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NEWS

FSU hires former NIH scientist to direct research collaborations with Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare

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A former top scientist with the National Institutes of Health has been hired by Florida State University to coordinate research partnerships between the university and Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare.

The hiring of Joseph Frascella as chief clinical research officer for the FSU/TMH research collaboration advances plans by both institutions to strengthen their clinical research programs. Both TMH and FSU have also expressed interest in long-term planning for an academic medical center. Enhancing clinical research would be a key part of that process.

“I am extremely excited and honored to contribute to such a vibrant research climate at FSU and TMH and am looking forward to helping to forge new collaborations and partnerships,” Frascella said. “Incredible research opportunities exist for both programs, and I am eager to be a part of the research team.”

An academic medical center is a hospital that partners with teaching institutions to offer a combination of clinical care, research and education. Such partnerships are desired because they can lead to new technologies, therapies, and clinical trials not always available at other hospitals.

Frascella will work with FSU researchers, TMH clinicians, the FSU Office for Clinical Research Advancement and the TMH Office of Research to foster and facilitate research collaborations between the two institutions, the university said in a release Wednesday.

Frascella has been serving as vice president of research at the Legacy Research Institute in Portland, Oregon, since 2017, where he has directed its translational biomedical research program. The institute conducts research, including preclinical, clinical and basic research

and clinical trials, through its affiliation with the Legacy Health hospital system in Portland, according to the release.

Frascella previously served as senior science adviser to the director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse within the National Institutes of Health and worked as a senior research scientist working in the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of Maryland.

Frascella will report to Faulkerson and to TMH Vice President and Chief Integration Officer Dr. Dean Watson.

Frascella also served as director of the Division of Clinical Neuroscience and Behavioral Research at National Institute on Drug Abuse, leading clinical programs in neurosciences, brain and behavioral development, and behavioral treatments for substance use disorders.

He earned his doctorate and a master's degree from Brown University and a bachelor's degree from Hamilton College.

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