



**ARIZONA
TELEMEDICINE
PROGRAM**



JAMES E. ROGERS COLLEGE OF LAW
Health Law

2023 Arizona Telehealth Policy Summit



October 24, 2023

9:00 AM—2:00 PM

Virginia G. Piper Auditorium at the Phoenix Bioscience Core

600 E Van Buren Street, Building 2

Phoenix, AZ 85004

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If you have any questions regarding this or other available telehealth events, contact Melanie Esher, MAdm Distance Education & Event Coordinator, ATP. mesh@telemedicine.arizona.edu



Evaluations:

Please be sure to complete the electronic evaluation form using the QR Code:



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Policy Summit Presentation Handouts:

PDFs of the PowerPoint presentations (where speakers have granted permission) can be found online at:

<https://telemedicine.arizona.edu/trainingmaterials/2023-arizona-telehealth-policy-summit>

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**ARIZONA
TELEMEDICINE
PROGRAM**



JAMES E. ROGERS COLLEGE OF LAW

Health Law



Welcome to the event.



Welcome to the 2023 Arizona Telehealth Policy Summit!

The University of Arizona's Arizona Telemedicine Program and James E. Rogers College of Law welcome you to our 2023 Arizona Telehealth Policy Summit.

For over a quarter century, Arizona has been a leader in advancing telemedicine and telehealth. Implementation, utilization, and reimbursement grew exponentially in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Arizona and nationwide. Telehealth is continuing to move healthcare in new and important directions by enabling healthcare delivery through innovative and secure multi-media communications and digital health technologies.

Today's summit features Arizona state legislators and distinguished health policy leaders who continue to advance forward-looking telehealth policy, access to broadband, and digital equity community initiatives across the state. In addition, we are delighted to have nationally recognized health law scholars share their latest research on telehealth and highlight notable trends occurring around the country. The program offers attendees a unique opportunity to network with colleagues interested in telehealth.

We thank the summit's faculty for sharing their time and expertise with us and our dedicated and talented team for their planning and support. We also deeply honor the co-founders of the Arizona Telemedicine Program, the late Ronald S Weinstein, MD, who served as the founding director of the Arizona Telemedicine Program for over 25 years, and former Chairman of the Arizona Corporation Commission, Robert "Bob" Burns, for their vision for, and dedication to, the advancement of telehealth in Arizona and nationally.

Thank you for your participation! We hope you find the 2023 Summit on Telehealth Law & Policy engaging, valuable, and enjoyable, and most importantly, that you will continue to engage in telehealth's development following today's summit.

Sincerely,


Tara Sklar, JD, MPH
Associate Director of Telehealth Law & Policy
Arizona Telemedicine Program
The University of Arizona


Michael Holcomb, BS
Interim Director
Arizona Telemedicine Program
The University of Arizona



Schedule at-a-glance

October 24, 2023		9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. MST
8:45 am	Registration and Check-In	
9:10 am	<p>Welcome and Opening Remarks</p> <p><i>Summit Welcome</i> Tara Sklar, JD, MPH, Associate Director of Telehealth Law & Policy, Arizona Telemedicine Program, University of Arizona</p> <p><i>Blessing and Land Acknowledgement</i> Carlos Gonzales, MD, FAAFP – Assistant Vice President Indigenous Affairs, University of Arizona Health Sciences Global MD</p> <p><i>Opening Remarks</i> Daniel Derksen, MD – Associate Vice President for Health Equity, Outreach & Interprofessional Activities, Office of the Senior Vice President for Health Sciences</p>	
9:30 am	<p>State of Telehealth in Arizona</p> <p>Moderator: Dean Marc Miller, JD, University of Arizona College of Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ State Representative Patty Contreras, MAdm ◆ State Senator T.J. Shope ◆ State Representative Alma Hernandez, MLS, MPH 	
10:30 AM	Networking Break	
10:45 am	<p>National Trends in Telehealth</p> <p>Moderator: Tara Sklar, JD, MPH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <i>Telehealth and Palliative Care</i> Jennifer Huer, MA, JD, LLM – Interim Executive Director at Soloman Center, Yale Law School ◆ <i>Telehealth in Nevada and the Uniform Telehealth Act</i> David Orentlicher, MD, JD – Nevada Assemblyman, Law Professor, University of Nevada – Las Vegas ◆ <i>The Patient’s Voice: Patient-Reported Outcome Measures and Telehealth</i> Sharona Hoffman, JD, LLM, SJD – Law Professor at Case Western Reserve University 	
Noon	Networking Lunch	
1:00 pm	<p>Telehealth at the local level</p> <p>Moderator: Janet Major, BS, Assoc. Dir. for Innovation and Digital Health, Arizona Telemedicine Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Sandip Bhowmick – Arizona State Broadband Director ◆ Kyle Sawyer – Assistant Director of Public Policy and Strategic Planning, AHCCCS ◆ Amanda Aguirre – President and CEO Regional Center for Border Health 	
1:55 pm	Concluding remarks	

