



Professor Jeffrey A. Bluestone Appointed Interim Vice Chancellor for Research

A. Eugene Washington, M.D., Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost has announced that Professor Jeffrey A. Bluestone has been provisionally appointed (pending Regental approval) UCSF's Interim Vice Chancellor for Research effective July 1, 2008.

Professor Bluestone, who holds the A.W. & Mary Margaret Clausen Distinguished Professorship in Metabolism and Endocrinology, is an outstanding scientist with a stellar record of scholarly achievement. He has served the UCSF community in several capacities over the past eight years. Dr. Bluestone is currently the Director of the Diabetes Center at UCSF and Director of the Immune Tolerance Network, a consortium of more than 70 of the world's leading scientific researchers and clinical specialists from nearly 40 institutions with a mission to test new therapies designed to bring about immune tolerance in transplantation, autoimmune diseases, asthma and allergic diseases.

As Interim Vice Chancellor for Research, Professor Bluestone will direct the advancement of cross-campus research initiatives, such as enhancing core research facilities. In this capacity, he will play a leading role in coordinating and integrating current research cores, and in facilitating development of new campus cores. Professor Bluestone will also direct the strengthening of external research partnerships, particularly with industry. With a focus on facilitating the translation of UCSF discoveries into public benefit, he will direct the development of plans for UCSF to proactively and reliably engage industry, and build new alliances and partnerships.

Professor Bluestone brings superb knowledge, skills and experience related to his responsibilities as Interim Vice Chancellor. As one of the world's leading experts on ways the body's immune system rejects or tolerates its own tissue, he has led multiple interdisciplinary endeavors to translate basic research into novel clinical applications for the treatment of autoimmunity and transplant rejection. At UCSF, he has clearly demonstrated his ability to effectively engage diverse groups while serving on several campus committees, including the Strategic Planning Board where he chaired the Leadership and Governance Design Team.

Professor Bluestone is assuming this important leadership role at a critical time for advancing UCSF's research-related strategic priorities. His talent and commitment will help ensure that we achieve our goals of fostering the UCSF research enterprise across multiple sites, and increasing the impact of UCSF's contributions locally and globally.