



News Release
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ABOR Seeks Operational and Organizational Business Plans from UA on Colleges of Medicine to Ensure Continued Success

(Phoenix, Ariz.) – Today, the Arizona Board of Regents convened a special meeting related to the University of Arizona Colleges of Medicine. This meeting follows a previous [special board meeting](#) and two recent meetings of the [ABOR Health Affairs Committee](#) that addressed the UA Colleges of Medicine and recent issues that were brought to the board’s attention.

The board remains fully committed to assuring the continued excellence of both colleges of medicine and their vital educational, research and service missions. Because of this commitment, and the board’s respect for the importance of advancing academic medicine in Arizona, [independent counsel](#) was retained to conduct an in-depth review at the colleges of medicine.

While the outcome of the evaluation is protected by attorney-client privilege, the board indicated today that it does not believe that additional board inquiry is needed at this time and that it will work with the university to enhance reporting to the board moving forward.

“On behalf of the Arizona Board of Regents, we are wholeheartedly committed to the continued success of the University of Arizona Colleges of Medicine,” said Regent and ABOR Chairman Greg Patterson. “It is because of our strong support of this institution that we convened an independent review.

“While the board does not believe that additional board inquiry is necessary at this time, we have asked President Hart and her team to advance a comprehensive business plan to guide the future operation of the UA Colleges of Medicine. The board will also provide detailed guidelines to the university on reporting back to the board related to the colleges of medicine. We also have asked for strong oversight of the workplace culture as well.”

The board approved a motion to direct President Hart to work with her leadership team to provide coordinated business plans to the board that address the following:

- The unique role, mission and purpose of each college, as well as a vision for their continued growth and specialization of research;
- Operational and organizational plans, including the delineation of management responsibilities between the colleges of medicine and health sciences generally;

- Financial plans for operations and capital to ensure short and long-term objectives are met;
- Accreditation compliance;
- The role and expected outcomes of clinical partnerships between Banner and affiliates, as well as administrative oversight relating to the successful implementation of the Banner Academic Affiliation Agreement;
- Advancement of a comprehensive and coordinated strategy for internal and external communications regarding the colleges of medicine; and
- Continuation and enhancement of the UA's ongoing oversight of workforce climate and organizational issues associated with the colleges of medicine.

The board expressed its appreciation to university leadership and will work with President Hart to schedule submittal and presentation of these items through the board's committees. The Board also expressed its recognition of and deep appreciation for the support of the two Colleges of Medicine from the Legislature, the Arizona medical community and the citizens of Arizona.

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The Arizona Board of Regents is committed to ensuring access for qualified residents of Arizona to undergraduate and graduate instruction; promoting the discovery, application, and dissemination of new knowledge; extending the benefits of university activities to Arizona's citizens outside the university; and maximizing the benefits derived from the state's investment in education. For more information visit [AZRegents.edu](https://www.AZRegents.edu).