Speakers & Moderators Biographies

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Summit Welcome



Tara Sklar, JD, MPH
Associate Director of Telehealth Law & Policy
Arizona Telemedicine Program
University of Arizona

Professor Tara Sklar is the Faculty Director of the Health Law & Policy Program and a Distinguished Public Service Scholar at Arizona Law. She also holds appointments as Associate Director of Telehealth Law & Policy at the Arizona Telemedicine Program, College of Medicine-Tucson, and as a Senior Advisor with Innovations in Healthy Aging at the University of Arizona Health Sciences. She currently serves as a subject matter expert on telehealth legal issues with the Southwest Telehealth Resource Center and with the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration in the Office for the Advancement of Telehealth. Sklar's teaching and research examine legal, regulatory, and ethical issues that arise in adapting to a diverse aging population, with a particular focus on digital health equity. She teaches courses on Telehealth Law & Policy and Aging Law & Policy at the University of Arizona.

Blessing and Land Acknowledgement



Carlos Gonzales, MD
Assistant Vice President Indigenous Affairs
University of Arizona Health Sciences Global MD

Dr. Gonzales is an American Indian physician who has worked as a practicing Family Physician for 21 years. During his career, he founded a clinic for his tribe, worked as an intercity family physician and administrator and as a rural family physician. He joined the University of Arizona College of Medicine Department of Family and Community Medicine in 2006, and is currently Assistant Vice President of Indigenous Affairs for UAHS Global MD. He has been a lifelong advocate for improving healthcare services to the underserved and has a passion for teaching and mentoring medical students to become compassionate, caring and culturally sensitive physicians. For more information, please see online profile: [Carlos Gonzales, MD](#)

Speakers & Moderators Biographies

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Opening Remarks



Daniel Derksen, MD

**Associate Vice President for Health Equity, Outreach & Interprofessional Activities
Office of the Senior Vice President for Health Sciences**

Daniel Derksen, MD is the University of Arizona (UArizona) Health Sciences Associate Vice President for Health Equity, Outreach & Interprofessional Activities. He is a Professor in the UArizona Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health with joint appointments in the Colleges of Medicine and Nursing.

Dr. Derksen was born in Phoenix, attended UArizona for both his B.S.(1979) and M.D. (1984) degrees, did his family medicine residency at the University of New Mexico (1987) where he was then on the faculty for 25 years. In 2018 he received the Leonard M. Napolitano PhD, UNM Alumni Award. He returned to UArizona as faculty in 2012 and was the 2019 UArizona College of Medicine Alumnus of the Year.

Dr. Derksen completed a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship in 2007-08 with U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman (NM). He researched and drafted provisions to improve the supply and distribution of the nation's health workforce later enacted in Title V of the 2010 Affordable Care Act, including Teaching Health Centers. Working for Governor Martinez in 2011-12 as Director, NM Office of Health Reform, he established their health insurance exchange, Be Well New Mexico, which currently has more than 40,000 enrollees. Since returning to the University of Arizona in 2012, Dr. Derksen has chaired 46 statewide conferences, given 256 invited presentations, and been interviewed, published, and aired for more than 450 print, radio, television, and other media venues.

