

Keck School of Medicine of USC

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
Keck School of Medicine

DATE: November 23, 2015

TO: Keck School of Medicine Faculty

FROM: Judy A. Garner, Ph.D.
Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs



Carmen A. Puliafito, M.D., M.B.A.
Dean, Keck School of Medicine

RE: Appointment of Jeffrey S. Upperman, M.D., as Associate Dean for Faculty Diversity



It gives us great pleasure to announce the appointment of **Jeffrey S. Upperman, M.D., FAAP, FACS**, Associate Professor of Surgery, as the new Associate Dean for Faculty Diversity, effective November 1, 2015.

In this role, Dr. Upperman will serve in the Office for Faculty Affairs and will work with the Vice Dean and Faculty Affairs staff on Diversity issues. He will also represent the Keck School of Medicine at the University as the Faculty Diversity Liaison. His position has been created in recognition of the importance and relevance of diverse points of view and experience in providing a fundamental level of excellence among the faculty at the Keck School of Medicine.

In this role, Dr. Upperman hopes to optimize diversity through 1) creating awareness among hiring authorities of the value of diversity when making hiring decisions, 2) working to create an academic environment that is welcoming and supportive of all faculty, 3) fostering all faculty development irrespective of any individual's sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socio-economic or disability status, and 4) seeking out and developing, in collaboration with the other deans at the medical school, ways to ensure that trainees of diverse backgrounds have equally diverse mentorship opportunities that will be useful in their career choices and placement. The overall responsibility of the Associate Dean of Faculty Diversity is thus to foster and encourage the highest possible level of diversity among faculty at the Keck School of Medicine.

Dr. Upperman is a tenured associate professor and highly respected pediatric surgeon, with a history of service to the Keck School of Medicine. His research has two primary foci, 1) the role of nitric oxide in the pathogenesis of pediatric necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC), a



common and serious intestinal inflammatory disorder in pre-term infants, and 2) trauma and disaster preparedness for pediatric medical centers. He is the Director of the Trauma Program and the Pediatric Disaster Resource and Training Center at CHLA. He was recently appointed to the HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response's National Advisory Committee for Children in Disaster. Dr. Upperman was previously funded from the US Department of HHS for \$5M grant to develop pediatric disaster resources for Los Angeles County. He has published over 340 manuscripts, abstracts and book chapters. Dr. Upperman's research support has included funding from the National Institutes of Health, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Department of Health Human Services.

Dr. Upperman received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Stanford University and his medical degree from New Jersey Medical School, where he also received postgraduate training in surgery. He received fellowship training in pediatric surgery at the University of Pittsburgh, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. He was recruited to USC in 2005, where he has been a pediatric surgeon located at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.