

CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY & PREVENTION





POSITION SUMMARY



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The new strategic partnership between Wake Forest School of Medicine and Atrium Health creates an unparalleled opportunity for leading and growing a team of scientists whose research interests focus on clinical, population and health system sciences within a complex, multistate health system. As such, Wake Forest School of Medicine is seeking a national leader as our new Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Prevention.

The department currently has strengths in large, multisite observational studies, randomized clinical trials, epidemiologic methods and health services research. With a new chair and several additional faculty recruitments, we seek to build additional depth in these areas, particularly at the intersection of epidemiology with health disparities and health services research. Accordingly, this opportunity may be uniquely appealing (but not limited) to epidemiologists who apply their expertise to questions addressing health systems and/or health equity.

In collaboration with departmental faculty and division and medical school leadership, the Chair will serve as the key leader responsible for the quality and growth of departmental academic and research programs as the medical school enters this period of unprecedented opportunities. The Chair will demonstrate broad command of the department's core content and methodological areas, exemplary research and academic achievements, strategic leadership ability, strong interpersonal and communication skills, and an entrepreneurial spirit.

The Chair will work with faculty and staff to develop and implement the department's vision; recruit, nurture, and develop high-performing faculty and staff; maintain a collaborative and transparent atmosphere; and work with other leaders to realize the mission of the medical school within the diverse communities of Winston-Salem, Charlotte and the broader population served by the health system.

This position reports to Dr. Lynne Wagenknecht, Director, Division of Public Health Sciences, Wake Forest School of Medicine; and Dr. Julie Freischlag, Chief Executive Officer of Wake Forest Baptist Health and Dean, Wake Forest School of Medicine, and Chief Academic Officer of Atrium Health (see bios below).

DEPARTMENT

Wake Forest's Department of Epidemiology & Prevention is one of four departments comprising the Division of Public Health Sciences (others are Biostatistics and Data Science, Implementation Science, and Social Sciences and Health Policy). Established in 1989, Public Health Sciences consistently ranks in the top 10 for National Institutes of Health funding among national academic medical center peer groups. In the past decade alone, the division has helped generate nearly \$500 million of Wake Forest School of Medicine's research funding. Wake Forest's priority research focus areas include 1) cancer, 2) diabetes, obesity & metabolism, 3) aging and mobility, 4) Alzheimer's Disease, 5) cardiovascular sciences, 6) neurosciences, including pain and addiction, and 7) regenerative medicine. Furthermore, we strive to conduct research across the entire lifespan, and are deeply committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of our work.

The Department jointly sponsors, with other Departments in Public Health Sciences, the Translational and Health System Science Graduate Program.





WAKE FOREST BAPTIST HEALTH



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Wake Forest Baptist Health (www.WakeHealth.edu) is a nationally recognized academic health system in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, with an integrated enterprise including educational and research facilities, hospitals, clinics, diagnostic centers, and other primary and specialty care facilities serving 24 counties in northwest North Carolina and southwest Virginia.

It comprises: a regional clinical system with more than 300 locations, 2,100 physicians and 1,535 acute care beds; Wake Forest School of Medicine; and Wake Forest Innovations, which promotes the commercialization of research discoveries and operates Innovation Quarter, an urban research and business park specializing in biotechnology, materials science and information technology. Wake Forest Baptist's clinical, research and educational programs are consistently ranked among the best in the country.

Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center is the region's only Level I trauma center, renowned for handling the region's most complex medical cases. With clinical expertise in more than 100 specialties including cancer, cardiology, geriatrics, nephrology, neurosciences, orthopaedics, pediatrics and urology, patients from across the country rely on the Medical Center for quality health care and compassionate service. Brenner Children's Hospital is located on the main campus and offers a full range of specialized pediatric services. It was the first Level I pediatric trauma center in North Carolina.

Wake Forest Baptist is a major research and innovation center, making important contributions to biomedical and health science research nationally and internationally. Wake Forest Innovations

commercializes technology, products and services arising from the discoveries and scientific assets of Wake Forest Baptist and Wake Forest University.

