is among the latest researchers to be added to the UA BIO5 Institute “Wall of Fame.” It's one of multiple updates BIO5 has planned for the wall this summer. Currently, 17 DOM faculty members are pictured from nine divisions or business units. Names range from Retired Regents' Professor and UA Cancer Center Director Emeritus **Dr. David Alberts** to Geriatrics' **Dr. Nima Toosizadeh**. See the rest here...

[more](#)

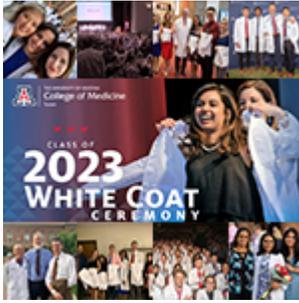


### Fall Responsible Conduct of Research Workshops Set

The UA Office of Research, Discovery, and Innovation's Fall 2019 schedule for Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) workshops runs from Aug. 22 to Dec. 4. These interactive, discussion-based sessions—designed for graduate and undergraduate students and postdoctoral researchers—are open to all members of campus. All workshops count towards fulfillment of RCR education requirements from the NSF and NIH. See topics here and enroll today...

[more](#)

## EDUCATION



### White Coat Ceremony Celebrates Future Physicians

Congratulations to the nearly 120 incoming medical students in the UA College of Medicine – Tucson’s Class of 2023 who received their first white coats at the annual ceremony hosted July 26 at the UA Centennial Hall. See the video and photos from **Dr. Indu Partha** and others, as well as who all attended from the Department of Medicine...

[more](#)

## FACULTY



### UA Women in Academic Medicine Spotlights 20 Physicians for ‘Women in Medicine’ Month

September is the American Medical Association’s Women in Medicine Month, which showcases female physicians and highlights related advocacy and health issues impacting women patients. The UA Women in Academic Medicine chapter spotlights 20 UA women physicians this month. Among them are **Drs. Serena Scott** and **Julia Jernberg** (Geriatrics, General Internal and Palliative Medicine), **Elizabeth Juneman** (Cardiology), **Rachna Shroff** (Hem-Onc) and **Gianna O’Hara** (PGY3 Internal Medicine Resident). A social mixer was held Sept. 16. See your UAHS Campus Update email for more...

[more](#)



### College Recognizes Promoted, New Faculty at Summer General Faculty Meeting — Its First in HSIB Forum

Congratulations to the eight new faculty and 12 recently promoted faculty in the UA Department of Medicine and beyond who were recognized Aug. 14 in the first UA College of Medicine – Tucson General Faculty Meeting hosted in the Health Sciences Innovation Building. See who they are as well as video and photos from the meeting...

[more](#)



## Banner Physicians Make Up Third of Tucson's 'Top Docs' and DOM Accounts for a Quarter of Them

Congratulations to the Department of Medicine physicians—all 21 of them—chosen for Castle Connolly's "2019 Top Doctors in America" list and included in *Tucson Lifestyle* magazine's annual Top Doctors issue out in June. They include **Drs. Robert Aaronson, Liz Connick, Mark Friedman, Paul Gee, Gerald Goldberg, Randy Horwitz, Mathew Hutchinson, Julia Indik, Raj Janardhanan, Karl Kern, Steve Klotz, James Knepler, Monica Kraft, Kwan Lee, Kapil Lotun, Tammy Ojo, Peter Ott, Sai Parthasarathy, James Sligh and Steve Thomson...**

[more](#)

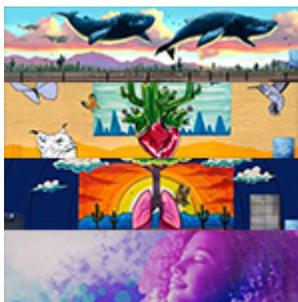
## CLINICAL



## U.S. News Releases Latest 'Best Hospitals' List

It's been two decades since the hospital that's the UA College of Medicine – Tucson's primary clinical partner did not make the *U.S. News & World Report's* annual "Best Hospitals" national top 50 rankings in at least one adult specialty, procedure or condition. Banner – University Medical Center Tucson attributed it to a new algorithm used to calculate the rankings and points to its new, state-of-the-art, \$446-million hospital tower as the game-changer in Southern Arizona...

