

# DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE NEWS

ISSUE II



FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2007

## DR. GOLDSCHMID'S INTRODUCTION

There are many Departmental newsworthy items to disseminate. Of great importance is the development of the University of Arizona College of Medicine in Phoenix. I asked Dr. Alan Leibowitz, Associate Head of the Department of Medicine in Phoenix, to give us a briefing. These are his welcomed thoughts.

## DR. LEIBOWITZ, BANNER GOOD SAMARITAN

Many of the faculty in Tucson have known our program, faculty and me for many years, through committee meetings, postgraduate courses, lectures and other collaboration. These are very exciting times for us and the College in Phoenix, loaded with opportunity and change. I appreciate this opportunity to update the internal medicine faculty concerning our program and department and what is happening in Phoenix. In the mid-1990's the Phoenix campus was formally organized and the program directors in OB-Gyn, Surgery, Psychiatry as well as Internal Medicine at Good Sam were named Associate Department Heads in the College with responsibility for medical student education and faculty academic appointment.

### **Banner Health**

You may remember that "Good Sam" was part of Samaritan Health System, a Phoenix-based organization.

In 2000 Samaritan merged with Lutheran Health and created Banner Health System one of the nation's largest, top 3, non-profit secular health systems. Banner has 20 facilities throughout 7 western states; 9 hospitals are in the Phoenix metro area.

### **Banner and the University of Arizona College of Medicine**

Banner is the organization that is affiliating with the College of Medicine in Phoenix and will build and operate 2 hospitals for the College. One is in a 150-200 bed NCI designated comprehensive cancer center that will house the Arizona Cancer Center. The second is a 200+ bed university hospital. This hospital will be home to the full-time clinical faculty in Phoenix and will be the site where new graduate education programs will be developed. Good Sam's GME faculty will become UA's full-time faculty. While the exact

downtown location for the new hospitals is not yet known, they along with Good Sam, which will be in relatively close proximity, will form the "clinical campus" for the College. The development of the affiliation agreement between Banner and UA involves several work groups (and many meetings). I co-chair the Departmental Structure group and participate on the Faculty Practice and GME development groups. Other groups include facility planning, program development and communications/culture. Banner and UA have people participating on all work groups.

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*Dr. Alan Leibowitz, Program Director and Chairman of Medicine at Good Samaritan*

### **SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- *May 5th-Cinco de Mayo*
- *May 7th-Finals Week*
- *May 11th& 12th-Graduation*
- *May 28th-Memorial Day*

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Congratulations to those who are graduating. The Department of Medicine is proud of your achievements!

“THESE ARE VERY EXCITING TIMES FOR US AND THE COLLEGE IN PHOENIX, LOADED WITH OPPORTUNITY AND CHANGE.”

-DR. LEIBOWITZ

#### HISTORY:

Cinco de Mayo commemorates the victory of Mexican forces led by General Ignacio Zaragoza over the French occupational forces in the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862. It is a common misconception that Cinco de Mayo is Mexico's Independence Day, which is celebrated on September 16th but actually it is a celebration of the battle.

## CONTINUED ... (DR. LEIBOWITZ)

### Banner Good Sam Internal Medicine

Our internal medicine program has been doing very well over the last few years. We have 71 house staff in our internal medicine program, 24 combined medicine-pediatrics residents and 37 fellows in cardiology, interventional cardiology, endocrinology, geriatrics, gastroenterology, pulmonary/critical care and medical toxicology. All programs received full accreditation, 5 years for the most part, during the last site visits. We are delighted that the internal medicine program was selected to be one of the 17 programs in phase I for the Residency Review Committee for Internal Medicine's (RRC-IM) *Educational Innovations Project (EIP)*. [http://goodsamim.com/document/eip/newsRel\\_03\\_10\\_06b.pdf](http://goodsamim.com/document/eip/newsRel_03_10_06b.pdf) With the addition of 4 Phase II programs there are now 21 programs in the EIP and we join with programs such as UCSF, Duke, Pittsburgh, Beth Israel Deaconess, Mayo to work directly with the RRC and collaborate on the development of educational methods for internal medicine training. Good Sam's project integrates patient safety and quality assurance into our training program. Selection to participate in this program provides us a 10-year accreditation cycle.

The mission of our program has been to focus on and provide quality postgraduate and medical student education and training integrated in the context of excellent patient care. The full-time program faculty at Good Sam now number 19 in general medicine. All full-time faculty are employed by Banner Health and none have private practices outside of our program.

The areas where we provide resident and medical student education in our program include our academic hospitalist service, faculty practice, residents' clinic and the VA. The Phoenix VA has and will continue to be fully integrated with all of our programs. Phoenix Children's Hospital is our med-peds partner. Both Good Sam physicians who we contract with and VA faculty direct subspecialty fellowships.

### Banner Good Sam Faculty

We are quite proud of our faculty who include several UA graduates who have strong ties to the College. Their c.v.'s include many awards for teaching from the College, election as faculty AOA and membership on the American College of Physicians Council of Young Physicians. Many of you are familiar with some of the research output of our program, including the weight-based heparin protocol, computer assisted patient alerts and our participation with UA's Reynolds Foundation Geriatrics grant. In addition to the workgroups described earlier we are involved in the College's Clinical Curriculum Planning Committee, the evolving promotion and tenure activities for the College and the state-wide faculty learning community / faculty development programs.

As I stated previously these are exciting times, bearing in mind the origin of the Chinese saying "May you live in exciting times". We look forward to continued strong collaboration among all of the members of the Department of Medicine.

Alan I. Leibowitz, MD, FACP  
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Director of Internal Medicine Programs  
Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center, Phoenix  
Professor of Clinical Medicine and Associate Head

### WANT TO SUBMIT INFO FOR THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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