Transcending Health-Care Boundaries

Human health care is advanced by crossing boundaries: cell walls, technological limits and political borders. Traversing these boundaries is critical to quality care and medicine.

At UC San Diego, our award-winning faculty cross barriers to revolutionize how, where and when medical care is delivered. Improving health on all scales—from the nano to the global—demands collaboration across disciplines. From bench to bedside, our work leads to innovative treatments that touch the lives of people worldwide.

Grassroots Global Health
Fighting HIV and sexually transmitted infections means hitting the streets. Steffanie Strathdee, Ph.D., mobilizes binational collaborations and students to reach out to drug users and sex workers on the Mexico-U.S. border. Her work with these underserved and marginalized populations, local police, federal authorities and nongovernmental organizations provides critical information for public policy.

Exploring the Frontier of Drug Delivery
Adah Almutairi, Ph.D., directs the Center for Excellence in Nanomedicine and Engineering. Researchers in the center are creating nanoparticles that promise new levels of precision in treating disease. They will be able to deliver drugs under highly specific conditions—when triggered by light or when they encounter a disease-related condition.

Tackling Alzheimer’s With Stem Cells
Lawrence Goldstein, Ph.D., director of the new Sanford Stem Cell Clinical Center and scientific director of the Sanford Consortium for Regenerative Medicine, has created, for the first time, stem cell-derived models of sporadic and hereditary Alzheimer’s disease using induced pluripotent stem cells from patients with AD. These functional neurons in a dish promise to be an unprecedented tool for developing and testing drugs to treat patients.