Dr. Derksen directs the Arizona Center for Rural Health and is Principal Investigator (PI) of grants including the state and federally funded and designated State Office of Rural Health (SORH) and the Arizona Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program. He has been PI of state and federal grant awards totaling \$102 million in his 35-year academic career: \$48M over 25 years as UNM faculty and \$54M over 11 years at UArizona. His current work informs legislative, regulatory and program policy to improve health equity, increase health insurance coverage, reduce the uninsured, narrow health disparities and assure a well-trained and distributed health workforce to meet the health needs of all Arizonans. For more information, please see online profile: [Dan Derksen, MD](#)

Speakers & Moderators Biographies

State of Telehealth in Arizona

Moderator



Marc Miller, JD
Dean
College of Law
University of Arizona

Marc L. Miller is the Dean and Ralph W. Bilby Professor at the University of Arizona College of Law. Miller is a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School and Pomona College. Under Dean Miller's leadership, the University of Arizona College of Law has been recognized as a leading innovator in legal education and the legal profession. Miller is the author of more than 70 articles and essays on a range of environmental, criminal justice and legal theory topics. He is editor of several widely used casebooks on criminal procedure and sentencing and co-founded the Federal Sentencing Reporter. For more information, please see online profile: [Dean Miller](#)



Representative Patty Contreras
Arizona District 12
Arizona State Legislature

Representative Patty Contreras is a third generation Arizonan. Originally from Somerton, she currently lives in Ahwatukee.

Ms. Contreras retired from the City of Phoenix after 31+ years, having worked in the Parks and Recreation and Human Services Departments. In 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic began, Patty and her team in the Human Services Department, Senior Programs Division, helped over 3000 senior members adapt to the digital age by providing programs via Teams. Members were able to stay connected and avoid social isolation during this difficult time.

The first term Representative is on the House Health & Human Services and Transportation & Infrastructure Committees. In her spare time, she enjoys camping, the outdoors, and golfing.

Speakers & Moderators Biographies

State of Telehealth in Arizona



Senator T.J. Shope
Arizona District 16
Arizona State Legislature

Senator Shope is a resident of Coolidge, Arizona, and has long been active in the community. Born in Florence, Shope has lived in Coolidge for the majority of his life and is a graduate of Coolidge High School and Central Arizona College. He also earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science from Arizona State University.

Shope was elected to the Arizona State Senate in 2020, and took office January 11, 2021. In the Senate, he served as the Vice Chairman of three committees: Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Energy and Water; Transportation & Technology; and Education; as well as a Member of the Committee on Health & Human Services. Re-Elected in 2022, Shope was named President Pro Tempore of the Senate and serves as the Chairman of the Committee on Health & Human Services as well as Vice Chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources, Energy and Water. In addition, Shope serves as a Member of the Committee on Elections and is a Senate Member of the Legislative Council.



Representative Alma Hernandez
Arizona District 20
Arizona State Legislature

Alma Hernandez was born and raised on the south side of Tucson. She is the youngest legislator in Arizona at 25 and serves on the Health and Human Services and Federal Relations committees. She is a proud product of Sunnyside School District's Public Schools, Alma earned a Bachelor of Science and Master's in Public Health at the University of Arizona. She has further Public Health training from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

As a 14-year-old she was brutally attacked and subsequently exposed to the criminal justice system rigged against people of color especially those without means. This experience showed her firsthand what happens in our school to prison pipeline. Because of her experiences, she is an outspoken activist who has worked on a variety of issues from education, women's rights, criminal justice reform, and health care. As a part of her humanitarian work as a Public Health professional Alma has traveled to developing countries including Ghana and Panama where she helped provide medical and public health services through free clinics.

At home in Tucson, Alma has worked with Powersource Tucson as the program coordinator of Bridging the Gap, a program that is helping women living with HIV/AIDS. Most recently she led Arizonans United for Healthcare working to defeat the repeal of the Affordable Care Act. In this role, Alma organized protests in Tucson and Washington DC representing the underserved, uninsured and underrepresented of our home town.

Alma is also proud alumni and sister of Alpha Chi Omega Panhellenic Sorority, Rho Lambda National Sorority Leadership Society for Women and Sigma Alpha Pi National Society for Leadership and Success.

Speakers & Moderators Biographies

National Trends in Telehealth

Moderator



Tara Sklar, JD, MPH
Associate Director of Telehealth Law & Policy
Arizona Telemedicine Program
University of Arizona

Telehealth and Palliative Care



Jennifer Huer, MA, JD, LLM
Interim Executive Director at Soloman Center for Health Law and Policy
Yale Law School

Jennifer Lea Huer is the Interim Executive Director at the Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy and a Research Scholar at Yale Law School. Previously, she was the founding managing director of the Center for Health Policy and Law at Northeastern University Law School.

