



The Workup

News from the halls of academic medicine & health sciences

■ November 2019 ■

Headlines

Campus-wide ban on soda pays off, study suggests

A ban on soda sales at the University of California-San Francisco (UCSF) had the desired effect, a new study suggests. The ban, imposed in 2015, led to a 48.5 percent average reduction in employees' daily consumption of the sugar-sweetened beverages and to significantly less belly fat among 202 workers evaluated by researchers. "This study demonstrates the value in rigging workplace environments to support people's health rather than the opposite," said Laura A. Schmidt, PhD, a professor at the UCSF School of Medicine and senior author of the report. "UCSF simply took sugary drinks out of workplace vending machines, break rooms, and cafeterias and wound up improving employees' health." The research, published in the October 28 issue of *JAMA Internal Medicine*, is the first peer-reviewed study to explore the effects of a workplace ban on the sale of sugar-sweetened drinks. According to *The New York Times*, at least 30 medical centers nationwide have stopped selling such beverages. Among them: the University of Michigan Health System, the Cleveland Clinic, and the Baylor Health Care System. [READ MORE](#)



AAMC

Almost 70 percent of the UCSF employees who took part in the 10-month study saw a decrease in waist size, and their average daily consumption of sugar-sweetened drinks dropped by nearly 50 percent.

Loss of accreditation derails 8 New Mexico neurosurgery residents

The University of New Mexico (UNM) School of Medicine's neurosurgery residency program will lose its accreditation next summer, forcing eight residents to complete their training elsewhere. The *Albuquerque Journal* reports that the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education will pull the program's accreditation on June 30. UNM's neurosurgery residency program is the only such program in the country to lose its credentials this school year, according to the council's website. University officials said the council's action would have no effect on the patient care at UNM Hospital or on the facility's status as New Mexico's only Level 1 Trauma Center. Michael Richards, vice chancellor for clinical affairs at the UNM Health System, said the loss of accreditation wasn't attributable to any single factor, though faculty turnover played a role. UNM officials expressed hope that the program will soon regain its standing. They said they're looking forward to the arrival, in February, of a new chief of neurosurgery, Meic Schmidt, MD, MBA. Schmidt is currently chair of neurosurgery at New York Medical College. [READ MORE](#)



Long Island University

Long Island University President Kimberly R. Cline, EdD, JD, MBA, says the planned College of Veterinary Medicine, shown above, will solidify the university's standing as a "nationally recognized teaching and research institution."

Greater NYC's first veterinary school begins accepting applications

The New York metropolitan area will get its first veterinary school next fall when Long Island University (LIU) opens its planned College of Veterinary Medicine. The American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Education recently gave LIU the go-ahead to begin accepting applications from individuals seeking a spot in the school's Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program. The college, situated in Nassau County, adjacent to the New York City borough of Queens, will be only the fourth veterinary program in the Northeast; the others are at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York; Tufts University in Worcester County, Massachusetts; and the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. At full enrollment, the veterinary school will serve 400 students, with 100 in each graduating class. The college has secured partnerships with more than 50 affiliates, including clinics, zoos, research laboratories, and shelters, where students will be able to gain practical experience. [READ MORE](#)



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USF partnership with tech giant Microsoft yields “first-ever Medical School of Innovation”

The Morsani College of Medicine at the University of South Florida (USF) and Microsoft have teamed up to create what they’re calling “the first-ever Medical School of Innovation.” Charles J. Lockwood, MD, dean of Morsani and senior vice president of USF Health, said the designation is the culmination of a process that began more than two years ago, when USF broke ground for a 13-story, 395,000-square-foot building in downtown Tampa. Construction of the \$173 million facility, which is scheduled to welcome students on January 13, provided USF with “the perfect opportunity to change how medical students are taught,” Lockwood said. Microsoft entered into the partnership “to advance not only medical education but also collaborative, active learning in higher education as a whole,” said Jamie Harper, the tech giant’s vice president for U.S. education. Morsani’s new building will feature a variety of Microsoft products and technologies. Surface Hubs — essentially mobile digital whiteboards — will be available on every floor. Students will collaborate via Microsoft Teams, a unified communication platform that combines topic-based chat rooms, video meetings, and file-sharing tools. Morsani administrators and faculty members will use Microsoft applications to map curriculum and gather real-time analytics to track student success. [READ MORE](#)

The Morsani College of Medicine’s new home — a 13-story high rise due to open in January — will bring 1,800 students, faculty members, and researchers to downtown Tampa’s Water Street development.

