April 2, 2024

Colleagues,

I write a difficult note, sharing that I have asked President Randall to begin the process to determine my successor at the University of Utah Health.

The math is speaking. In June, I complete 40 years in academic medicine, with 20 years serving in a dean or vice president role; in July, Danette and I celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary; in August, I turn 65, register for Medicare, and start my 7th year at the University of Utah.

I am reminded of the minister who asks the parishioner about the sermon, to which the parishioner replies, “Well your message was really quite good, but you preached through three really good stopping points!” Being conscientious not to preach through good stopping points, calculus suggests this is a good time for transitions.

Danette and I are honored to be a part of the Utah family. The University of Utah is full of wonderful people with impressive, inspiring, and impactful achievements. The University of Utah’s bright and ascending trajectory will continue to accelerate. Following a sabbatical, I look forward to contributing as a Professor.

Recognizing that transition is a months-long process, for now, we stay laser-focused on our missions, working hard each day to help our faculty, staff, and students achieve success in their important work. President Randall will make a university-wide communication tomorrow morning. As University search plans advance, we will keep you updated.

With much gratitude to each of you,

Mike