



UPSTATE
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
EDUCATION • HEALTHCARE • RESEARCH

Office of the President

March 28, 2016

A message to the Upstate Medical University community

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

The coming week epitomizes what an academic medical center and university is all about.

This week we find our infectious disease experts and hospital staff gathering to strategize how to combat the Zika virus in concert with other centers across the state. Preparation for potential cases exemplifies what we have learned about disaster preparedness and the need to act as a global community.

Next, our first-year medical students gather to discuss social responsibility and advocacy. I look forward to this conversation as these young professionals assume the mantle of healers. Upstate students wear this responsibility proudly. From our special relationship with the Syracuse school district to our service with agencies throughout the area, our students are engaged in the community and outspoken on events and social issues of importance. I commend them all for this important work.

Later this week, one of my campus visits will take me to the Central New York Biotech Accelerator, where Upstate and our community partners provide knowledge and space to launch new products and ideas for the bioscience industry.

The breadth of our work is impressive, and so is the work each of you does at Upstate. Meeting you and hearing from you has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my first two and half months at Upstate.

I want to keep the communication between us going, but from now on I will space out the messages to summarize the most notable events and keep you updated on my activities and campus initiatives. I will utilize different venues for continued conversation including small group meetings with inter-professional staff. Please don't hesitate to drop me a note and let me know what's going on in your departments and offices. I'm reachable at president@upstate.edu.

I want to wish Team Upstate much success when it steps off in support of cardiovascular research and patient services at the Syracuse Heart Walk this Saturday. I understand our team has already raised more than \$30,000.

Have a great week and see you at the inauguration!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Danielle Laraque-Arena".

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