AAMC: Although Harvard prevailed, court ruling warrants reflection

Although a federal judge upheld Harvard University’s race-conscious admission policies, the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) suggests that schools across the United States revisit their own protocols. Geoffrey Young, PhD, the AAMC’s senior director of student affairs and programs, shared five “key takeaways” from U.S. District Court Judge Allison D. Burroughs’ ruling that Harvard had not discriminated against Asian-American applicants: 1. The decision did not change the overall legal landscape. “Despite the anxiety that these cases may cause,” Young wrote, “the bottom line is that for 40 years, the Supreme Court has held that the educational benefits of diversity may justify the limited consideration of race as one of many factors in an admissions process.” 2. The case underscores the importance of documenting admission policies and procedures. 3. Like Harvard, most medical schools place a premium on in-person interviews, so interviewers should be especially wary of unconscious biases. “Investing in unconscious-bias training for your admissions team is a best practice,” Young wrote. 4. Burroughs’ ruling is likely to be appealed. 5. The work of the admissions office is difficult but essential. “We are heartened by the court’s praise for Harvard’s “considerate, diligent, and intelligent” admissions officers, and (we) agree with the judge’s conclusion that “race-conscious admissions programs that survive strict scrutiny ... have an important place in society and help ensure that colleges and universities can offer a diverse atmosphere that fosters learning, improves scholarship, and encourages mutual respect and understanding.” [READ MORE](#)



AAMC

Geoffrey Young

Wake Forest pact brings Charlotte medical school closer to reality

Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center and Atrium Health are joining forces to create “a next-generation academic health-care system” in North Carolina’s most populous city. The *Winston-Salem Journal* reports that the two not-for-profit systems executed an agreement that they characterized as “one more step in a series of milestones.” The strategic partnership, which will require the approval of regulators, is almost certain to yield a Wake Forest School of Medicine campus in Charlotte — possibly within two to three years. “The local concern about the Charlotte campus is that it could eventually draw resources from the Winston-Salem campus or even lure the medical school itself from Winston-Salem,” the newspaper noted, adding that Wake Forest Baptist, with more than 13,000 workers, is the largest employer in Winston-Salem’s Forsyth County. Wake Forest officials have said the medical school’s main campus — and the bulk of its faculty — would remain in Winston-Salem. [READ MORE](#)



Neocis

Boston University’s Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine and tech startup Neocis are fine-tuning two recently installed surgical robots that use real-time physical, visual, and audio cues to guide human operators.

Boston University looks to transform dentistry through robotics

Boston University’s Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine says it’s the first dental program in the United States to acquire, install, and use surgical robots to help with implant procedures. The two devices now in place will enable students to learn how state-of-the-art technology can enhance patient care, university officials said in a news release. The robotic device, known as Yomi, was developed by Miami-based startup Neocis. According to the university, Yomi is the first — and, so far, only — such device cleared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for dental implant surgery. With the Yomi system, a dental surgeon first creates an implant placement plan using detailed 3D scans of the patient’s mouth. The system then uses real-time physical, visual, and audio cues to guide the surgeon through the plan, adjusting dynamically to accommodate any mid-procedure changes. “The provider controls the handpiece at all times,” the school said in the release. “By design, the Yomi system complements, rather than overrides, a provider’s clinical expertise.” [READ MORE](#)

"One Health: the *other* universal healthcare "



Michael D. Lairmore, DVM, PhD

Dean of the University of California-Davis
School of Veterinary Medicine



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- "Artificial Intelligence and Precision Medicine," featuring Douglas Miller, MD, MBA, founder and CEO of Cognitive Diagnosis [LISTEN](#)
- "The Critical Role of Biomedical Informatics," featuring Philip Payne, PhD, director of the Institute for Informatics at Washington University in St. Louis [LISTEN](#)

In Transition



Peter W. Bates, MD, vice dean of Boston's Tufts University School of Medicine, will lead the school on an interim basis after Dean Harris A. Berman steps down at the end of the year. Before joining Tufts this past summer, Bates, a specialist in pulmonary diseases, was senior vice president of academic affairs and chief academic officer at Maine Medical Center in Portland.



Norman J. Beauchamp Jr., MD, MHS, dean of Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine in Grand Rapids since October 2016, has been promoted to executive vice president for health services. In the newly created role, Beauchamp will also oversee MSU's College of Nursing and the College of Osteopathic Medicine, both based in East Lansing, and the university's clinics.