This is a time of tremendous growth for our medical school and health system. In October 2020, Wake Forest Baptist Health and Atrium Health officially joined together as a single enterprise. Headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, Atrium Health is an integrated, not-for-profit health care system with over 55,000 teammates at nearly 40 hospitals and hundreds of care locations throughout the Carolinas and Georgia. As part of this new enterprise, Atrium Health has announced \$3.4 billion in planned investments in our health system and the communities we serve. Wake Forest Baptist Health and Wake Forest School of Medicine will become the academic core of Atrium Health, building a second campus of the School of Medicine in Charlotte, North Carolina. The growth of the medical school will expand existing academic research capabilities and opportunities for clinical trials across a large, diverse market with some of the nation's leading medical experts.

With Wake Forest Baptist Health and Wake Forest School of Medicine forming the academic core of the new Atrium Health enterprise, it is additionally committing nearly \$600 million to advance Wake Forest Baptist's academic mission and further elevate its national reputation. Included in this are a new \$150 million academic endowment created to fund additional education and research growth and a \$70 million Academic Enrichment Fund to accelerate academic initiatives. Expansion of educational programs, biomedical research, population health research, clinical trials and life-saving treatments that improve health are also planned.



WAKE FOREST SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



WAKE FOREST SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Wake Forest School of Medicine is recognized as one of America's best medical schools for its innovative, experiential learning curriculum, primary care training, and research programs and is among the top U.S. academic medical centers in total funding from the National Institutes of Health (approximately \$112 million in 2018).

The School of Medicine directs the education of nearly 2,500 students, residents and fellows including physicians, basic scientists and allied clinical professionals, offering MD, PhD and MS degrees, as well as five joint-degree programs. The school's faculty focuses on pioneering breakthroughs in advanced medicine, basic science and leading-edge health care technologies. The school is a leader in driving discoveries.

The major educational venue of Wake Forest School of Medicine – the Bowman Gray Center for Medical Education – is located in the Innovation Quarter, one of the fastest-growing urban-based districts for innovation in the United States. Home to more than 170 companies, five leading academic institutions, more than 3,700 workers, 1,800 degree-seeking students and more than 8,000 workforce trainee participants, the Innovation Quarter is a place for research, business and education in biomedical science, information technology, digital media, clinical services and advanced materials—creating a robust knowledge community.

The Innovation Quarter currently comprises 1.9 million square feet of office, laboratory and educational space on more than 330 acres. There are approximately 770 apartments and condominiums within or close by the Innovation Quarter. The district is a thriving example of successful placemaking—fostering a forward-thinking environment for innovations, partnerships and community to be developed.



On March 24, 2021, Atrium Health and Wake Forest Baptist Health announced the selection of a site for the second campus of Wake Forest School of Medicine.

The two campuses of the Wake Forest School of Medicine will build on the clinical and academic excellence of Atrium Health and the educational and research distinction of Wake Forest Baptist to create a next-generation, academic learning health system.

- Location will be on a 20-acre site in midtown Charlotte.
- As the largest educator of physicians and other medical professionals in the state, the new Atrium Health is already educating nearly 3,200 total learners across more than 100 specialized programs each year.
- It aspires to be one of the most diverse learner bodies in the country – producing a generation of medical professionals representative of the communities it serves. Through this, it will reduce the shortage of doctors working in inner-city, suburban and rural areas of North Carolina.
- The two medical school campuses in Winston-Salem and Charlotte will create a new, preeminent regional corridor for health technology and innovation. Convening the surrounding academic, healthcare, government and business communities, the corridor will focus on improving health by bringing new medicines and treatments to patients in half the time and advancing economic equity.
- Research capabilities will be expanded across a large, diverse market to drive discovery that improves the health of Atrium Health's patients and communities with an emphasis on health equity.
- It will increase national recognition and prominence of Atrium Health and Wake Forest School of Medicine in key areas, including Aging and Mobility, Alzheimer's Disease, Cancer, Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes & Obesity, Pain & Addiction and Regenerative Medicine.
- The new strategic partnership between Wake Forest School of Medicine and Atrium Health creates an unparalleled opportunity for scientists who are interested in research-to-practice translation in partnership with a complex, multi-state health system.



