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ARIZONA HISPANIC CENTER OF EXCELLENCE College of Medicine

Overview

The Arizona Hispanic Center of Excellence (AHCOE) established in 1999 has become a premier Hispanic medical research and training center, producing excellent clinicians and scientists to serve the increasingly complex needs of the U.S.-Mexico Border Region. Our mission is to improve the health of all Americans by producing the highest quality scholarship with regard to Hispanic health, and by training the next generation of culturally diverse and culturally fluent healthcare providers. Based within the University of Arizona, College of Medicine (UA COM), AHCOE brings together the Mexican-American Studies and Research Center, the Arizona Health Sciences Library, and the Office of Minority Affairs. This core group works with the external partners including state universities, community colleges, and hospitals, to connect people and programs that promote Hispanic health issues and related workforce development, in an effort to improve the health of all Arizonans. Current efforts focus on Hispanic faculty and medical student development and performance, as well as early outreach and biomedical workforce development.

Hispanic Faculty and Students at the College of Medicine

- AHCOE/COM contributes significantly to the education of Hispanic medical students, consistently training and graduating a higher percentage of Hispanic students than the national average.
- There are minimal differences in the attrition (2%) of underrepresented minority (URM) and non-URM students at the COM.
- The overall 5-year graduation rate for Hispanic students is nearly 100%.
- AHCOE/COM and partners have developed a spectrum of educational pipeline programs from middle-school to medical school to encourage Hispanic health professions and biomedical workforce development.
- AHCOE participates in, and often facilitates, interdisciplinary efforts both within and outside of the UA including the Colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing, and Public Health; BIO5 Institute; Mexican-American Studies and Resource Center; Sunnyside School Unified School District; Tucson Hispanic Coalition; and Pima Community College.
- In recognition of COM/AHCOE commitment and achievements, *Hispanic Business Magazine* recently recognized the UA COM as one of the Top 10 medical schools for Hispanics.
- 12 Hispanic faculty have been awarded 41 competitively funded grants and contracts totaling \$25,878,459.
- Hispanic faculty have authored 115 peer-reviewed publications.
- 270 Hispanic students from middle-school to high school have participated in early outreach educational pipeline programs.
- 47 graduate students from the Colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy, Public Health, Biomedical Engineering, Agriculture and Life Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Business and Public Administration, working in the area of biomedical and related disciplines, have been supported through the AHCOE.

