



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA • IRVINE

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**Dean's Report**

[www.som.uci.edu](http://www.som.uci.edu)

# Tomorrow's Healthcare Today



*Chosen one of the Best Doctors in America<sup>®</sup>, UCI Professor of Urology Dr. Elspeth McDougall also directs one of the nation's top clinical training programs for minimally invasive urologic surgery. More: [www.c3rest.uci.edu](http://www.c3rest.uci.edu)*

## Discover

Treatments created by UC Irvine School of Medicine researchers are the basis of the world's first two stem cell-based clinical trials for spinal cord injury therapies.

## Teach

UC Irvine School of Medicine became first in the nation to employ a completely digital, iPad-based learning curriculum for incoming medical students.

## Heal

The nation's best doctors practice with UC Irvine Healthcare. More than 90 of our physicians have earned the distinction of being named Best Doctors in America<sup>®</sup>.

# Discover

## UCI School of Medicine grows as hub of stem cell research

UC Irvine has opened the first major stem cell research and training center in Southern California, a region known for biomedical innovation, placing the university among the world's leaders in this



burgeoning field. The \$80-million, 100,000-square-foot Sue and Bill Gross Hall: A CIRM Institute serves as a regional hub for stem cell research and education and is home to dozens of lab-based and clinical researchers, a stem cell techniques course and a master's program in biotechnology with an emphasis on stem cell research.

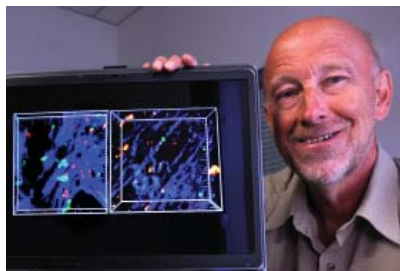
Treatments discovered by Sue and Bill Gross Stem Cell Research Center researchers are also the basis of the world's first two clinical trials using stem cell-based therapies for spinal cord injury.

In October, Geron Corp.

enrolled the first patient in its human embryonic stem cell clinical trial to treat acute spinal cord injury using a therapy created by Hans Keirstead. Further, a treatment developed by Aileen Anderson and Brian Cummings, in collaboration with researchers at StemCells Inc., is the basis of a human neural stem cell trial in Switzerland to treat chronic spinal cord injury. More: [stemcell.uci.edu](http://stemcell.uci.edu)

## Cahalan named to National Academy of Sciences

Michael Cahalan, professor and chair of the Department of Physiology & Biophysics, has been elected to the National Academy



of Sciences, one of the highest honors that can be accorded a U.S. scientist.

Cahalan is a pioneer in the study of immune system cells. His research on the signaling molecules in T lymphocyte cells has identified promising therapeutic targets for treatment of autoimmune disorders, such as multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis and

diabetes. He joins seven other current School of Medicine professors who are NAS or Institute of Medicine members. More: [www.physiology.uci.edu](http://www.physiology.uci.edu)

## UCI School of Medicine opens Sprague Women's Cancer Research Center



UC Irvine School of Medicine's cancer research efforts received a boost with the opening of the Robert R. and Margaret L. Sprague Women's Cancer Research Center. The state-of-the-art-center, located in Sprague Hall on the UC Irvine campus, will host some of the top minds in science, who will work collaboratively using the latest technology. It is part of the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, which is Orange County's sole National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center – the highest honor bestowed by the NCI. More: [www.cancer.uci.edu](http://www.cancer.uci.edu)

# Teach

## New Medical Education Building transforms training of tomorrow's physicians

UC Irvine's Medical Education Building is transforming how medicine is taught and learned.

The new, state-of-the-art 65,000-square-foot building serves as an instructional hub for 1,100



medical students, residents and fellows. It features a telemedicine center for teaching students to diagnose and treat patients unable to come to a medical facility in person, and a 3,000-square-foot Medical Education Simulation Center that has been drawing a steady stream of admirers, from students and residents to Orange County paramedics and local teens interested in healthcare careers. It's the only one of its kind in Orange County and among the most sophisticated medical simulation centers in the country. More: [www.meded.uci.edu](http://www.meded.uci.edu)

## iMed Initiative heralds the future of medical education

As part of its new iMedEd Initiative, the School of Medicine has developed a comprehensive, iPad-based curriculum, reinventing how medicine is taught in the 21st century and becoming the first in the nation to employ a completely



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digital, interactive learning environment for first-year students.

The custom iPad features hundreds of medical applications and many other tools to complement various learning styles. Students will be able to view short, topical lectures via podcast prior to meeting for small-group discussion.

