

School of Dentistry names new dean

July 3rd, 2007

John J. Sauk, associate dean for research administration and training at the University of Maryland Baltimore School of Dentistry, has been selected to be dean of the University of Louisville School of Dentistry.

Sauk, a cancer researcher who also is professor and chair of diagnostic sciences and pathology, will assume the post in late August or early September, pending approval by dentistry faculty and the UofL Board of Trustees.

“Dr. Sauk will be an outstanding addition to the leadership of the Health Sciences Center,” UofL President James Ramsey said. “His expertise in dental health and cancer are an ideal fit with our institutional priorities.”

Sauk’s research has attracted grants totaling nearly \$15 million from the National Institutes of Health and from industry. His research focuses on the molecular changes in cancer cells that lead them to invade tissues and metastasize.



John J. Sauk

“His broad-based experience in research and clinical practice will help us continue the School of Dentistry’s strong tradition of excellence, and I am delighted to recommend his appointment,” said Larry Cook, executive vice president for health affairs.

Sauk earned his doctor of dental surgery degree and bachelor’s degree in biochemistry from the University of Detroit and his master’s degree in oral pathology at the University of Minnesota. Board-certified in oral and maxillofacial pathology, Sauk is also a fellow of the American Head and Neck Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

At Maryland, he is a pathology professor and a member of the Greenebaum Cancer Center and the university’s multidisciplinary head and neck cancer group. Before joining that university, he served as pathologist for the Naval Dental Research Institute in Great Lakes, Ill.; oral pathology and genetics professor at the University of Minnesota and clinical oral-facial genetics director at Detroit Children’s Hospital.

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