



UPSTATE

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION • HEALTHCARE • RESEARCH

Office of the President

May 31, 2016

A message to the Upstate Medical University community

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

June is upon us and our strategic planning process is set to embrace university-wide input.

As I noted in this month's Town Hall meeting, a hallmark of our strategic planning process will be to ensure broad participation from our faculty, staff, students and stakeholders. This process is important and it needs a diversity of voices, ideas and opinions to succeed and to better align our daily activities with our strategic priorities: Progressive/Responsive Health System, Transformational Education, World Class Research, Community Engagement, and Stewardship of Resources (Financial, Human, Physical, IT and Data Analytics).

Participation will come through employee representation on Action Implementation Groups, which will be tasked with creating and addressing specific goals linked to our strategic priorities and how we accomplish those goals. Creation of these groups and selection of members will be forthcoming.

An assessment of how we are doing in meeting our goals will not be left up to anecdotal information, but rather through our Balanced Scorecard System approach that ultimately will provide all of us a calculation of where we are in meeting our goals.

I am excited about this process and hope it helps broaden the understanding that all of us are part of one University — Upstate Medical University — and no matter what role we play, whether clinical care, research, teaching or service, all of our energies and expertise are aimed at ensuring a University that performs at the highest level in all aspects of its mission.

In order for this process to bring the greatest reward to our institution and deliver on its promise to improve health, communication will be key. Each of you has a skill level, life experience and institutional knowledge that can benefit Upstate. I want your insight to help us move Upstate forward.

To help keep you informed, strategic planning updates and documents will be posted to the project and strategic planning website: <http://www.upstate.edu.libproxy2.upstate.edu/strategicplan/index.php>

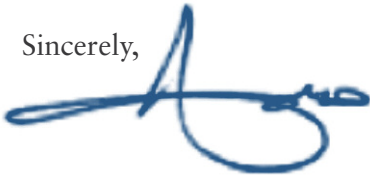
At this month's Commencement, someone remarked about how well prepared Upstate graduates are, with a residency placement rate that outpaced national averages, and job commitments lined up before graduation.

That's a source of pride for all us at Upstate. Our graduates demonstrate the concept of one University. They embrace every opportunity we offer in our tripartite mission of clinical care, research and education, and are committed to making a difference at the individual and community level.

So, we have much to be proud of, but we also have many challenges. We aspire to be great by matching the strength of our research and teaching mission with that of our clinical operation as represented by being the only Academic Medical Center in the CNY region with a Burn center, a level-1 Trauma Center, a Children's Hospital, a Poison Control Center, a Stroke Center, a Diabetes center of excellence, and 18 medical specialty groups representing all disciplines. This is our health system committed to serving all. Our accomplishments are notable with our recent receipt of the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Achievement Award with Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus. The award recognizes our health system's commitment to providing the most appropriate stroke treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines based on the latest scientific evidence.

We have much to accomplish, and we must do it together. Thank you for all you do for our patients, students and community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Danielle Laraque-Arena', with a large, stylized initial 'D'.

Danielle Laraque-Arena, MD, FAAP
President, Upstate Medical University