January 13, 2015

To the UT Southwestern Community:

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Kimberly A. Siniscalchi, former Assistant Surgeon General, United States Air Force, to the newly created position of Vice President for Strategic Initiatives. She will begin this week and will report directly to me, but will be working very closely on a daily basis with other members of the senior leadership team to advance UT Southwestern’s strategic goals.

Kim’s primary areas of responsibility will be to identify, develop, and in some cases oversee the implementation of key strategic initiatives, such as new service line development, organizational partnerships, and other efforts that support the Medical Center’s mission.

Initially, working with Department Chairs and other Health System leaders, Kim will concentrate her efforts on the goals we have set for our clinical neurosciences program. She will focus on strategic analysis, planning, and establishing key partnerships that will enhance our program. She also will coordinate the increasing activities of the Texas Institute for Brain Injury and Repair, and in collaboration with others, both internal and external to UT Southwestern, she will develop and implement growth strategies and new business opportunities.

Kim brings a distinguished career of 34 years active duty experience in the military healthcare system to her new role at UT Southwestern. As a retired Major General, she is well known for her outstanding innovation and dedication in bringing evidence-based, quality healthcare to our nation’s armed forces.

As Assistant Surgeon General, Medical Force Development and Nursing Services, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, D.C., she was responsible for personnel policy, programs, staffing requirements, and education and training for 45,000 military and civilian personnel, and she led Air Force Nursing for 19,000 Active Duty, Reserve and Air National Guard nursing personnel, supporting 2.6 million beneficiaries globally. She has served multiple command tours, which included commanding an Expeditionary Medical Group in Southwest Asia, supporting the global war on terrorism, and serving Presidents George H.W. Bush and William J. Clinton as the Air Force Nurse assigned to the White House Medical Unit.

Kim received her commission in 1979 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Pittsburgh. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing at Duquesne University and a Master of Science degree in Nursing at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, and recent honors include receiving the American Medical Association’s Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service and an Honorary Doctorate of Science from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Additionally, she serves on several boards
and advisory councils focused on military and civilian healthcare issues.

Please join me in welcoming Kim to UT Southwestern.

Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.
President, UT Southwestern Medical Center