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FIU College of Medicine hires first executive associate dean of student affairs

Miami (May 14, 2007) – Dr. Sanford Markham has joined Florida International University's College Medicine as executive associate dean of student affairs, which oversees areas such as financial aid and student advising.

Markham, former dean of student affairs at the University of Iowa's College of Medicine, has over 40 years of experience as a researcher and administrator at institutions such as the U.S. Air Force, Georgetown University and Johns Hopkins University.

"Sandy's experience will be invaluable to our executive team as we continue to build the College," said Dr. John A. Rock, FIU's executive vice president for Medical Affairs and College of Medicine dean. "He has been working very closely with me in the current ramp up phase, and will be instrumental in day-to-day operations."

Markham, an obstetrician and gynecologist, earned his bachelors degree at the University of Kansas and went on to obtain his medical degree at the same institution. He did his residency at the New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center and then completed a fellowship in reproductive endocrinology at Columbia University.

Before joining the University of Iowa as director of the clinical clerkship, Markham, 72, was chairman of the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics from 1995 to 1999 at The Johns Hopkins University. From 1990 to 1995, he was vice-chairman at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Georgetown University Medical Center.

Some of Markham´s responsibilities at FIU´s College of Medicine include ensuring that the basic science and clinical departments maintain a curriculum that is in line with accreditation requirements; overseeing the orientation of incoming students; disciplinary actions; and financial aid, among other responsibilities.

The College of Medicine was approved in 2006 by the Florida Board of Governors and the Florida Legislature. Officials hope to start classes in 2009 pending provisional accreditation by the LCME. The College's mission is to provide high-quality and affordable medical education and to train culturally sensitive physicians.

"I thrive in helping shape students who are at the beginning of their training," Markham said. "I am very thankful for this opportunity to contribute." Markham lives in Coral Gables with his wife Ruth Markham and is a father of two; Elizabeth McLanahan of New York and Charles Markham, who currently resides in Washington, DC.

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