[more](#)



## Banner Sponsors New Murals to Brighten Area Streets

Four local artists' work is being celebrated in five murals at sites around Tucson commissioned by Banner – University Medicine. "The city's vibrant arts scene and colorful murals are part of what makes Tucson special," said **Dr. Chad Whelan**, CEO of Banner Health's academic division in Tucson and Department of Medicine internist. "We were looking for relaxing artwork that speaks to health, healing and togetherness"...

[more](#)



## Banner – UMC Tucson Spring Opening Featured on Cover of *Arizona Commercial Real Estate Magazine*

Banner – UMC Tucson’s grand opening of its new nine-story hospital tower on April 22 got prominent play on the cover and in the cover story, “Healthcare Trends,” for the May/June 2019 issue of *Arizona Commercial Real Estate Magazine*, also known as AZRE. The article focuses on modern conveniences expected by both staff and patients. Three other Banner construction projects are profiled in Phoenix, too...

[more](#)

## IN OTHER NEWS

### Cardiology



**Dr. Elizabeth Juneman**, a UA Division of Cardiology and UA Sarver Heart Center member, and director of outpatient cardiology services at Banner – University Medical Center Tucson and South, was recently honored with induction into the Charter 100 AZ. Founded in 1979, the nonpartisan women’s leadership group recognizes outstanding women and provides a forum for their interaction. Dr. Juneman is the eighth current member from the UA...

[more](#)



**Dr. Marvin J. Slepian**, Regents’ Professor, professor of medicine in the UA Division of Cardiology, UA Sarver Heart Center member and a McGuire Scholar in the UA Eller College of Management, has been elected president of the American Society for Artificial Internal Organs (ASAIO). Dr. Slepian received the honor June 29 at the society’s 65th annual meeting in San Francisco...

[more](#)



Kudos to **Erika Yee**, a health education assistant with the UA Sarver Heart Center, reached a milestone of more than 4,000 people trained in Chest-Compression-Only CPR this year. She and her group of 15 volunteers, mostly UA undergraduate students, coordinate with the UA College of Medicine – Tucson REACT Group, the center’s Minority Outreach Program and the Steven M. Gootter Foundation...

[more](#)

## Cardiology



A host of UA Health Sciences efforts designed to foster diversity in the health professions ran from June through August with a similar goal: to address related disparities for underserved communities. Among them, the BLAISER (Border Latino & American Indian Summer Exposure to Research) and the Focusing Research on the Border Area (FRONTERA) Summer Internship programs. Participating DOM faculty included: **Drs. Marvin Slepian, Khadijah Breathett and Mindy Fain**. See other mentors and lecturers (and video)...

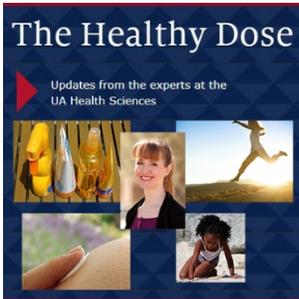
[more](#)



Congratulations to **Dr. Olivia Hung**, a clinical assistant professor of medicine in the UA Division of Cardiology, UA Sarver Heart Center member and cardiology education director at South Campus, who was among 10 physicians chosen to participate in the Clinical Reasoning Course at the UA College of Medicine – Tucson as CRC faculty facilitators. See other facilitators named...

[more](#)

## Dermatology



**Lisa Quale**, a health educator at the UA Cancer Center and UA Skin Cancer Institute, discusses the best ways to enjoy the sun's benefits while protecting yourself from cancer-causing UV radiation in a recent Healthy Dose Blog post at the UA Health Sciences website. Other blogpost topics covered include diabetes, Alzheimer's, flu shots, macular degeneration and genetic counselors. Read on...

