



## **DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**

The Hoover Institute at Stanford University

## **PROFESSOR OF SURGERY**

The University of Arizona,  
Department of Surgery

## **LICENSE & CERTIFICATIONS**

Board Certified, American Board of Surgery  
Board Certified, American Board of Thoracic Surgery

**D-index:** 96 | **H-index:** 97

## **EDUCATION**

M.D., University of Mississippi Medical Center

## **TRAINING**

- Intern, University of Mississippi Medical Center
- Resident, University of Mississippi Medical Center
- Postdoctoral Fellow, Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center
- Clinical Associate, National Institute of Health (NIH) Surgery Branch, The National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI)
- Chief Resident, University of Mississippi Medical Center
- Resident, Stanford University Hospital and Clinics
- Chief Resident, Stanford University Hospital and Clinics
- Pediatric Fellow, Emory University School of Medicine
- Pediatric Fellow, Royal Children's Hospital

## **Robert C. Robbins, M.D.**

*Dr. Robert C. Robbins is a renowned cardiac surgeon who significantly boosted student enrollment, student success, research funding, and fundraising at the University of Arizona.*

Dr. Robbins currently serves a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University and as a tenured faculty at the University of Arizona in the Department of Surgery. From 2017 to 2024, Dr. Robbins served as the 22nd President of the University of Arizona. Previously, he served as president and CEO of the Texas Medical Center (TMC) in Houston from 2012 to 2017. In this role, he significantly enhanced TMC's commitment to collaboration, introducing five cross-institutional research initiatives centered on innovation, genomics, regenerative medicine, health policy and clinical research.

Prior to his time in Houston, Dr. Robbins served as professor and chairman of the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Stanford University School of Medicine, founding director of the Stanford Cardiovascular Institute, president of the International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation, president of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association, president of the American Heart Association Western States Affiliate, president of the Bay Area Society of Thoracic Surgeons, and chair of the American Heart Association Cardiovascular Surgery and Anesthesia Council, among other roles.

An internationally recognized cardiac surgeon, Robbins has focused his clinical efforts on acquired cardiac diseases with a special expertise in the surgical treatment of congestive heart failure and cardiothoracic transplantation. His research work includes the investigation of stem cells for cardiac regeneration, cardiac transplant allograft vasculopathy, bioengineered blood vessels, and automated vascular anastomotic devices. Robbins is the author of more than 300 peer-reviewed articles and a former guest editor of the *Circulation Surgical Supplement*.

While at the University of Arizona, Dr. Robbins led the creation and implementation of a strategic plan focused on the opportunities and challenges presented by the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the convergence of biological, digital and physical technologies and sectors. Designed to amplify Arizona's competitiveness on the world stage, the

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

2016 International Citizen of the Year, World Affairs Council of Greater Houston

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Associate for Thoracic Surgery  
 American Surgical Association  
 Society of Thoracic Surgeons  
 Western Thoracic Surgical Association  
 Fellow, American College of Surgeons  
 Andrew G. Morrow Society  
 Association of Academic Surgeons  
 Fellow, American Heart Association  
 James D. Hardy Society  
 San Francisco Surgical Society  
 Fellow, American College of Cardiology  
 International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation  
 American Association for the Advancement of Science  
 The Translation Society  
 The 21st Century Cardiac Surgical Society  
 American Society of Transplant Surgeons  
 American Society of Transplantation  
 Society of University Surgeons  
 Founding Member, Bay Area Society of Thoracic Surgeon

**ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

President, University of Arizona  
 President and CEO, Texas Medical Center  
 Chairman, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Stanford  
 Director, Stanford Institute for Cardiovascular Medicine, Stanford  
 Co-Director, Cardiac Clinical Center, Stanford  
 Director, Heart, Heart-Lung, and Lung Transplant Program, Stanford  
 Director, Cardiothoracic Transplantation Laboratory, Stanford

**PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICE**

Authored more than 350 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and invited presentations ([Full List](#))  
 Held over 50 appointments on various Board of Directors and Advisory Boards  
 Trained over 30 research scholars and 60 resident/transplantation fellows  
 Served on multiple editorial boards and scientific journals  
 Served on an independent blue-ribbon committee to evaluate the Veterans Affairs health system

plan emphasized the university's strengths as a public, land-grant research university with global reach and a rich history of international collaboration. Key accomplishments included: spearheading a strategic plan that invested in key areas for the university's future; leading the success of "Fuel Wonder" – the U of A's \$3 billion campaign; key infrastructure – including the Student Success District and Honors Village; advancing diversity and inclusion by establishing the office of Native American Advancement and Tribal Engagement, and through strategic investment in the U of A's status as a leading Hispanic Serving Institution; driving the future of Arizona's healthcare workforce by expanding enrollment in the university's two separately accredited medical schools, launching a College of Health Sciences, and growing research and impact in the colleges of Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health; positioned the U of A as a continuing leader in college athletics through the turmoil of conference realignment and rapid changes in the financial landscape of college sports; and sustaining and expanding the U of A's status as a premier university for the arts through the acquisition of the David Hume Kennerly archive, hosting the first North American exhibition of the "Linda McCartney Retrospective" at the Center for Creative Photography, and reinvigorating the arts as a point of public engagement for the university.

In addition to leading the University of Arizona, Dr. Robbins served on the boards of the Arizona Commerce Authority, Southern Arizona Leadership Council, Tucson Metro Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona, and the Greater Phoenix Economic Council. He was also a member of the Chairman's Circle of Sun Corridor, Inc., and a member of Greater Phoenix Leadership. While at TMC, Robbins served on the Houston branch of the Dallas Federal Reserve board and the board of directors of the Welch Foundation. In 2016 he was president of the American Heart Association Southwest Affiliate. He served on an independent blue-ribbon committee to evaluate the Veterans Affairs health system, and the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston honored him as the 2016 International Citizen of the Year.

His educational background includes a B.S. in chemistry from Millsaps College, a medical degree from the University of Mississippi, general surgical training at the University of Mississippi, cardiothoracic training at Stanford University, postdoctoral research at Columbia University and the National Institutes of Health, and congenital heart surgical fellowships at Emory University and Royal Children's Hospital.