Prior to her career in higher education, Huer was a senior policy associate at the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission, where her work focused on accountable care organizations (ACOs), care delivery and payment reform, quality improvement, behavioral health integration, and collaboration with MassHealth (Massachusetts's Medicaid program) and Medicare.

Huer's research and published work focuses on health policy issues related to access to care, including expanded coverage for Medicare and Medicaid, palliative care law and policy, immigrant access to care, and insurance reform.

Speakers & Moderators Biographies

National Trends in Telehealth

Telehealth in Nevada and the Uniform Telehealth Act



David Orentlicher, MD, JD
Nevada Assemblyman, District 20, Clark County, Nevada
Law Professor
University of Nevada—Las Vegas

David Orentlicher is the Judge Jack and Lulu Lehman Professor at UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law and director of the UNLV Health Law Program. Widely recognized for his expertise in health law and constitutional law, Dr. O has testified before Congress, had his scholarship cited by the U.S. Supreme Court, and has served on national, state, and local commissions. He is serving his second term in the Nevada Assembly, and in 2002-2008, he served three terms in the Indiana House of Representatives. He also has served as a health policy adviser to the presidential campaigns of Barack Obama and Joe Biden.

The Patient's Voice: Patient-Reported Outcome Measures and Telehealth



Sharona Hoffman, JD, LLM, SJD
Law Professor
Case Western Reserve University

Sharona Hoffman is the Edgar A. Hahn Professor of Law, Professor of Bioethics, and Co-Director of the Law-Medicine Center at Case Western Reserve University. She has written over seventy journal articles and book chapters on health law and civil rights topics as well as two books. Much of her recent scholarship focuses on health information technology, aging, and public health. During sabbatical semesters, Dr. Hoffman worked with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health. She has lectured nationally and internationally and frequently appears in the media. For more information see her website <http://sharonahoffman.com/>.

Speakers & Moderators Biographies

Telehealth at the Local Level

Moderator



Janet Major, BS
Associate Director of Innovation and Digital Health
Arizona Telemedicine Program

Janet is the Associate Director for Innovation & Digital Health for the Arizona Telemedicine Program (ATP) and the Southwest Telehealth Resource Center (SWTRC). Her role includes the planning, development and installation of teleconferencing and telemedicine technology used for providing telemedicine services in a wide variety of locations. She provides training for all levels of healthcare professionals in the effective use of technology for clinical and educational applications used for both LIVE interactive and store-and-forward applications. She has served as a leader for several statewide and national organizations with an emphasis on those that promote and support recruiting, training, and preparing the healthcare workforce of the future. She is the past Chair for the mHealth, Technology & Distance Learning Special Interest Group of the American Telemedicine Association and continues to serve as a leader in the telemedicine technology community. She has served as President and Chair of the United States Distance Learning Association. Ms. Major has been active throughout her career with the network of telecommunications experts in the southwest and actively participates as an Associate Board Member of ATIC: the Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council. She is an enthusiastic advocate for improving broadband access for the tribal communities in Arizona, and supporting the growth of telehealth in Arizona and our neighboring states.



Sandip Bhowmick
Broadband Director
Arizona Commerce Authority

Sandip Bhowmick currently serves as the Vice President of Infrastructure and State Broadband Director at the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA). He is responsible for overseeing the planning, development, and expansion of broadband infrastructure throughout Arizona. Prior to his current role, Sandip served as the Assistant Broadband Director at the ACA, further strengthening his expertise in the field. His extensive experience includes working with renowned telecommunications service providers such as AT&T and Verizon, as well as industry-leading telecommunications software and equipment manufacturers like Nokia and Ericsson. Moreover, Sandip has made valuable contributions to satellite communication startups, nonprofit organizations, and local and state governments, assuming diverse roles such as Chief Technology Officer, Network Engineer, Systems Engineer, Solutions Architect, Broadband Consultant, and Government Affairs Manager, among others. Additionally, Sandip proudly served in the US Army. He holds a bachelor's and master's degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Wichita State University, highlighting his strong academic foundation in the field.