JULIE FREISCHLAG, MD, FACS, FRCSED(HON), DFSVS



Julie A. Freischlag, MD, FACS, FRCSEd(Hon), DFSVS, is the chief executive officer of Wake Forest Baptist Health, dean of Wake Forest School of Medicine, and chief academic officer of Atrium Health Enterprise.

As CEO and dean, she has the overall responsibility for the health system's clinical, academic and innovation enterprises and its annual operating budget of \$3 billion. Previously, Freischlag was vice chancellor for Human Health Sciences and dean of the School of Medicine at UC Davis.

Freischlag has helped to drive change in academic medicine with a deep commitment to diversity and inclusion. For more than 15 years, she has led education and training programs at top medical schools in her role as professor and chair of surgery and vascular surgery departments. Freischlag also has more than 30 years of experience leading patient-care services as chief of surgery or vascular surgery at nationally ranked hospitals. She served as professor, chair of the surgery department and surgeon-in-chief at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. She led initiatives to expand research, add specialty clinical services, improve patient-centered care and patient safety, redesign the surgical training program and enhance academic career paths for faculty.

Her national leadership includes serving as a former governor and secretary of the Board of Governors and a regent and past chair of the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons. She is the past president of the Society for Vascular Surgery and the Society for

Vascular Surgery Foundation, and past president of the Association of VA Surgeons and the Society of Surgical Chairs. Freischlag was the editor of JAMA Surgery for 10 years (2005-2014) and is a member of the editorial boards of the Annals of Vascular Surgery, Journal of the American College of Surgeons and British Journal of Surgery. She was recently named to the JAMA Editorial Board.

She has published more than 250 manuscripts, abstracts and book chapters, primarily addressing the treatment of abdominal aortic aneurysms, carotid artery disease and peripheral vascular disease utilizing outcome data and clinical trials; additionally, she has published on burnout and work-life balance.

Freischlag is an internationally recognized expert in the treatment of thoracic outlet syndrome which can require a specialized surgical procedure. Her present research involves completing assessment of a prospective randomized trial that tracks more than 800 patients from 34 Veterans Affairs Medical Centers across the country to compare outcomes in patients who received either open or endovascular repair of their abdominal aortic aneurysm. Freischlag has received numerous teaching awards, an achievement award from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2015.

Currently, Freischlag serves on the Executive Board Association of Academic Health Centers, the Council of Deans of the Association for American Medical Colleges, Aga Khan University Board of Trustees, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Advisory Board, the University of Illinois Health Advisory Board and the American Hospital Association Changing Workforce Task Force.

Lynne Wagenknecht, DrPH



Lynne E. Wagenknecht, DrPH, Professor and Director, Division of Public Health Sciences, Wake Forest School of Medicine, is a chronic disease epidemiologist with an extensive research portfolio in the epidemiology of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and obesity. She is the Principal Investigator of various grants and contracts funded by the NIH and the CDC.

Dr. Wagenknecht is the Principal Investigator of the ARIC (Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities) Study, a cohort study of atherosclerosis and its risk factors funded for more than 30 years. She is the Principal Investigator of the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Study which has tracked the incidence of type 1 and type 2 diabetes in children and adolescents since the early 2000s. Dr. Wagenknecht is Co-Principal Investigator of the Look AHEAD (Action for Health in Diabetes) Study, a lifestyle intervention trial aimed to reduce heart disease outcomes in persons with overweight or obesity and type 2 diabetes. Dr. Wagenknecht is an Associate Director in the Wake Forest Clinical Translational Science Institute which oversees the research infrastructure of the enterprise. She is a mentor to early career faculty and received the Wake Forest School of Medicine Mentoring Award in 2013. Finally,

Dr. Wagenknecht completed a fellowship in the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program for Women, Drexel University College of Medicine, in 2009.

Kevin P. High, MD, MS



Kevin P. High, MD, MS, is president of the Wake Forest Baptist Health system. As president, High is responsible for all aspects of the health system's clinical administrative enterprise, Wake Forest Baptist Health, and overseeing operations, facilities, budget and clinical faculty/staff.

