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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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### **UCSF FRESNO LATINO CENTER AND FRESNO STATE HOLD CONFERENCE FOR VALLEY'S FUTURE HEALTH LEADERS**

The University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Fresno Latino Center for Medical Education and Research (LaCMER) and the California State University, Fresno College of Science and Mathematics will host its third bi-annual **“Aspiring Health Leaders Conference” tomorrow, Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Fresno State University Business Center from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** More than one hundred undergraduate students, medical students and health professionals are expected to attend.

The “Aspiring Health Leaders Conference” is an event for Fresno State Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) students and is intended to motivate, guide and prepare them to become the Valley’s future health leaders.

HCOP offers advising and tutoring, internship opportunities, summer programs and professional development to Fresno State students from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds who are committed to becoming health professionals.

The conference will feature a variety of guest speakers, including medical students and health professionals from UCSF Fresno and the community in fields such as pediatric plastic surgery, clinical pharmacy and physician assistants.

Workshop topics include:

- Polishing your personal statement
- Preparing for the health professional school interview
- Planning for the health professional school application process, and
- Mock interviews for students who have applied to health professional schools

#### **Background:**

Located in Fresno, the Latino Center for Medical Education and Research is a unit of the UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program. The Latino Center addresses the serious shortage of physicians and other health care professionals in the area. The mission of the Center is to develop individuals to become health care professionals who will ultimately return to the San Joaquin Valley and provide culturally competent health care services to the medically underserved. To accomplish its goal of increasing the number of health care professionals in the area, the Center partners with California State University, Fresno College of Science and Mathematics in operating the Health Careers Opportunity Program.

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