



Appointments of Jeffrey Carson, MD and Robert Wieder, MD, PhD as RBHS Interim Provosts

I am pleased to announce the appointments of two interim provosts for RBHS, effective January 1, 2014: Jeffrey Carson, MD (jeffrey.carson@rutgers.edu), of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS), and Robert Wieder, MD, PhD (wiederro@njms.rutgers.edu), of New Jersey Medical School (NJMS). Drs. Carson and Wieder will be responsible for overseeing the faculty appointment and promotion processes for New Brunswick- and Newark-based schools, respectively. Together, they will lead an initiative to revise and standardize appointment and promotion criteria across RBHS schools, while working to ensure consistency with Rutgers-wide policies. Drs. Carson and Wieder will also work jointly to create job descriptions for the permanent RBHS provost positions.

Dr. Carson is the Richard C. Reynolds Professor of Medicine, chief of the division of general internal medicine, and vice chair for research at RWJMS. He is a board-certified internist who practices office- and hospital-based internal medicine. Dr. Carson received a BA (political science) from the University of Rhode Island and an MD from Hahnemann Medical College. He received his initial research training during a two-year Henry J. Kaiser Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania (1980-82) and since then has been at RWJMS. He was a Fogarty Senior International Fellow at the University of Oxford, England (1995-96), is a member of the Clinical Trials Review Committee at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), has received five teaching awards and has been named to regional "best doctor" lists for many years.

Dr. Carson's primary research interest is blood transfusion. He performed the study that examined mortality and morbidity in nearly 2,000 patients undergoing surgery who declined blood transfusion. This study demonstrated that the odds of dying rise more rapidly in patients with cardiovascular disease compared to patients without cardiovascular disease as hemoglobin levels fall. Recent work includes leadership of a 47-center, 2,016-patient, NHLBI-funded clinical trial that evaluated transfusion thresholds in patients with cardiovascular disease or cardiovascular risk factors undergoing surgery for repair of hip fracture. The results were recently published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The study was recognized as one of the 34 key research findings published in 2012 and funded by NHLBI. Dr. Carson also chaired the American Association of Blood Banks Red Blood Cell Transfusion Guidelines Committee, which led to a recent publication in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, and he is the lead author on systematic review and meta-analysis evaluating red blood cell transfusions, published in *Cochrane Databases of Systematic Reviews* and *JAMA*. Dr. Carson has served RWJMS as a member of the Appointments and Promotions Committee (1996-2006) and the Department of Medicine Career Development Committee (1990-99, 2010-present).

Dr. Wieder is professor of medicine and associate director of clinical and translational cancer research at NJMS. As a University of Pennsylvania undergraduate, he majored in biochemistry and biology. He earned his MD and PhD (biophysics of DNA renaturation) from Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He did a residency in internal medicine at Montefiore Hospital of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and at NHLBI. While at NHLBI, he also completed a fellowship in gene therapy. He subsequently did a fellowship in hematology/oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where he worked on cell signaling in malignant transformation. After a year as part of the Autologous Bone Marrow Transplant Service, Dr. Wieder came to NJMS, where he has studied breast cancer re-differentiation in the bone marrow and mechanisms of dormancy and chemoresistance, with funding provided by the Department of Defense and the National Institutes of Health.

In his role as a medical oncologist, Dr. Wieder developed the NJMS Cancer Center's clinical research program as its associate director for clinical and translational research. He also created and teaches a course on the principles of clinical and translational research in oncology in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. He obtained National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation for the Newark Cancer Center as a minority-based clinical community oncology program (MB-CCOP) in 2009. This grant was recently renewed. Dr. Wieder chaired the New Jersey Cancer Commission Breast Cancer Advisory Board for seven years and currently serves on the NCI Breast Cancer Steering Committee as the MB-CCOP representative alternate. His service record at NJMS

is extensive. Recently and most notably, Dr. Wieder has been vice chair of the Center for Translational Science Executive Committee and was immediate past chair of the Faculty Committee on Appointments and Promotions.

Please contact Drs. Carson and Wieder any time during the next six months regarding your thoughts and concerns about faculty appointments and promotions and other important issues associated with their mission. Thanks in advance for the cooperation and assistance you provide them in their new undertakings.

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January 13, 2014