



Association of Pathology Chairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Association of Pathology Chairs Appoints Lydia Pleotis Howell MD as First Deputy Director

Wilmington, DE – The Association of Pathology Chairs (APC) welcomed Lydia Pleotis Howell, MD as its first Deputy Director at their annual meeting in Chicago on July 17-20, 2023. Dr. Howell is a Past President of the APC, Past President of the American Society of Cytopathology, Professor emerita and Chair emerita at the University of California Davis School of Medicine and former Medical Director of the UC Davis Health clinical laboratories.

“Dr. Howell is a well-known academic leader who brings a wealth of experience to our organization,” said Priscilla Markwood, Executive Director of APC. “Dr. Howell will play a major role in advocating for the interests of the nation’s academic pathology departments and their clinical laboratories. She has already proven herself as an outstanding champion of the chairs, educational leaders, administrators, and research and clinical faculty who comprise the membership of the APC. I look forward to her strengthening APC’s representation to support and further academic pathologists work in discovering, sharing and applying new knowledge that improves the health of our communities.”

In addition to advocacy for research, education, and clinical care, Dr. Howell’s responsibilities will include brand strategy and advancing the APC’s strategic goals for leadership development and diversity initiatives. Well-known for her commitment to faculty development and diversity, Dr. Howell served as Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at UC Davis Health’s School of Medicine. She was co-principal investigator for a \$1.27M NIH grant studying the effect of family-friendly policies on women’s careers in medicine, as well as the project leader for an Innovation Award for faculty career flexibility from the American Council on Education and the Sloan Foundation. She expanded and standardized faculty family leave, which served as a model for

UC's systemwide policies, and co-founded UC Davis Health's award-winning Women in Medicine and Health Science program. She is a past Chair of APC's Leadership Development and Diversity Committee, co-founder of APC's Pathology Leadership Academy and recently founded APC's Academy of Distinguished Pathology Educators. Dr. Howell is a graduate of the Honors Program in Medical Education at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, and completed her post-graduate training in Philadelphia at Temple University Hospital and Thomas Jefferson University's Lankenau Hospital.

"On behalf of the organization, I congratulate Dr. Howell on this new role and appreciate her willingness to serve in and shape this position", said APC's President, Michael Laposata, MD, PhD. "APC will benefit tremendously from Dr. Howell's experience and creativity in program development and her commitment to supporting academic careers. As President, she led our organization through the pandemic and we are fortunate to have her work with us now, as we embark on exciting opportunities for APC and all of academic pathology."

The Association of Pathology Chairs is a non-profit organization that represents academic departments of pathology and laboratory medicine in North America. APC's membership includes department chairs and vice chairs, pathology residency program directors, undergraduate medical education and graduate education leaders, residency and fellowship program administrators, and academic department executives. For over 50 years, APC has championed excellence in research, education and practice in pathology and laboratory medicine departments, in medical schools and academic medical centers throughout the US and Canada.