



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Four years ago, when the UW and Gonzaga launched our partnership to advance healthy, vibrant communities in Spokane and eastern Washington, we could never have anticipated how quickly the world would change. At the close of this difficult year, our thoughts turn to the lasting impacts of the pandemic on so many people in our state, region and world.

Your steadfast commitment to our medical and health sciences students has been a bright light in 2020. We came together virtually to celebrate 60 graduates of the UW School of Medicine in Spokane who took their oaths as physicians, and we welcomed a class of 60 new medical students.

As our faculty and staff partnered to provide high-quality virtual learning opportunities, they also kept local communities safe and informed about the pandemic. They helped rural medical partners develop infection-control and prevention plans, delivered free virtual lectures on new public-health developments, and our students helped with Spokane County contact tracing efforts.

Our patient care efforts, both in the e-learning environment and out in the field, are an integral part of our continued work to advance health and well-being for all eastern Washington residents.

In a year marked by hardship, we achieved a significant new milestone. In October, we [broke ground with McKinstry and the Emerald Initiative on the new home for our medical and health-care programs](#). Located in Spokane's burgeoning health sciences district, the center will open in 2022 to serve UW School of Medicine medical students and Gonzaga health-professions students, as well as a hub for local entrepreneurs to drive innovative health research.

We are grateful to the many supporters and friends who ensure a strong future for medical education

and rural health care.

Together, we wish you a safe and healthy holiday season. May 2021 bring new hope and connections for us all.

Sincerely,



Ana Mari Cauce
President
University of Washington



Thayne McCulloh
President
Gonzaga University

SAVE THE DATE

Next Generation Medicine Lecture: Making Sense of the COVID-19 Vaccine **Jan. 21, 6 p.m.**

The development of vaccines to fight against SARS-CoV-2 is exciting news, but many people have questions. What do these breakthroughs mean for the pandemic? How will the vaccines work, and how do we know if they will be safe and effective? How are vaccines developed? How often will we need to be vaccinated to ensure we are safe from COVID? Will there be enough vaccine for everyone?

Join Dr. Deborah Fuller, Ph.D., to learn more about the latest science behind COVID-19 vaccine efforts. Dr. Fuller is a vaccinologist and professor of microbiology at the University of Washington. Her lab has been the site of development of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate since January 2020.

Recent news articles

- [Washington anticipates limited vaccine supply once one becomes available — so who gets it first?](#) — Inlander
- [Using the humanities to help heal](#) — Washington Humanities



WELL-BEING & SUPPORT
UW SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Next Generation Medicine
Well-Being and Resilience During
COVID-19
May 27, 2020

Dr. Anne Browning, Assistant Dean for Well-Being, School of Medicine;
Founding Director of the UW Resilience Lab; Atlantic Fellow for Equity in Brain Health at the Global Brain Health Institute, UCSF