



March 12, 2021

Generous Donors Fuel Heart Research through Investigator Awards



Members of the Gregorio Lab in the Sarver Heart Center Molecular Cardiovascular Research Program study heart muscle development at the cellular level to increase understanding of diseases such as cardiomyopathies and congenital heart disease and target potential treatments.

Research projects focused on cardiomyopathies, sudden cardiac arrest, congenital heart disease and stroke are among the five awards funded by the Sarver Heart Center Investigator Awards for the 2020-2021 grant cycle.

"Our generous donors ensure the Sarver Heart Center Investigator Award Program continues to thrive. Many types of donors and many types of gifts support this program, which in the past has allowed us to award as much as several hundred thousand dollars in funding during individual grant cycles. We reserve this funding for early career investigators and trainees, to fund pilot projects typically leading to large external grant awards, and to provide critical bridge funding to successful investigators between grant awards," said **Nancy K. Sweitzer, MD, PhD**, director of the UArizona Sarver Heart Center, professor of medicine and chief of cardiology.

Read More About Investigator Award Recipients

Art Padilla Honored with the 2020 Brian Bateman Superb Service Award



Art Padilla, who has been the Sarver Heart Center building custodian for the past three years, is the 2020 Brian Bateman Superb Service Award recipient.

"Each year, Art works hard to keep Sarver Heart Center in tip-top shape, and this year, he has gone above and beyond to ensure the

working environment is sanitized and safe for employees. This is particularly evident in his commitment to perform the added responsibilities derived from COVID-19 policies. He is always willing to help, always seen as a positive influence, and completes his work with pride," said **Jared Churko**, **PhD**, assistant professor of cellular and molecular medicine. Dr. Churko, who kept his essential lab running throughout 2020, nominated Mr. Padilla.

Read More About the Award

Community Coalition for Heart Health Education Collaborates on COVID-19 and Minorities Forum

Join Sarver Heart Center's Community Coalition for Heart Health Education and our partner organization, the IMA Health & Wellness team Monday evening, March 15 at 6 pm. Dr. Theresa Cullen from Pima Health Department will speak on minorities and access to the COVID-19 vaccine along with Dr. Purnima Madhivanan and Dr. Karl Krupp of the UA Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, who will address COVID-19 and Minorities. Please join @IMA Community – CAT on Facebook Live, March 15 at 6 pm (MST).



Are You Interested in Participating in Clinical Research?

The Sarver Heart Center Clinical Research Team stays busy screening and enrolling patients for clinical trials underway. Please complete a **Clinical Research Registry Information Form** to learn about clinical research studies for which you may be eligible.



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Support Sarver Heart Center



Sarver Heart Center leadership has identified faculty and research priorities to accelerate its growth and influence locally and nationally. "These exciting opportunities need community support to advance our mission in education, research and clinical care. Along with these opportunities, we have identified additional facility needs that will be paramount to sustaining and advancing the services we provide to the community," said Dr. Nancy Sweitzer.

To learn more about these opportunities, please contact **Brian Panique**, senior director of development who joined the UArizona College of Medicine - Tucson last summer. Email: **panique@arizona.edu** | Phone: 520-626-4518.

Learn How To Give

Sarver Heart Center

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