[more](#)



KOLD News-13 TV this summer started a "Business File" feature in cooperation with Banner – University Medicine that focuses on different health-care issues of note to the local community. The first interview is with UA dermatologist **Dr. Clara Curiel-Lewandrowski** on skin cancer issues in Southern Arizona. Look for others coming soon on labor and delivery, and stroke prevention themes...

[more](#)

## Dermatology



Several recent Health eConnect newsletters from Banner Health have corresponded to seasonal themes of summer, offering tips and tricks to avoid conflicts with Mother Nature. Whether it's sun safety, allergies, desert critters that bite or sting, or just drinking enough water, these little reminders aim to help keep you and your loved ones healthy...

[more](#)

## Endocrinology



The *Journal of Endocrinology* published a paper in August with the UA's **Dr. Jennifer Stern** as lead author on research that suggests the metabolic glucoregulatory disturbance in obesity that can result in type 2 diabetes may be driven by inappropriate fasting-induced regulation of glucagon, resulting in a static glucagon:insulin ratio. She's one of four faculty members who'll represent the DOM at the 3rd Annual Inventions & Innovations Research Fair, Oct. 17. The others are **Dr. Edward Gelmann**, **Louise Hecker** and **Salma Patel**...

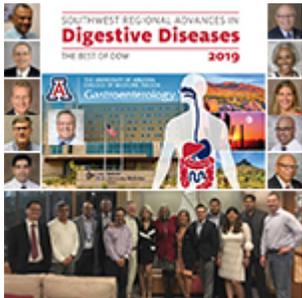
[more](#)



**Dr. Dawn Coletta** received a three-year, \$600,000 award from the American Diabetes Association (ADA) for the study, "Unraveling the role of mitochondrial DNA methylation in type 2 diabetes." With co-investigators **Drs. Wayne Willis**, **Lawrence Mandarino** and **Janet Funk**, this study will determine whether DNA methylation of mitochondrial DNA impairs mitochondrial function in obese or type 2 diabetes insulin-resistant patients and could lead to therapies to address it...

[more](#)

## Gastroenterology



The inaugural "Southwest Regional Advances in Digestive Diseases: Best of DDW" 4.0-CME half-day conference, hosted Sept. 7 at the Starr Pass Resort by the UA Division of Gastroenterology, was wildly successful, according to coordinators for organizers **Drs. Oleh Haluszka** and **Hemanth Gavini**. They've already reserved a date in mid-September 2020 for the second annual event. See the who's who in GI of 2019 speakers, topics, and link to a Q&A with Dr. Haluszka...

[more](#)

## Gastroenterology



The UA Division of Gastroenterology and UA Cancer Center partner Oct. 26 with No Stomach For Cancer to host a “Spotlight on Stomach Cancer Symposium” in the HSIB Forum. Among participating faculty: **Drs. Emad Elquza, Hemanth Gavini, Juanita Merchant, Aaron Scott and Rachna Shroff.** Harvard/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute’s **Dr. Adam Bass** offers the keynote and two invited speakers underscore rising rates in Hispanics and Native Americans. It's a free, public event and offers patient and caregiver sessions. Register today...

[more](#)

## Geriatrics



The UA Health Sciences and Banner Health collaborated to host a free Fall Prevention Fair on Sept. 27 that included a variety of UA experts, interactive workshops in balance and tai chi, a vendor fair, food and refreshments, and giveaways. Among the speakers was the UA Division of Geriatrics, General Internal Medicine and Palliative Medicine’s **Dr. Monica Vandivort** and UA Center on Aging members, **Drs. Bellal Joseph and Ruth Taylor-Piliae...**

[more](#)



UA assistant professor **Dr. Lisa O’Neill** was named a 2019-20 Health and Aging Policy Fellow with Columbia University’s National Program Office and travels to Washington, DC, in September for orientation on the yearlong program. Serving as the UA Center on Aging’s associate director of research and education, manager of its Arizona Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program and chair of the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging, she has tackled issues that include elder abuse, hoarding disorders and caregiver support—all areas she hopes to pursue as a policy fellow...

