ARUP Laboratories Announces CEO Transition

SALT LAKE CITY, June 1, 2015—ARUP Laboratories, a nonprofit enterprise of the University of Utah, announced today the transition of Edward Ashwood, MD, from president and CEO of ARUP to a new University of Utah position, associate vice president for Government Relations/ARUP and vice chair, Health Policy for the Department of Pathology, effective July 1, 2015. In his new role, Dr. Ashwood will play a vital role within the laboratory industry, working with thought leaders, government officials, and regulators to impact change on a national level and ensure the vitality and continued advancement of diagnostic testing.

According to Dr. Vivian S. Lee, senior vice president for Health Sciences at the University of Utah, dean of the University of Utah School of Medicine, and CEO of University of Utah Health Care, “ARUP is vital to the academic, research, and patient care mission of the University of Utah, and a source of great pride for the institution, providing diagnostic services for hundreds of thousands of patients per year. We are grateful for Dr. Ashwood’s contributions to the success of ARUP. Since joining ARUP in 1985, Dr. Ashwood has been instrumental in developing our laboratory operations as director of the Chemistry Division and director of laboratories. As president and CEO since 2009, he has brought the organization to a high level of efficiency and financial strength.”

David W. Pershing, University of Utah president, said, “To ensure continued success of ARUP and continued access to critical services to the patients nationwide served by ARUP, we are asking Dr. Ashwood, a nationally recognized leader and spokesperson in this area, to transition to a broader role at this critical time. As we enter into this transition, we are confident that ARUP has built a strong foundation for future growth and innovation.”

Dean Li, MD, PhD, associate vice president for research and chief scientific officer for University of Utah Health Sciences will serve as interim president and CEO, beginning July 1, 2015. Dr. Li is a nationally renowned physician scientist who has served as founding chief scientific officer for three biotechnology companies (Hydra Biosciences, Navigen Pharmaceuticals, and Recursion Pharmaceuticals). The search committee for the new permanent president and CEO will be chaired by Dr. Peter Jensen, board chair for ARUP and chairman of the Department of Pathology at the University of Utah. Dr. Li will work with the University of Utah and ARUP to facilitate an orderly leadership transition while overseeing the lab’s continued revenue growth.

Dr. Li said, “I am honored to be part of ARUP’s outstanding leadership team and look forward to working with them on innovation and growth initiatives, leveraging ARUP’s tremendous assets as an industry leader. ARUP is a shining example of the University of Utah Health Sciences delivering exceptional healthcare and value to patients and hospital networks, both regionally and nationally.”