

John Moxley resigned as Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences and Dean of School of Medicine

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John H. Moxley, III, M.D., has resigned from his duties as the Vice-Chancellor for Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine at UC San Diego, following a one-year leave of absence from the University, to carry on his post as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. Moxley will retain his UCSD faculty position.

Moxley said that the decision to leave his administrative post at the University was a difficult one. In view of an unstable world situation, which has required a greater demand of his efforts in the Department of Defense, he feels that he should remain in Washington to complete his Pentagon tasks.

Moxley, 45, came to UC San Diego in 1973, only five years after the School of Medicine was founded. During his administration the school has more than doubled in size, student population, and medical affiliations. The school also attained national prominence during his administration, and now attracts one of the largest amounts of research funding awarded to a United States medical school.

Moxley was instrumental in securing close to \$30 million in federal, state, and local funds for expansion of the School of Medicine in La Jolla, and the UC San Diego Medical Center in Hillcrest. He oversaw the phased development of the school, opening two major teaching facilities, the Clinical Teaching Facility at the hospital and the Medical Teaching Facility on the La Jolla campus. Moxley also spearheaded the development of the Theodore Gildred Cancer Center and established a University of California Organized Research Unit, which is an umbrella for all UCSD cancer programs.

In 1979, Moxley helped obtain a ten-year accreditation for the School of Medicine, the maximum period of accreditation granted by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education.

Moxley has also been responsible for the establishment of a cooperative relationship between the School of Medicine and the San Diego medical community.

UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson said, "Dr. Moxley's resignation as Dean of the Medical School is a real loss to the University. Dr. Moxley is one of the top medical deans in the country and has been instrumental in building the Medical School's international reputation. While I regret his decision, I understand the importance of his work to the nation and wish him continued success in Washington."

A graduate of Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, Moxley attended the University of Colorado School of Medicine graduating in 1961.

Within two years of graduation, he pursued a lasting research and clinical interest in lymphatic tumors, Hodgkin's Disease, and leukemia, joining the National Cancer Institute as a clinical Associate and member of the Lymphoma Task Force, Moxley served as a staff member on President Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Health Manpower, and chaired a blue-ribbon panel review of all nonprescription drugs marketed in the United States for the Food and Drug Administration. This undertaking earned him a special citation from the commissioner of the FDA in 1977.

His government service also includes membership on the National Institutes of Health Construction of Schools of Medicine Review Committee, and consultant positions with the Bureau of Health Resources Development, and the National Advisory Council on Health Professions Education.

From 1966 to 1969, Moxley was Instructor in Medicine, and Assistant to the Dean of the Harvard Medical School, leaving there to become Dean of the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He was then 34, and the youngest medical school dean in the United States.

As Assistant Secretary, Moxley is responsible for all Department of Defense health research, health programs and military hospitals in the United States and abroad. His office oversees the government's multimillion-dollar health services for military dependents. He also has been empowered to design a national mobilization plan, ensuring that medical care will be available for both civilian and military populations in the event of a war within the United States' borders, or overseas.

In a Special Report, which appeared in The New England Journal of Medicine, August 14, 1980, Moxley detailed his efforts in determining and strengthening the Department of Defense Health Affairs Programs, and cited a variety of problems concerning military shortages in physician manpower, professional and clerical support staff, and equipment and supplies. He also indicated a need for upgrading medical facilities, and addressed the problem of the "isolated specialist," calling for more continuing education programs for military physicians.

Moxley also gave an overview of the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS). CHAMPUS is a mechanism for supplying health care in the form of a benefits financial assistance program to the dependents of those on active duty, and to retirees and their dependents. Moxley said that although the program has suffered from a scarcity of resources and rampant inflation, his office is making improvements in the number of benefits the plan provides.

Moxley has also held key positions in national, state, and local medical associations. Currently he heads the California Medical Association's (CMA) Scientific Board, which establishes the educational, scientific, and legislative policies of the CMA, the second largest medical association in the United States.

Locally, Moxley is a member of the San Diego County Medical Society, the San Diego Rotary Club, and the Chamber of Commerce.

For more information contact: Gail Snow, 452-3714

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