Appointment of Executive Vice President for Business Affairs

October 6, 2021

To the UT Southwestern Community:

As I informed you earlier this summer, Arnim Dontes, Executive Vice President for Business Affairs, left UT Southwestern Medical Center in July after nearly a decade of service to our institution. Since his departure, I have led our Business Affairs division on an interim basis and have been continually impressed by each team’s dedication and efforts to solve for some of our institution’s most pressing and complex challenges.

Though I have valued the opportunity to work more closely with our Business Affairs leadership team, I am very pleased to announce that, after a nationwide search, Holly G. Crawford has been named as our new Executive Vice President for Business Affairs. Ms. Crawford will officially join UT Southwestern later this fall, assuming the role effective Monday, Nov. 29.

Ms. Crawford will be joining us from the University of Rochester, where she has served in leadership roles for more than two decades, including most recently as Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer. She brings to UT Southwestern a deep understanding of academic medical centers and the complexities of a large, growing university such as our own.

At the University of Rochester, Ms. Crawford holds administrative and financial oversight for the entire institution, which includes six hospitals, robust undergraduate and graduate programs, and schools of medicine, dentistry, and nursing, among others. As Chief Financial Officer, she is responsible for a $5.4 billion budget and has led their Administration and Finance teams, including audit, auxiliary services, finance, budgets and planning, treasury, environmental health and safety, facilities and campus planning and design, purchasing and supply chain, human resources, and public safety. During the last 13 years, Ms. Crawford has also facilitated more than $1 billion in capital projects, with another $1 billion of capital spending planned in the coming decade.

At UT Southwestern, Ms. Crawford will hold a similar broad range of responsibilities, working with Business Affairs leaders who are responsible for more than 15 business- and service-related departments, including Accounting and Fiscal Services, Auxiliary Enterprises, Budget and Resource Planning, Business Affairs Decision Support, Facilities Management, Human Resources, Information Resources, Safety and Business Continuity, Sponsored Programs Administration, Supply Chain Management, and the University’s Police Department.
Ms. Crawford earned her M.B.A. from the University of Rochester’s Simon School of Business and holds a bachelor’s degree in professional accountancy from Long Island University. She is also a Certified Public Accountant. Before joining the University of Rochester, she held management positions at ACC Telecommunications, Bausch + Lomb, and Arthur Andersen LLP.

We are very fortunate to have someone of Ms. Crawford’s experience and expertise join our executive leadership team, and I am confident she and her Business Affairs team will ensure that UT Southwestern is able to continue its upward trajectory in fulfilling its mission. Please join me in welcoming Ms. Crawford.

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