[more](#)



With **Dr. Mindy Fain** as their institutional mentor, four UA College of Medicine – Tucson students were awarded Medical Student Training in Aging Research (MSTAR) Program scholarships from the American Federation for Aging Research this past summer to participate in geriatrics research at medical institutions across the country. Two went to Harvard, one to UCSF and another to the University of North Carolina. They push the number of MSTAR Scholars from the UA mentored by Dr. Fain to more than three dozen in 12 years...

[more](#)

## Geriatrics



**Drs. Linda Phillips** and **Lisa O'Neill**, members of the Arizona Workforce Enhancement Program at the UA Center on Aging, recently co-wrote an editorial page article in the Arizona Daily Star on elder abuse, the social isolation of older adults, the importance of supporting programs like the Pima Council on Aging and Meals on Wheels and watching out for your older neighbors and relatives as a safeguard against elder abuse. The occasion – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, June 15...

[more](#)



A new paper from the UA Center on Aging and Arizona Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program, published by the *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*, looks at disparities in information available to older Mexican-Americans and their family caregivers that may affect their health-care use and end-of-life decisions. **Dr. Linda Phillips**, the center's senior director of research and education, is a co-author...

[more](#)

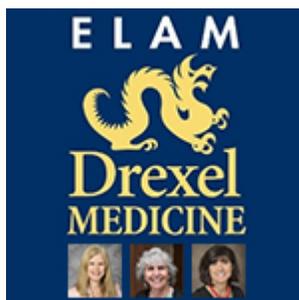
## Hematology and Oncology



**Dr. William Cance**, UA Cancer Center interim director, has accepted a new position as chief medical and scientific officer at the American Cancer Society, announced **Dr. Michael D. Dake**, UAHS senior vice president. **Dr. Joan Sweasy**, who joined the UA faculty this summer from the Yale Cancer Center, was named the new interim director, and Hematology and Oncology Chief **Dr. Julie Bauman** is now deputy director...



[more](#)



**Dr. Julie Bauman**, a UA professor and Hematology and Oncology division chief, was named a 2019-20 fellow of the prestigious Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) Program for Women. In its 25th year, the national program based at Philadelphia's Drexel University, prepares women for senior leadership roles in schools of medicine, dentistry, public health and pharmacy. UA ELAM alumni include **Drs. Mindy Fain** and **Monica Kraft**...

[more](#)

## Hematology and Oncology



The UA Cancer Center added six diverse community leaders to its advisory board, lead by chairperson and leukemia survivor **Jack Wilson** (*pictured*). They include former UMC – Tucson COO **John DuVal**; **Kendall Foster**, OOROO Business partner; **Becky Kueker**, motivational speaker, author and cancer survivor; **Arlene Kutoroff**, breast cancer survivor and community patient advocate; **Justin Lanne**, NAI Horizon Tucson managing director; and **Matt Siegel**, CBRE Tucson managing director and a former UA assistant baseball coach...

[more](#)



A UA professor of medicine in the Division of Hematology and Oncology and Clinical Trials Phase I Program director at the UA Cancer Center, **Dr. Daruka Mahadevan** has been recognized as a Senior Member of the National Academy of Inventors, a non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging inventors in academia. He is among 54 inducted this year and a total of 116 senior members...

[more](#)



**Dr. Daruka Mahadevan**, co-leader of the Therapeutic Development Program and director of the Clinical Trials Phase I Program at the UA Cancer Center, was named chief of the Division of Hematology and Medical Oncology at the University of Texas, San Antonio, Department of Medicine and will lead that service line at the Mays Cancer Center at UT Health San Antonio. He'll start in his new position Dec. 1...

