I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Michael M.E. Johns, as the interim executive vice president for medical affairs, effective June 2, 2014. As interim executive vice president for medical affairs, Dr. Johns will also serve as the interim chief executive officer of the Health System. Dr. Johns will continue in this role until such time as a new executive vice president for medical affairs is installed. He is succeeding Dr. Ora Pescovitz who is stepping down at the end of her term, effective June 1, 2014.

As former executive vice president for health affairs, Dr. Johns served as Emory University’s fifth chancellor from 2007 to 2012 and led the Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center from 1996 to 2007. During his tenure as executive vice president for health affairs, Dr. Johns led a comprehensive strategy that positioned the Woodruff Health Sciences Center as one of the nation’s preeminent academic health centers in education, research, and patient care.

From 1990 to 1996, Dr. Johns was dean of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and vice president of the Medical Faculty at Johns Hopkins University. Under his leadership, the medical school moved into first place among all medical schools in sponsored research, completely revamped its curriculum to meet the challenges of a new era in health care, and developed a technology transfer program considered a model of its kind.

In addition to leading complex administrative and academic organizations to new levels of excellence and service, Dr. Johns is widely renowned as a catalyst of new thinking in many areas of health policy and health professions education. He has been a significant contributor to many of the leading organizations and policy groups in health care, including the Institute of Medicine (IOM), the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), the Commonwealth Fund Task Force on Academic Health Centers, the Association of Academic Health Centers, and many others. Dr. Johns was elected to the IOM in 1993 and has served on many committees and as vice chair of the Council of the IOM. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; serves on the editorial board of the JAMA, and most recently became a member of the Advisory Council to the Congressional Taskforce on Biomedical Research and Innovation.
Dr. Johns also serves on a variety of private-sector and philanthropic boards, including the Genuine Parts Company, AMN Healthcare, and the West Health Institute. He is a past member of the Boards of Johnson & Johnson, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland, Williams and Wilkins Company, I-Trax, Inc., and Georgia Tech Research Center Inc. He was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Defense as a member of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) Board of Regents in 2008.

Dr. Johns received his bachelor's degree and continued with graduate studies in biology at Wayne State University in his hometown of Detroit. In 1969 he graduated with distinction from the University of Michigan Medical School. He remained at Michigan for his internship and residency.

I look forward to the leadership, depth of experience, and vision that Dr. Johns will bring to the University. I appreciate his willingness to serve his alma mater and his home state in this important way. It is with great enthusiasm and confidence that I recommend the appointment of Michael M.E. Johns, as interim executive vice president for medical affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sue Coleman  
President

March 2014