Harris A. Berman, MD, will step down as dean of the Tufts University School of Medicine at the end of this year. The managed-care pioneer, who has led the Boston-based program since 2009, will continue to raise money for the university and the medical school on a part-time basis. Vice Dean Peter Bates will serve as interim dean while the university seeks a permanent replacement.



Kevin Black, MD, has been serving as interim dean of Penn State University's College of Medicine since July. Black took over for Craig Hillemeier, MD, who retired at the end of the 2018-2019 academic year. Black most recently served as vice dean of the college's University Park Regional Medical Campus and as C. McCollister Evarts Chair in the Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation.



Peter F. Buckley, MD, dean of the Virginia Commonwealth School of Medicine and executive vice president of VCU Health System since 2017, will serve as the system's CEO and as vice president for VCU Health Sciences on an interim basis. The psychiatrist will replace Marsha Rappley, MD, who is retiring in January. Before joining VCU, Buckley was dean of the Medical College of Georgia.



Charles B. Cairns, MD, is a few months into his tenure as Drexel University's senior vice president of medical affairs and dean of Drexel's College of Medicine. He succeeded Daniel V. Schidlow, MD, who retired this summer. Before joining the Philadelphia institution in August, Cairns served as dean of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at United Arab Emirates University in Abu Dhabi.



Ralph R. "Ron" Clark, MD, chief medical officer of Virginia Commonwealth University Health System since its creation in 2000, has been named interim CEO of VCU Hospitals and Clinics. In the interim role, Clark will oversee administration, patient-care services, and medical affairs at Richmond's VCU Medical Center. He replaces Shane M. Cerone, who had been appointed interim CEO in January.



Teresa Ann Conner, PhD, has been named associate provost for health sciences at Virginia's Radford University, effective December 2. Conner has held leadership posts at numerous institutions, including East Carolina University, Elon University, Winston-Salem State University, and the University of North Georgia, where she currently serves as dean of the College of Health Sciences and Professions.



John Dascanio, DVM, has been named senior associate dean of the Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine, which hopes to enroll its first class in the fall of 2021. Dascanio most recently served as executive associate dean at the Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine in Harrogate, Tennessee. In Amarillo, he will oversee faculty, curriculum, and student services.



R. Bruce Donoff, DMD, MD, dean of Harvard School of Dental Medicine since 1991, has announced that he will step down from his administrative position on January 1. Donoff, who plans to move to a faculty role, has published more than 100 papers, authored textbooks, and lectured worldwide. In 2014, Donoff launched Harvard's Initiative to Integrate Oral Health and Medicine.



Mary E. Dickinson, PhD, has begun her new role as vice president and dean of research at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. She also will maintain her own research program, which studies genetic and mechanical influences on early cardiovascular development. Dickinson, who joined Baylor's faculty in 2005, succeeds Adam Kuspa, who recently became president of the Welch Foundation.



Susan Edwards, PhD, provost at Wright State University since July 2018, will become the institution's eighth president on January 1. The Australia native will succeed Cheryl B. Schrader, who's stepping step down on December 31. Edwards has developed and taught more than 21 courses in 10 degree programs, including biology, medicine, nursing, pharmacology, aquaculture, and veterinary science.



Nadeena Frye, PhD, RN, has been named director of the RN-to-BSN program that Trine University's Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences plans to launch next fall. The Indiana school will offer the program's courses entirely online, allowing registered nurses to earn a bachelor of science in nursing degree at their own pace. Frye most recently was dean of nursing at Ivy Tech Community College Northeast.



Lily T. García, DDS, became dean of the UNLV School of Dental Medicine on September 1. Before moving to Las Vegas, García served as associate dean for education at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry, where she focused on assessing and improving instructional programs. The Hispanic Dental Association has recognized García for her advocacy and leadership.



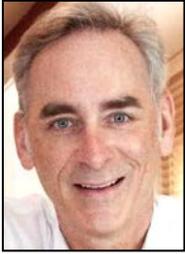
Faith Garrett, EdD, RN, has begun her tenure as dean of health sciences at Kentucky's Midway University. Before assuming her new responsibilities in August, Garrett was BSN program coordinator at the University of West Florida in Pensacola. Before that, she served as founding dean of nursing and health sciences and associate professor of nursing at Georgia's Gordon State College.