Speakers & Moderators Biographies

Telehealth at the Local Level



Kyle Sawyer
Assistant Director of Public Policy and Strategic Planning
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

Kyle Sawyer serves the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) as Assistant Director of Public Policy and Strategic Planning. In this role, Kyle oversees the agency's communications, legislative affairs, and project management offices. Prior to this role, Kyle has served as AHCCCS' Chief Legislative Liaison where he was able to successfully advocate for a variety of high profile and complex policy issues and as the agency's Senior Project Manager where he managed complex enterprise-wide projects from initiation to implementation. Kyle is a graduate of both Azusa Pacific University and Georgetown University and a Flinn Brown Fellow.



Amanda Aguirre
President and CEO
Regional Center for Border Health, Inc.

Former Arizona State Senator Amanda Aguirre serves in the capacity of President & CEO of the Regional Center for Border Health, Inc. since 1991, and its subsidiary San Luis Walk-In Clinic, Inc., an integrated primary care-behavioral health rural health medical center serving Yuma, La Paz and Mohave Counties.

Ms. Aguirre has been involved for more than 35 years in health care and business administration. She possesses a life-long commitment to education and in 2007 she established a licensed post-secondary vocational training center in the area of allied health training, which has generated job opportunities for over 3,500 individuals.

Ms. Aguirre has built these corporations that have become a multi-million-dollar corporations providing employment for over 475 employees. In 2003 Ms. Aguirre became the first female and first Hispanic to represent District 24 (new legislative district 4) in the Arizona House of Representatives and in the Arizona State Senate (in 2006) where she served in the Arizona State Senate through 2010.

In August 2023, Ms. Aguirre just received the Arizona's Immunization Champion Award in honor of her exemplary immunization work by the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM), the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS).

Resource Partners

Arizona Telemedicine Program

Contact person: Janet Major

Email or phone #: JMajor@telemedicine.arizona.edu

Website URL: <https://telemedicine.arizona.edu/>

Description: The Arizona Telemedicine Program (ATP) seeks to advance telemedicine and telehealth capabilities throughout Arizona with the goal of enhancing healthcare access and delivery to medically underserved populations. ATP serves as an expert telemedicine and telehealth information, education, and training resource for, and partner to, hospitals, clinics, healthcare practitioners, state and federal agencies, tribal nations, and many other types of organizations involved in the healthcare industry.



James E. Rogers College of Law – Arizona Law, Health Law & Policy

Contact person: Christina Kelso

Email or phone #: ckelso@arizona.edu / (520) 271-9724

Website URL: <https://law.arizona.edu/academics/programs/health-law>

Description: The Health Law program at the James E. Rogers College of Law prepares students for work in this exciting field, including bioethics, health insurance reimbursements, medical malpractice, regulatory science, Medicare fraud, facility licensure, access to care, quality assurance/compliance, and public health regulation. The courses are created in collaboration with academics in other disciplines as well as leaders in the field. As a result, the curriculum, as a whole, helps students gain a better understanding of how laws and regulations operate within healthcare from a variety of stakeholder viewpoints.



JAMES E. ROGERS COLLEGE OF LAW
Health Law

Resource Partners



Regional Center for Border Health, Inc.

Contact person: Amanda Aguirre

Email or phone #: amanda@rcfbh.org

Website URL: <https://www.rcfbh.org/>

Description: The Center for Boarder Health, Inc. is committed to improving the quality of life of the residents along the U.S. – Mexico border by increasing accessibility to quality training and affordable healthcare.

Arizona Center for Rural Health

Contact person: Jill Bullock

Email or phone #: bullock1@arizona.edu

Website URL: <https://crh.arizona.edu/>

Description: The Arizona Center for Rural Health (AzCRH) core mission is to improve the health and wellness of Arizona's rural and underserved populations. AzCRH serves rural Arizona by: (1) providing education, technical assistance, data and analysis to rural hospitals and providers to help them adapt to a rapidly changing rural health environment and address rural health needs; (2) training, recruiting, and retaining health professionals for rural practice; and (3) collecting, synthesizing and disseminating data to inform providers, policy-makers and consumers about legislation, regulation, and grant opportunities to improve rural health.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
MEL & ENID ZUCKERMAN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Center for Rural Health

