

Robert Erra appointed Director of Hospital and Clinics and Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

May 4, 1982

Robert J. Erra, senior vice president of the Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, has been appointed Director of Hospital and Clinics and Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences at the University of California, San Diego.

The appointment, which is effective June 7, was announced by UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson. The appointment must be approved by the UC Board of Regents at its May 21 meeting in Los Angeles.

In his new capacity, Mr. Erra is responsible for all hospital activities. As associate vice chancellor, he will report to Dr. Robert G. Petersdorf, vice chancellor for health sciences and dean of the school of medicine, on hospital clinical activities. As director of hospital and clinics, Erra will report to the chancellor through the vice chancellor for health sciences on financial and management matters.

The joint appointment was made to enhance coordination between the school of medicine and UCSD's teaching hospital.

Erra replaces Sheldon King who left the position of director of hospital and clinics November 1, 1981, for a similar position at Stanford University. Vincent Wayne, deputy director, has served as acting director of hospital and clinics for the past six months.

Chancellor Atkinson said that Erra was selected after an extensive national search. "Mr. Erra has been a major factor in the development of Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation as an outstanding research and clinical center. His concern for quality patient care and his strong background in health care financing will be especially important to UCSD in this period of financial uncertainty," Atkinson said.

Petersdorf said that Erra's extensive financial experience and his exceptional accomplishments at Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation were the major reasons for his selection.

"Mr. Erra's outstanding skills in budgeting, finance and business management are essential to the successful operation of a modern, complex teaching hospital," Petersdorf said. "The University is fortunate to have secured the services of a man of Mr. Erra's talents and I look forward to working with him."

Erra, who lives in La Jolla, has served as the chief financial and business officer at Scripps Clinic for the past seven years. He joined the Scripps Clinic staff in 1974 as director of fiscal services and assistant treasurer. Two and a half years later he was named vice president for finance and assistant treasurer and in February 1981 he was named senior vice president, director of finance and business and assistant treasurer.

He is a member of the president's operating committee and long range planning committee at the Clinic and serves as a member and secretary of the Clinical Board of Governors.

His background includes 11 years experience in many areas of health care management. He served as controller for Cornell University Medical College where he worked with faculty in their administrative and clinical

roles at the New York Hospital. Erra received a B.A. degree from Pace University in New York City and did graduate work at New York University.

He has served as a consultant to the University of Vermont, Tufts University, City University of New York, Meharry Medical College, California College of Podiatric Medicine, and other institutions.

Erra is a member of the Hospital Financial Management Association, Corporate Financial Council of San Diego. He is a past member of the Group on Business Affairs, Association of American Medical Colleges, National Association of College and University Business Officers.

For more information contact: Paul W. West, 452-3120

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