[more](#)



With her son at her side, **Dr. Rachna Shroff**, GI Medical Oncology section chief at the UA Cancer Center and a physician in the UA Division of Hematology and Oncology at the UA Department of Medicine, threw out the opening pitch June 25 at “Strike Out Cancer Night” for the Sun Belt College Baseball League in Tucson. See the photos — watch the archived video...

[more](#)

## Hematology and Oncology



GI Medical Oncology Chief **Dr. Rachna Shroff** is seeking a “goldmine of information” in her quest to extend survival and improve quality of life for patients with cancers of the liver, gall bladder and pancreas. A randomized phase III study through the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG 1815) began last December. Dr. Shroff is the principal investigator for the study, which is the first such clinical trial in biliary cancers in the United States. Separately, she was named director of the UA Cancer Center’s Clinical Trials Office...

[more](#)



**Forest Melton**, a regulatory specialist with the Genitourinary (GU) Team and research member with the Therapeutic Development Program at the UA Cancer Center, won “Man of the Year” honors from the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Arizona Chapter in June. With a record 21 candidates participating in the chapter’s 10-week fundraising campaign, he raised \$72,185 for blood cancer research. **Dr. Daniel Persky** was the chapter’s 2017 man of the year...

[more](#)



Researchers with the UA Cancer Center and UA College of Pharmacy have developed a new blood test that can detect most major cancers and have launched a startup, DesertDx, to bring the invention to doctors and their patients. Collaborators with company principals **Dr. Bernard Futscher**, **Dr. Mark Nelson** and **Lukas Vrba** include **Drs. Linda Garland**, **Samuel Kim** and **Daruka Mahadevan**, of the UA/Banner lung cancer research and Phase I clinical trials teams...

[more](#)

## Integrative Medicine



The UA Andrew Weil Center for Integrative Medicine expands as **Drs. Ann Marie Chiasson** and **Lise Alschuler** accept leadership roles in the center’s flagship Fellowship in Integrative Medicine program. The largest such integrative medicine program in the world, it has nearly 1,400 graduates from all 50 states and 28 countries and territories...

[more](#)

## Integrative Medicine



The UA Andrew Weil Center for Integrative Medicine has developed **CANHeal**, a free online integrative cancer care toolkit to help those recently diagnosed feel less overwhelmed. See this and more on healthy eating, wellness coaching, integrative psychiatry and fertility — including videos of **Dr. Andrew Weil** on the future of integrative medicine and **Dr. Victoria Maizes** from the Aspen Ideas Festival...



[more](#)

## Nephrology



**Dr. Michael M.I. Abecassis**, chief of the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine's Division of Organ Transplantation and founding director of its Comprehensive Transplant Center, was appointed the ninth dean of the UA College of Medicine – Tucson. A renowned physician-scientist, Dr. Abecassis pioneered several innovative surgical procedures and approaches to transplant patient care. His NIH-funded research includes translational and clinical studies in pursuit of a molecular biomarker strategy for both kidney and liver transplant recipients. He will start in early November...

[more](#)

## PACCS



Pulmonary Division Chief **Dr. Sairam Parthasarathy** was spotlighted by UA News for a nearly \$1.4 million grant he won from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) for a peer-support program for sleep apnea patients. The program will start at Banner – University Medicine clinics in Tucson and later expand other Banner Health centers, in which more than 11,000 sleep studies are conducted and 9,000 patients seen annually for sleep disorders...

[more](#)



UA employees disclosed 284 inventions in fiscal year 2019 – more than any other year in the university's history. The record-setting number is included in annual numbers just released by Tech Launch Arizona, the UA office that commercializes inventions stemming from research. Among the startups assisted by TLA this past year was Fibronox, which is working to treat fibrotic disorders with Nox4 small molecular inhibitors invented by **Dr. Louise Hecker**...