Eleanor M. Green, DVM, dean of the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences since 2009, will step down in June — or upon the appointment of her successor. Green is joining the Animal Policy Group, a policy and lobbying firm, as a senior adviser and consultant. At Texas A&M, Green led a multimillion-dollar renovation and expansion.



Robert I. Grossman, MD, dean of the New York University School of Medicine and CEO of NYU's Langone Health, isn't going anywhere, but his *name* is. Officials announced this month that the school would become the NYU Robert I. Grossman School of Medicine. Grossman, who has led the school since 2007, was principal architect of the groundbreaking free-tuition initiative that NYU rolled out last year.



Timothy S. Harlan, MD, has agreed to launch the George Washington University Center for Culinary Medicine, which will aid students in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences as well as those in the School of Nursing and the Milken Institute School of Public Health. Harlan, who will assume his new duties on January 1, is now associate dean for clinical services at Tulane University in New Orleans.



Julie Hoff, PhD, RN, dean at the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi College of Nursing and Health Sciences, has been named dean of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing. She will start her new job in January, succeeding Interim Dean Gary L. Loving, PhD, RN. Hoff formerly chaired the Eleanor Mann School of Nursing at the University of Arkansas.



Andrea D. Jackson, DDS, is a few months into her tenure as dean of the Howard University College of Dentistry. Jackson was promoted to the post on a permanent basis in July, after spending a year as interim dean. In more than three decades of service to Howard, Jackson has held several administrative positions, including associate dean of clinical affairs and chair of the Department of Prosthodontics.



Nadeem Karimbux, DMD, is several months into his tenure as dean of the Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston. Before assuming the role in July, Karimbux spent seven years as associate dean for academic affairs. Previously, he held various posts at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, including director of predoctoral periodontology and assistant dean for dental education.



Adam Kuspa, PhD, longtime vice president and dean of research at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, recently became president of the Welch Foundation. The foundation, based in Houston, is one of the nation's largest private funding sources for basic chemical research. Kuspa succeeded Norbert Dittrich, who announced his retirement from the foundation in early 2019.



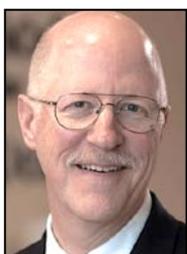
Jeffrey T. Kuvin, MD, has been appointed chairman of cardiology at North Shore University Hospital, Long Island Jewish Medical Center, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell in Hempstead, New York, effective February 3. Kuvin is currently section chief of cardiovascular medicine and professor of medicine at Dartmouth College's Geisel School of Medicine.



Anne McNamara, PhD, RN, has been named chief nursing officer for the Aspen Group, a holding company that operates nursing programs at Colorado's Aspen University and California's United States University. McNamara, formally the dean of nursing and health sciences at Grand Canyon University, will help identify new campus locations, develop clinical partnerships, and appoint campus directors.



Elaine Morrato, DrPH, will be the inaugural dean of Loyola University's Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health, effective February 1. The school, located on Loyola's Health Sciences Campus in Maywood, Illinois, was established last February. Morrato is now associate dean for public health practice at the University of Colorado's School of Public Health.



David Musick, PhD, associate dean for faculty affairs at Virginia Tech's Carilion School of Medicine since 2017, has been promoted to senior dean for faculty affairs. Before joining Carilion in 2013, Musick taught at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine, the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, and East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine.



Leslie Neal-Boylan, PhD, RN, has been named dean of the Solomont School of Nursing and Vice Dean of the Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts' Lowell campus. Before assuming the position in August, Neal-Boylan served as dean of academic affairs and program innovation at the MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston.



Patrick Phillips, PhD, is several months into his tenure as provost at the University of Oregon. Phillips, a biologist who specializes in the biology of aging, joined Oregon's faculty in 2000. Since then, he has held several positions, including director of the Institute for Ecology and Evolution, head of the Department of Biology, and associate vice president for research.



John Langell, MD, PhD, MBA, is now president of the Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) in Rootstown. Langell assumed the role on October 1, succeeding Jay A. Gershen, DDS, PhD, who retired after nearly a decade as NEOMED's CEO. Langell most recently served as vice dean of the University of Utah School of Medicine and executive director of its Center for Medical Innovation.



Carolina López, PhD, associate professor of pathobiology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, has been named a BJC Investigator in the Department of Molecular Microbiology at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, effective this spring. She also will join the faculty at the school's Center for Women's Infectious Disease Research.



