

ACADEMIC CONNECTIONS

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

June 12, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to announce the appointment of **Antonia F. Chen, M.D., M.B.A.**, as the new Chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, effective Oct. 1. She will hold the Dr. Charles F. Gregory Distinguished Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery.

Dr. Chen joins UT Southwestern from Harvard Medical School where she is Chief of Arthroplasty and Joint Reconstruction and Director of Research of Arthroplasty Services in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

After completing undergraduate studies at Yale University, Dr. Chen received an M.B.A. from Rutgers Business School. She obtained her medical degree from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Following her residency in orthopedic surgery at the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Chen continued her postdoctoral training with a fellowship in hip and knee arthroplasty at the Rothman Institute. She stayed at the Rothman Institute as Associate Director of Research and was Director of Medical Education Curriculum for Musculoskeletal Studies at Thomas Jefferson University. In 2018, she was recruited to the Brigham and Women's Hospital.



A practicing orthopedic surgeon known for exceptional patient care, Dr. Chen specializes in hip and knee replacements. As a clinician-scientist, she studies clinical outcomes after total hip and knee replacements, including preoperative patient optimization to reduce infection risk, activity after joint replacement, infection after surgery, and joint stiffness. She also collaborates with research scientists in laboratories across Harvard Medical School investigating issues related to joint arthroplasty.

Dr. Chen has published extensively on a wide variety of topics ranging from the complex microbiome of periprosthetic joint infections to the sociological determinants of surgical quality of care. Her effectiveness as an educator has been recognized with multiple awards, including the 2023 Outstanding Mentor Award from Mass General Brigham and the 2021 Excellence in Student Mentoring Award from Harvard Medical School.

A sought-after leader in her field, Dr. Chen is active in professional organizations around the world, such as the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the American Orthopaedic Association, the European

Knee Association, and the American Joint Replacement Registry. She is currently the Second Vice President in the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons presidential line.

I would like to express my deep appreciation to **Herbert Zeh, M.D.**, Chair and Professor of Surgery, for his service as Chair of the Search Committee, and to all the Search Committee members – Melanie Cobb, Ph.D., Jeffrey Kenkel, M.D., Heakyung Kim, M.D., Steven Leach, M.D., Angela Mihalic, M.D., Toral Patel, M.D., Margaret Pearle, M.D., Ph.D., Rawle Philbert, D.D.S., Daniel Sucato, M.D., Seth Toomay, M.D., Dwight Towler, M.D., Ph.D., and Steven Bloom, M.D. (ex-officio) – for the dedication and insights they brought to this comprehensive national search. I would also like to express my appreciation to Dane K. Wukich, M.D., M.S., for his leadership as Chair of the Department since 2016.

Dr. Chen's stellar record and commitment to exceptional clinical care, collaborative research, and medical education will elevate the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and position our institution as a national hub for clinical excellence and innovation in orthopedic surgery.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Chen to 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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