THIS WEEK IN CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION

- This week, the House and Senate are in session.
- On Tuesday, President Trump is scheduled to deliver his State of the Union address.
- On Wednesday, the Senate is expected to conclude the impeachment trial of President Trump.
- On Thursday, the House is expected to vote on a resolution to block the Trump Administration’s new Medicaid block grant program.

ADVOCACY UPDATE

- On Monday and Tuesday, engineering deans from four UC campuses – Irvine, Los Angeles, Riverside and Santa Cruz – will be in Washington, D.C. to attend the American Society for Engineering Education’s 2020 Engineering Deans Council Public Policy Colloquium and participate in Capitol Hill advocacy meetings. UC FGR is helping coordinate the Senate and House leadership meetings.
- Monday through Wednesday, representatives from three UC campuses – Berkeley, Davis and San Francisco – will be in Washington, D.C. for advocacy on behalf of National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Education and Research Centers and NIOSH Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Centers. UC FGR is helping to coordinate Capitol Hill meetings.
- On Wednesday, UC Riverside and UC FGR will meet with Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA-42) to deliver The Science Coalition’s (TSC) Champion of Science reengagement award, which acknowledges his ongoing support of fundamental scientific research. Rep. Calvert originally received the Champion of Science award in 2006. UC is a founding member of TSC.
- On Thursday, UC San Diego, along with the University of Arizona, New Mexico State University, University of Texas at El Paso and University of Texas at San Antonio, will host the “Data-Driven Discovery at the U.S.-Mexico Border,” convocation. The convocation will highlight opportunities for innovation in data-driven research in science and engineering to support border communities.
- Last Wednesday, the Women in STEM Caucus launched. The caucus is a bipartisan group of members dedicated to advancing the important role women in STEM play in boosting the economy, conducting groundbreaking research that leads to life-changing innovations and furthering our nation’s scientific enterprise. Reps. Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Haley Stevens (D-MI), Jackie Walorski (R-IN) and Debbie Lesko (R-AZ) are cochairing the caucus. The Science Coalition, of which UC is a founding member, joined in the launch events.

VISITORS TO WASHINGTON
• Kent E. Pinkerton, director of the Center for Health and the Environment, and Heather E. Riden, agricultural health and safety program director, UC Davis; Carisa Harris-Adamson, assistant professor of medicine, UC Berkeley and UCSF; and Ed Yelin, professor of medicine, UCSF, will be in Washington, D.C. for advocacy on behalf of National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Education and Research Centers and NIOSH Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Centers.

• Rodolfo H. Torres, vice chancellor for research and economic development; Christopher Lynch, dean of the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering and William R. Johnson Jr. Family Chair; and Kathy Eiler, director of federal relations, UC Riverside; Gregory Washington, Stacey Nicholas Dean of Engineering at the Henry Samueli School of Engineering, and Louis Bronstein, assistant director for federal government relations, UC Irvine; Jayathi Murthy, Ronald and Valerie Sugar Dean at the Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science, and Hillary Galey, assistant director of federal relations, UCLA; and Alexander Wolf, dean of Baskin School of Engineering, UC Santa Cruz, will be in Washington, D.C. for the American Society for Engineering Education’s 2020 Engineering Deans Council Public Policy Colloquium and hill meetings.

• Sandra A. Brown, vice chancellor for research and distinguished professor; Miroslav Krstic, associate vice chancellor for research and director of Cymer Center for Control Systems and Dynamics; Albert Pisano, dean of the Jacobs School of Engineering; Lucila Ohno-Machado, associate dean for informatics and technology; Keith Pezzoli, director of Bioregional Center for Sustainability Science; Melissa Floca, associate director at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies; Olivia A. Graeve, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering; and Michael Kleeman, visiting scholar, UC San Diego, will be in Washington, D.C. for the “Data-Driven Discovery at the U.S.-Mexico Border” Convocation.

• Jack Gilbert, professor of pediatrics, UC San Diego, will be in Washington, D.C. to present a lecture at PSW Science.

• David Victor, professor of global policy and strategy, UC San Diego, will be in Washington, D.C. to attend a Brookings Institution meeting and speak at the World Bank.

• Deborah Pagliaccia, managing director of the California Agriculture and Food Enterprise, and Samantha Ying, assistant professor of soil biogeochemistry, UC Riverside, will be in Washington, D.C. to attend a Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research event and hill meetings.

THIS WEEK IN CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS AND POLICY BRIEFINGS

• On Wednesday, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Athlete Safety and the Integrity of U.S. Sport.”

• On Wednesday, the Senate Finance Committee will hold a hearing on the nomination of Sarah C. Arbes to be an assistant secretary of health and human services, among other nominations.

• On Wednesday, the Future of Defense Task Force of the House Armed Services Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Supercharging the Innovation Base.”
On Wednesday, the House Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.”

On Wednesday, the Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Management and Spending Challenges within the Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.”

On Wednesday, the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee will hold an oversight hearing on Department of Energy’s role in advancing biomedical sciences.

On Wednesday, the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Vaping in America: E-Cigarette Manufacturers’ Impact on Public Health.”

On Wednesday, the Asia, the Pacific and Nonproliferation Subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee will hold a hearing titled, “The Wuhan Coronavirus: Assessing the Outbreak, the Response and Regional Implications.”

On Wednesday, the Research and Technology Subcommittee of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee will hold a hearing titled, “America’s Seed Fund: A Review of SBIR and STTR.”

On Wednesday, the Health Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee will hold a hearing titled, “More Cures for More Patients: Overcoming Pharmaceutical Barriers.”

On Thursday, the House Homeland Security Committee will hold a hearing titled, “About Face: Examining the Department of Homeland Security’s Use of Facial Recognition and Other Biometric Technologies, Part II.”

On Thursday, the Trade Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Trade Infrastructure for Global Competitiveness.”

On Thursday, the Economic and Consumer Policy Subcommittee of the House Oversight and Reform Committee will hold a hearing titled, “A Threat to America’s Children: The Trump Administration’s Proposed Changes to Broad Based Categorical Eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.”

On Thursday, the Rural Development, Agriculture, Trade and Entrepreneurship Subcommittee of the House Small Business Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Taking Care of Business: How Childcare can Support Regional Economies.”

On Thursday, the Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Clearing the Air: Legislation to Promote Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage.”

On Thursday, the Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education Subcommittee of the House Education and Labor Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Solving America’s Child Care Crisis: Supporting Parents, Children, and the Economy.”

On Thursday, the Environment Subcommittee of the House Oversight and Reform Committee will hold a hearing titled, “A Threat to America’s Children: The Trump Administration’s Proposal to Undermine Protections from Mercury Air Toxics Standards.”