Senthil Kumar Rajasekaran, MD, associate dean for academic affairs at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, has been appointed senior associate dean for curricular affairs and undergraduate medical education at Wayne State University's School of Medicine. Rajasekaran is expected to make the move to Detroit, Michigan, in February.



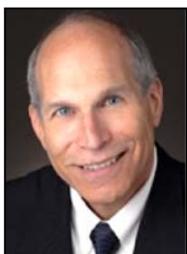
Marsha D. Rappley, MD, CEO of Virginia Commonwealth University Health System and VCU's senior vice president for health sciences since 2015, will retire January 2. The system includes VCU's hospitals and outpatient clinics; its physician practice plan; the VCU College of Health Professions; the schools of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Dentistry; and the Massey Cancer Center.



Lori Rice-Spearman, PhD, dean of the School of Health Professions at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) in Lubbock since January 2016, has been named provost and chief academic officer. Rice-Spearman joined the TTUHSC faculty in 1987. Steven L. Berk, MD, who had served as both provost and dean of the TTUHSC School of Medicine, will remain dean of that school.



Stephanie Robinson, PhD, RN, has been named associate dean of nursing for Unitek College's BSN program in Bakersfield, California. Robinson, who most recently served as director of nursing at Fresno City College, will lead Unitek's Bakersfield faculty and oversee an advanced simulation center. Unitek, a for-profit vocational school founded in 2002, focuses on the health professions.



Paul B. Roth, MD, dean of the University of New Mexico's School of Medicine for 26 years and executive vice president/chancellor for health sciences for 14 years, has announced plans to retire from his administrative post and transition to a part-time role working directly with students. Roth intends to remain in office, however, until a permanent successor is named. A search is to begin immediately.



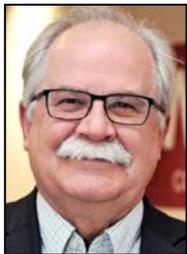
Sheryl Sandahl, DNP, a longtime faculty member at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minnesota, has been appointed dean of the institution's School of Nursing. She had been serving as interim dean since July 2018. Since joining St. Scholastica 17 years ago, Sandahl has held a variety of leadership positions, including chair of the Department of Undergraduate Nursing.



Steven Sawyer, PhD, chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) in Lubbock, has been named interim dean of the institution's School of Health Professions. The deanship opened when Lori Rice-Spearman, the school's dean since 2016, was promoted to provost and chief academic officer at the TTUHSC.



Meic Schmidt, MD, MBA, chair of neurosurgery at New York Medical College and director of the Department of Neurosurgery at Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, New York, has been appointed chair of the University of New Mexico's Department of Neurosurgery. Schmidt, a native of southern Germany, intends to assume his new role in February.



Bryan K. Slinker, DVM, PhD, dean of Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine for more than a decade, has been named interim provost and executive vice president for the WSU system. Slinker, who earned both of his graduate degrees at WSU, joined the university's faculty in 1992. He is slated to serve in the interim provost role through June 30.



Rathan Subramaniam, MD, PhD, radiology professor and chief of the Nuclear Medicine Division at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, has been appointed dean of the University of Otago Medical School in Dunedin, New Zealand. Subramaniam, whose appointment takes effect in February, formerly taught at the medical schools at Boston University and Johns Hopkins University.



Tracey Taylor, PhD, has become an assistant dean of diversity & inclusion at Oakland University's William Beaumont School of Medicine. Taylor, who started her new job in August, joined the Detroit-area institution in 2014 as an associate professor of microbiology. In January 2018, she was appointed vice chair of the school's Department of Foundational Medical Studies.



Robert Winn, MD, has been named director of Virginia Commonwealth University's Massey Cancer Center, effective December 2. The pulmonologist is now director of the University of Illinois Cancer Center and associate vice chancellor of health affairs at the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Science System. Before that, he spent 13 years at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

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Last word

“ Without a major policy shift to accelerate the rate of diversification, academic medicine won't reach gender parity for another 50 years, when even the youngest members of our profession — today's medical students — will be well past retirement age.”

— Whitney H. Beeler, MD, Christina Mangurian, MD, and Reshma Jagsi, MD, authors of the essay “Unplugging the Pipeline — A Call for Term Limits in Academic Medicine,” published last month in *The New England Journal of Medicine*



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