[more](#)

## PACCS



UA Pulmonary Chief **Dr. Sairam Parthasarathy**, contributed a podcast this summer for Consultant360.com's Cardiology-Consultant website on how clinicians can reduce rehospitalization rates among patients suffering from heart failure and sleep disordered breathing via use of continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) devices. The topic ties into an NIH grant subcontract he and UA Cardiology Chief **Dr. Nancy Sweitzer** won from Ohio State University...



[more](#)

## Rheumatology



World-renowned physician-scientist and UA cardiologist **Dr. Marvin Slepian** will present at the UA Arthritis Center's Living Healthy With Arthritis lecture Oct. 2 on "High Tech Health: Revolutionizing How We Track, Treat and Prevent Disease," 6-7:15 p.m., in the HSIB Forum. [Register here](#). His address is a follow-up to the center's TED-Talk-style "Empowered Aging: Experts Tackle Bone and Joint Health," Sept. 4 with UA Geriatrics Chief and Center on Aging Director **Dr. Mindy Fain**, UA Orthopedics Chair **Dr. John Ruth**, and nurse practitioner **Marcia Woodburn**, leader of the Banner/UA fracture liaison program. Separately, UA Rheumatology Chief and Arthritis Center Director **Dr. Kent Kwoh** was named to the MDEdge Rheumatology editorial board...

[more](#)

## This Just In...

**"UA awarded \$3.6M for new method to detect, diagnose breast cancer"**  
Involves new generation CT scans to improve 3D images of breast tissue...

**"UA researchers seek to treat pain from chemotherapy without opioids"**  
UA-startup Regulonix wins grant as part of NIH initiative to end addiction...

**"Study changes guidelines for sepsis management in nation's EDs"**  
UA co-authored study on ED practices now in *Annals of Internal Medicine*...

**"Times Higher Education – UA a top 20 U.S. public research institution"**  
At 104th overall, university finishes 55 spots higher over position last year...

**“UA center warns of severe lung injury risk with e-cigarettes, vaping”**  
Patients' clinicians can contact Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center...

---

**“Dr. Irving Kron joins All of Us Research Program leadership team”**  
Noted cardiothoracic surgeon named contact PI for Arizona program...

---

**“Can the Alzheimer’s patient brain regenerate and recover?”**  
\$37.5M NIH grant allows UAHS to test a unique treatment for disease...

---

**“Banner – University Medicine now title sponsor for El Tour de Tucson”**  
November tradition underscores commitment to health, wellness and safety...

---

**“UA and Pima County to launch Academic Health Department”**  
Aims to bridge gap between of public health professional ed, practice...

---

**“UA effort reconciles scientific standoff in colon cancer research”**  
Validates findings of 2018 study on new therapeutic target for disease...

---

**“UA, Beijing university collaboration began 20 years ago with tai chi”**  
International Society of Chinese Health Practices (ISCHP) realizes dream...

---

**“Banner Alzheimer’s Institute comes to Tucson”**  
Ground broken for Toole Family Memory Center on June 28...

---

**“Internal Medicine, Dermatology chief residents named”**  
Ten residents to stay on extra year to serve in 2019-20, 2020-21 leadership...

---



COLLEGE OF MEDICINE TUCSON

Department  
of Medicine

GIVE TODAY



University of Arizona Department of Medicine  
1501 N. Campbell Ave., Room 6334, PO Box 245035, Tucson, AZ 85724  
(520) 626-6349 | [deptofmed.arizona.edu](http://deptofmed.arizona.edu) | [Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)  
To submit a news item or story idea for this newsletter, please contact David Mogollón, Communications  
Coordinator, at (520) 626-1137 or [dmogollon@deptofmed.arizona.edu](mailto:dmogollon@deptofmed.arizona.edu).  
Copyright © 2019 Arizona Board of Regents