Dr. High joined Wake Forest Baptist in 1993 and has served in a variety of administrative, academic and research positions. Prior to being named to the system-wide position, High was Tinsley R. Harrison professor and chair of the Department of Internal Medicine.

Dr. High is an accomplished clinician/scientist in the field of infection and immunity in older adults. He is currently principal investigator of two grants from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and a member of the NIA Council. His efforts to integrate geriatrics into the subspecialties of internal medicine and develop junior faculty with an aging research focus have earned High national recognition. His research emphasizes translation of mechanisms into new treatment options and the clinical relevance of immune senescence (the waning of immune function with age). His work has been published in *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Aging Cell*, *Blood*, *Clinical Infectious Diseases* and *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*.

Dr. High received his medical training at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, where he also completed residency training. His infectious diseases fellowship was at Yale University School of Medicine, and he obtained a master's degree in epidemiology from Wake Forest University.



WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA



WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

Located in Forsyth County, Winston-Salem (population approximately 376,000) is part of the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina (Winston- Salem, Greensboro, High Point; total population approximately 1.7 million). Winston-Salem is the state's fifth largest city, featuring a moderate climate with all four seasons and a cost of living 19% below the national average. The nation's much-loved Blue Ridge Mountains and Parkway are a one-to-two-hour drive to the north and west, and the foothills extend to Winston-Salem, providing outstanding local hiking, biking and other outdoor activities. North Carolina's beaches are approximately four hours east, close enough to enjoy during long weekends.

Winston-Salem is a region on an upward trajectory that still maintains its Southern roots. Although the city is traditionally Southern in its friendliness, it has an international feel. The metro area celebrates its diversity during an array of festivals and through a variety of cuisines. You'll find a multitude of restaurants serving everything from traditional North Carolina barbecue to Indian curries and Greek pastries, a thriving community of microbreweries and 42 wineries in the area.

Winston-Salem's steady growth has preserved the region's small-town feel while allowing for improvements, such as repurposing old textile and tobacco factories into modern offices and loft apartments. Due to heavy interest in residential and corporate development, the region has become a fertile land for entrepreneurs and small businesses.

As home to the first Arts Council in the United States and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Winston-Salem paved the way for public-private support of the arts, and created the model for arts councils nationwide. Our numerous galleries, performing arts groups, theaters, collectives and collections continue to attract and appeal to arts lovers worldwide.



For more information on Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, please visit: www.visitwinstonsalem.com, www.winstonsalem.com, and www.co.forsyth.nc.us

REQUIREMENTS

The successful candidate will be a well-established scholar with a national reputation, a strong record of external funding, and a demonstrated commitment to working with, and growing, an interdisciplinary and diverse faculty with a proven ability to foster the research and educational mission of the department.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Ph.D. or M.D. with a strong grounding in epidemiological methods and demonstrated experience and achievement in academic administrative leadership
- A strong track record of scholarly achievement in epidemiology with (or without) a focus on health services research
- A strong history of and current research funding
- A vision for the next phase of population health research towards emerging areas and opportunities such as big data, administrative data, learning health systems, pragmatic trials, patient-centered outcomes, real-world evidence, comparative effectiveness research, and pharmacoepidemiology
- Collaborative skills are essential
- Ability to strategically recruit, expand and develop a diverse and cohesive faculty body, fostering a sense of community and collaboration
- Proven successful track record as a mentor for faculty
- Entrepreneurial, with the proven ability to work creatively to help ensure team members are funded and have access to the resources they need for success
- Proven capabilities in growing a department, recruiting faculty, and supporting and/or developing training programs
- Exceptional advocacy and influencing skills, with the ability to represent and market the department, team, and resources across the academic and clinical enterprises

COMPENSATION

The successful applicant will receive a competitive compensation package at a level commensurate with experience and academic achievement, including an attractive salary, comprehensive benefits and relocation assistance.

TO APPLY FOR THIS POSITION PLEASE CONTACT

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