

# Building Academic Medicine's Future

By Charles B. Cairns, MD, Dean, UA College of Medicine – Tucson



The footprint of academic healthcare is quickly expanding in Tucson, with nearly \$1 billion in state-of-the-art buildings under construction at the University of Arizona Health Sciences and Banner – University Medical Center.

These new structures will improve patient care and

health care delivery, and enhance interdisciplinary research and medical education across the University of Arizona Health Sciences. They will improve the experiences of the College of Medicine – Tucson students, residents and fellows, faculty and patients, and will impact the way our faculty teach, our students learn and health care is provided.

## Health Sciences Innovation Building:

- 220,000 square feet
- Completion date: September 2018
- Interdisciplinary training of future doctors, nurses, pharmacists and public health professionals
- State-of-the-art simulation and innovation

The Health Sciences Innovation Building (HSIB) will triple the space allocated to students' community life and interactive education. With an entire floor dedicated to simulation and the ability to expand our clinical teaching activities, we will be able to keep up with the changing demands of undergraduate medical education. Additionally, this new facility fosters trans-disciplinary collaborations and serves as a unique place for interactions between teams of health professionals, students and faculty in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and public health. It will serve as the vanguard for interprofessional health education in the Southwestern United States.

## Bioscience Research Laboratory Building:

- 100,000 square feet
- Completion date: January 2018
- Collaborative translational research space (molecular basis for human health, aging and disease)
- Research facilities to support interdisciplinary research in many health science disciplines



*The new 670,000 sq. ft. University Medical Center Tucson is expected to be completed in 2019.*

The Bioscience Research Laboratory Building (BSRL) will provide new space for interdisciplinary research, which is a key component of the College's strategic vision for the future. By identifying the intersection of health care issues and our areas of expertise, and then working across disciplines – across departments, centers and other colleges – we can find innovative solutions to the health care needs of today and tomorrow.

## Banner Health – University Medical Center Tucson:

- 670,000 square feet
- Completion date: Spring 2019
- 336 private patient rooms, 22 operating rooms, imaging suites and public spaces
- New diagnostic imaging, diagnostic cardiology, cardiac cath labs and interventional radiology
- More than \$50 million in new patient care equipment and computers for state-of-the-art care



*The Bioscience Research Laboratory Building will provide much needed space for interdisciplinary research.*



*The Health Sciences Innovation Building will triple the space allocated to students' community life and interactive education.*

For a perspective on this massive project, take a look at the cranes cutting into the Tucson skyline at the hospital construction site. The 400-foot cranes weigh 700,000 pounds and are taller than any building in town. It is truly a big project that will have a major impact on patient care in Arizona. The new nine-story hospital provides new, updated patient rooms and will house more than \$50 million in new patient-care equipment. Additionally, when the new hospital is complete, the old hospital space will be repurposed for academic office and research space.

**Outpatient Banner Health Center:**

- 200,000 square feet
- Completion date: Winter 2017-2018
- Outpatient services and adult multi-specialty clinics
- Site improvements and patient care equipment

This three-story multi-specialty clinic is located next to the University of Arizona Cancer Center – North Campus at Campbell Avenue and Allen Road. The facility will house many outpatient clinics currently in Banner – University Medical Center Tucson, in addition to radiation oncology, medical imaging, lab service and a retail pharmacy. A new parking garage is also under construction, which will offer free covered parking.

Many positive changes are underway for health care in Tucson thanks to these capital improvements at the University of Arizona and by Banner Health.

You can find the most up-to-date construction information, including webcams at the BSRL, HSIB and hospital construction sites, at [campus-construction.uahs.arizona.edu](http://campus-construction.uahs.arizona.edu). ■



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