

ACADEMIC CONNECTIONS

THOUGHTS AND UPDATES FROM DR. W. P. ANDREW LEE

November 9, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to share news that Neil M. Rofsky, M.D., M.H.A., holder of the Effie and Wofford Cain Distinguished Chair in Diagnostic Imaging, will step down from his position as Professor and Chair of Radiology effective March 1, 2023. Dr. Rofsky has accepted an opportunity to serve as Chair of the Department of Radiology at The Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City.

Under his leadership since 2010, the Department of Radiology has grown in size, versatility and scope. It currently supports 10 research programs and six core facilities with more than 90 dedicated research faculty and laboratory staff. New programs were launched, including many that were first in Texas – the first focused ultrasound ablation program; the first prostate MRI-TRUS fusion biopsy program; and the first in-bore MR prostate biopsy program.

In 2015, Dr. Rofsky established a cyclotron facility leveraging the cutting-edge imaging technology of positron emission tomography for biomedical research. The department now provides more than 1.2 million image interpretations annually to patients at UT Southwestern's Clements University Hospital, Parkland Health & Hospital System, Children's Health, and other affiliated hospitals and clinics throughout the region.

Dr. Rofsky joined UT Southwestern in 2010 as Chair of the Department of Radiology after serving as Professor of Radiology at Harvard Medical School and Director of MRI at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

I am pleased to announce that **Ivan Pedrosa, M.D., Ph.D.**, Vice Chair of Research in the Department of Radiology, will serve as interim Chair when Dr. Rofsky steps down. Dr. Pedrosa, holder of the Jack Reynolds, M.D. Chair in Radiology, joined UT Southwestern in 2011. He has played an integral and leading role in the department's tripartite missions.

A national search will soon begin to identify Dr. Rofsky's successor. **Nader Pouratian, M.D., Ph.D.**, Chair of Department of Neurological Surgery, will serve as Chair of the Search Committee. Other members of the committee are:

- Samuel Achilefu, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of Biomedical Engineering
- Jorge Bezerra, M.D., Professor and Chair of Pediatrics
- Ezra Burstein, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Internal Medicine; Division Chief of Digestive and Liver Diseases
- Suzanne Conzen, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine; Division Chief of Hematology and Oncology
- Gaudenz Danuser, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of the Lyda Hill Department of Bioinformatics
- Anke Henning, Ph.D., Professor and Director of the Advanced Imaging Research Center
- Jayanthi Lea, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Larissa Velez, M.D., Professor of Emergency Medicine; Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education
- Andrew Wang, M.D., Professor of Radiation Oncology; Vice Chair for Translational Research and Commercialization
- Adam Yopp, M.D., Associate Professor of Surgery; Division Chief of Surgical Oncology
- Dwain Thiele, M.D., Vice Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Initiatives (*ex officio*)

We wish Dr. Rofsky all the best in this new chapter, and look forward to building on the success made possible by his leadership as we continue to advance Radiology research, education, and clinical care at UT Southwestern.



Sincerely,

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W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D.

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Dean, UT Southwestern Medical School

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