"It is our firm belief that a digitally based curriculum will be the wave of the future, and UC Irvine seeks to be a leader in the innovative presentation of information to students," said Dr. Ralph V. Clayman, dean of the School of Medicine.

More: [www.meded.uci.edu](http://www.meded.uci.edu)



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## UCI School of Medicine integrates hand-held ultrasound for teaching

In its efforts to integrate the newest technology into its curriculum, the School of Medicine has partnered with SonoSite Inc. to use its hand-held diagnostic ultrasound devices



for training medical students. The ultrasound systems enable students to view anatomical structures in real-time and better understand physiological processes. This four-year ultrasound curriculum is unique to UC Irvine; it provides students with the skill set and tools to be on the leading edge of innovative proactive medical care.

More: [www.meded.uci.edu](http://www.meded.uci.edu)

# Heal

## UCI Medical Center first in the West to use robot-assisted surgery for thyroid tumor

UC Irvine Medical Center became in 2010 the first medical center on the West Coast and the only one in California to perform transaxillary robotic thyroidectomies, a procedure that removes the diseased gland without leaving a



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visible scar on the neck. Dr. Jason Kim, associate clinical professor of otolaryngology and a head and neck cancer specialist, has performed robotic-assisted surgery using the da Vinci Surgical System® in patients with thyroid tumors.

Kim and UC Irvine oncologic surgeon Dr. John Butler are two of a select number of doctors in the world who were trained in robotic thyroidectomy using the da Vinci robot® in South Korea. In addition to treating thyroid tumors and cancer, the technique could be useful for other conditions such as hyperthyroidism.

More: [www.roboticoncology.uci.edu](http://www.roboticoncology.uci.edu)

## UCI doctors, clinical programs rate among best

UC Irvine Healthcare again is ranked among the nation's best by *U.S. News & World Report*. This marks the medical center's 10th consecutive year on the America's Best Hospitals roster. Among the top 50 hospitals, UC Irvine is listed 30th for gynecology, 32nd for urology and 46th for ear, nose & throat.



It is the only Orange County medical center ranked by *U.S. News & World Report*. Since 2001, the magazine has recognized UC Irvine programs in cancer, digestive disorders, kidney disease and ear, nose & throat, with multiple rankings in urology, gynecology



and geriatrics.

Also, 94 UC Irvine physicians earned the distinction of being named Best Doctors in America® in the latest peer-reviewed list compiled by Best Doctors Inc. That's more than twice as many as any other hospital in Orange County.

More: [www.healthcare.uci.edu](http://www.healthcare.uci.edu)

## Small joins UCI School of Medicine as chair of neurology

Dr. Steven L. Small has joined the UC Irvine School of Medicine as professor and chair in the Department of Neurology. Small is a world-renowned expert in brain injury and recovery, and he studies the neurobiology of language, aphasia and stroke rehabilitation.



He received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Dartmouth College and studied cognitive science at the University of Maryland in College Park, where he received his doctorate in computer science. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Rochester in upstate New York and completed his residency at the University of Pittsburgh, where he continued as assistant professor in neurology, intelligent systems, psychology and communication sciences and disorders. He comes to UC Irvine from the University of Chicago, where he served as professor of neurology, psychology and psychiatry.

More: [www.neurology.uci.edu](http://www.neurology.uci.edu)

# Get Involved ... Get Connected

www.som.uci.edu | Facebook: UC Irvine School of Medicine | Twitter: UC Irvine SOM | LinkedIn: UC Irvine School of Medicine

## Shaping the Future of Healthcare

The UC Irvine School of Medicine depends on the support of its alumni, parents and friends to continue to grow and advance as one of the nation's top-tier medical schools. The School of Medicine Alumni Chapter has a long history of supporting medical students through scholarships and grants, and this continued support is needed now more than ever. Please visit [www.uadv.uci.edu/SchoolOfMedicine](http://www.uadv.uci.edu/SchoolOfMedicine) for e-giving opportunities and designations to your favorite fund. Naming opportunities are also available. Please contact Health Affairs Advancement at 949-824-0166 for more details.



*The Class of 2014 is introduced at the White Coat Ceremony in August 2010.*

## Join the School of Medicine Alumni Chapter

The School of Medicine Alumni Chapter offers an opportunity for you to reach out to the medical community, to mentor future generations of doctors, to be connected to campus resources, and to receive all the latest information on events and awards on the UC Irvine medical campus.

The acts of goodwill and support by members of the Alumni Chapter have an incredible, positive effect on the quality of medical education. A gift of \$1,200 will provide a

student with an iPad containing all of the lectures, slides and books for the first-year curriculum.

