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Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 11:14 AM
To: UCSD Health Sciences Communications
Subject: VC Message: New Department of Urology – UC San Diego School of Medicine

This message is sent on behalf of Dr. David Brenner, Vice Chancellor, UC San Diego Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine, to UC San Diego Health Sciences Faculty and Staff.

The division of urology within the Department of Surgery has undergone substantial growth since 2007, adding subspecialty programs in infertility and andrology, urinary stone disease and endourology, as well as reconstructive urology to its already notable specialties that include urologic oncology, women's pelvic medicine and pediatric urology. The research productivity and quality of the group has significantly increased, as have educational programs. Clinical and surgical volume and revenue have grown annually since 2008 at an average of 9 percent per year.

Because of urology's expansion and quality and because of the independence of the specialty nationally, I am pleased to announce that the division has been granted department status. The new Department of Urology in the School of Medicine will be led by an interim chair, Christopher J. Kane, MD.

UC San Diego Urology patented the only FDA-approved oral therapy for interstitial cystitis/painful bladder syndrome and was among the first in the nation to report a single-incision laparoscopic radical nephrectomy. It was the first in San Diego to offer MRI-guided prostate biopsy and is working with Human Longevity Inc. to perform whole genome sequencing of surgical pathology material from 200 UC San Diego Health patients with prostate cancer who have known outcomes and follow-up. Urologists in the department lead large national clinical trials in urinary incontinence surgery and prostate cancer vaccines. Urology researchers lead bone metastases research efforts that have led to novel human metastatic cancer cell lines and tumor models that are leading to research to prevent and treat metastatic prostate cancer.

Its educational programs are regarded among the best in the country, with a highly sought after urology residency program, as well as fellowship programs in urologic oncology, endourology and pediatric urology. The team has expanded the urology residency program to three residents per year. Last year, it had 230 applicants for those three spots. In 2016, Urology was ranked No. 25 in the country by *US News & World Report*, the third consecutive year in the top 25.

Under Dr. Kane, the Department of Urology, with 14 adult urology faculty and five pediatric urology faculty, will generate the highest quality urologic care, research and education in each subspecialty domain of urology so that patients from our community no longer need to travel outside of San Diego for top tier urologic subspecialty care.

Dr. Kane was appointed the inaugural holder of the Joseph D. Schmidt, MD Presidential Chair in Urology in the School of Medicine in 2015. He is a professor of urology and

chair of the Department of Urology at UC San Diego Health. He performs more than 200 robotic cancer surgeries per year and is highly experienced in nerve sparing robotic prostatectomies, robotic radical cystectomy for bladder cancer and robotic partial nephrectomy for kidney cancer.

Dr. Kane has authored more than 270 peer-reviewed research articles with a focus on prostate cancer risk factors and outcomes, prostate cancer surgery and minimally invasive surgery for prostate and kidney cancer. He serves on the editorial boards of several major urology journals as well as the National Comprehensive Cancer Network Prostate Cancer Management Guidelines Committee and is an elected member of the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons. He previously co-chaired the National Cancer Institute's Renal Cell Carcinoma Advisory Task Force.

Prior to joining UC San Diego Health, Dr. Kane held leadership positions at UC San Francisco and the Naval Medical Center San Diego. He completed his residency at the Naval Medical Center in Oakland. Dr. Kane received his medical degree from Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md. A retired Navy Captain and a decorated veteran of Desert Storm, he is board-certified in urology.

Please join me in congratulating the Department of Urology and Dr. Kane in the extraordinary effort to increase the visibility of UC San Diego's educational and research programs as well as the continued delivery of compassionate, quality urologic care to our patients.