Memo

From: Dean Chris Larsen
Date: August 19, 2013

I am pleased to announce that Lance Waller, PhD, Rollins Professor and chair of the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, will serve as interim chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics (BMI) in Emory School of Medicine and interim director of Emory's Center for Comprehensive Informatics (CCI).

Lance replaces Joel Saltz, MD, PhD, chair of the BMI Department in Emory School of Medicine and director and founder of the CCI. Dr. Saltz will join Stony Brook University as the inaugural Cherith Professor and Founding Chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics. In addition, he will hold joint appointments in the Departments of Pathology and Computer Sciences, and serve as Vice President for Informatics of Stony Brook Medicine as well as Associate Director for Informatics of the Stony Brook Cancer Center. Joel will begin at Stony Brook on September 1, 2013.

Along with these appointments, Lance will continue to serve as chair of our Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics. He joined Emory in 1998 as associate professor of biostatistics and was promoted to professor in 2003. That same year he was elected as a fellow in the American Statistical Association. He was named chair of the department in 2009.
Lance has worked closely with Joel as they have established and built these important initiatives at Emory, along with key contacts on national and international levels. These departments also have played an important role in grant renewals for ACTSI and the Emory Center for AIDS Research.

Joel will continue to collaborate with Emory investigators on biomedical informatics initiatives, and I wish him the best in his new endeavor.

I am very proud of the work Lance has done to establish biostatistics and bioinformatics as a leading discipline in our school, and I am fully supportive of his continued work with BMI and CCI as Emory seeks to expand and integrate these essential programs throughout the university.

Please join me in offering your congratulations on these appointments.