To join the School of Medicine Alumni Chapter, simply fill out the form on this page and mail it to the School of Medicine Alumni Chapter, 101 Academy Way, Suite 120, Irvine, CA 92617, or fax it to 949-824-9056. For additional information please e-mail: [MedicalSchoolAlumni@uci.edu](mailto:MedicalSchoolAlumni@uci.edu) or call Carley Fox at 949-824-9157.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Speciality: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a donation: Enclosed is a check (payable to UCI Foundation) or please charge my credit card:

Credit Card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

The Dean's Report is published by the UC Irvine School of Medicine - School of Medicine Dean, Ralph V. Clayman, M.D.; Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor, Health Affairs Advancement, Sue Totten; Alumni Relations Associate Director, Carley Fox. Mailing address: UC Irvine School of Medicine, Dean's Office, 1001 Health Sciences Rd., 252 Irvine Hall, Irvine, CA, 92697-3950. 949-824-5926.

# From The Dean

Our Mission?

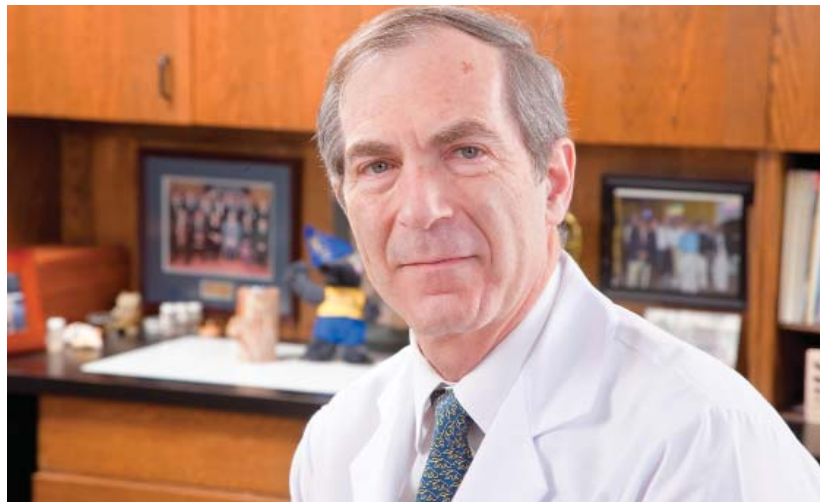
Discover.

Teach.

Heal.

Last fall, UC Irvine Medical Center and School of Medicine leaders came together for the first time to develop a combined, comprehensive five-year strategic plan that will serve as a roadmap for our future.

Our desire to be recognized among the finest medical schools and academic medical centers in the country and our ability to excel in an environment of dynamic healthcare reform, demographic change, economic uncertainty and significant budgetary pressures, made the need for this plan of paramount importance. A steering committee representing a broad array of stakeholders was convened to lead our strategic planning initiative, and one of their tasks was to refine our directional statements: mission, vision and core values. With the first phase of the planning initiative now complete, we'd like to share with you these statements and the resulting strategic plan. Please visit



Dean Clayman will be working with the faculty to invigorate the academic, research and clinical missions of the School of Medicine.

## Strategic Themes

- Advance Clinical Excellence
- Broaden the Impact of our Clinical Expertise
- Advance Premier Research
- Education for the Future
- Foster an Outstanding Team
- Financial Sustainability
- Strengthen Image and Community Partnerships

<https://spi.hs.uci.edu>.

As we continue to fulfill our mission — Discover. Teach. Heal. — I would like to acknowledge some of our accomplishments that many of you may not know:

- UC Irvine School of Medicine was again ranked among the nation's top 50 medical schools for research according to *U.S. News & World Report*.
- A dedication site event was held for The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute's new clinical and academic center at the School of Medicine. The soon-to-be-built, \$31 million, 60,000-square-foot facility will position UC Irvine as a global leader in eye care and ophthalmologic research.

- The School of Medicine, in an effort led by Dr. Dan Cooper, received a \$20 million Clinical Translational Science Award from the National Institutes of Health to support our Institute for Clinical & Translational Science's efforts to transform scientific discoveries into clinical advances.

- The School of Medicine was awarded a six-year accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education.

I'd like to thank all of our hard-working faculty and staff, along with our alumni and community supporters, as we look forward to another progressive and productive year ahead to Discover. Teach. Heal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ralph V. Clayman". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ralph V. Clayman, M.D.  
Dean, School of Medicine  
Professor of Urology