

ACADEMIC CONNECTIONS

THOUGHTS AND UPDATES FROM DR. W. P. ANDREW LEE

May 28, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce, following a comprehensive national search, the appointment of **Samir M. Parikh, M.D.**, as the next Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine, effective June 15. He will hold the Donald W. Seldin Distinguished Chair in Internal Medicine and Ruth W. and Milton P. Levy Sr. Chair in Molecular Nephrology.

Dr. Parikh joined UT Southwestern in 2021 as Professor of Internal Medicine and Chief of the Division of Nephrology. He holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Pharmacology. As Chair, he will oversee a department of about 860 faculty members, with more than \$108 million in National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding in FY25, and the second-largest Internal Medicine residency program in the country.

After graduating from Harvard College, Dr. Parikh earned his medical degree at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He completed an internship and a residency in internal medicine, as well as research and clinical fellowships in nephrology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where he was a Harvard Medical School Fellow in General Medicine.

He began his career at Harvard, rising to Professor of Medicine, and served as Co-Director of the Center for Vascular Biology Research and Associate Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

In clinical practice, Dr. Parikh specializes in acute kidney injury and chronic kidney disease, while concurrently dedicating the past 20 years to researching aging mechanisms within the vasculature, kidneys, and energy metabolism. His laboratory has been supported by more than \$40 million in awards from the NIH and other funders during that time. He has published the results of his studies in *Science*, *Nature*, *Nature Medicine*, *Cell Metabolism*, and other leading journals.

Dr. Parikh is an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the American Association of Physicians, and the American Clinical and Climatological Association. His contributions to the field have been recognized with the NIH's Outstanding Investigator Award, the American Society of Nephrology and American Heart Association's Donald W. Seldin Young Investigator Award, and the



University of Texas' Science and Technology Acquisition and Retention (STARs) Award, among other honors. He currently serves as the 59th President of the American Society of Nephrology, an organization founded by Donald W. Seldin, M.D.

I would like to express my appreciation to **Herbert Zeh, M.D.**, Chair and Professor of Surgery, for his service as Chair of the Search Committee, and to all the Search Committee members – Carlos Arteaga, M.D., Jorge Bezerra, M.D., Ralph DeBerardinis, M.D., Ph.D., Deborah Diercks, M.D., Helen Hobbs, M.D., Lora Hooper, Ph.D., Hicham Ibrahim, M.D., Elan Louis, M.D., M.S., Joseph Merola, M.D., M.M.Sc., Saad Omer, M.P.H., Ph.D., M.B.B.S., Martin Pomper, M.D., Ph.D., and Eric Peterson, M.D., M.P.H. – for the dedication and insights they brought to this comprehensive national search. I would also like to express my gratitude to **Ezra Burstein, M.D., Ph.D.**, who has served as Interim Chair, for his capable leadership during the Department's transition.

Dr. Parikh's commitment to all areas of our mission will further the Department of Internal Medicine and our institution's national reputation for providing excellent clinical care, advancing meaningful research, and fostering a unique environment for biomedical education.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Parikh on his new role.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D.

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Dean, UT Southwestern Medical School