



Immediate Release

Contact:

Jennifer Baldino Bonett

302-327-3351

jbaldinobonett@christianacare.org

Christiana Care Health System Announces New Leadership Appointments in External Affairs and the Learning Institute

(WILMINGTON, Del., Nov. 9, 2015) — Christiana Care Health System has announced the following leadership appointments to advance the organization’s strategic aims and academic mission. **Staci L. Vernick** has been promoted to chief External Affairs officer and senior vice president. **Neil Jasani, M.D., MBA, FACEP**, has been named chief learning officer of Christiana Care’s Learning Institute.

In announcing the appointments, President and CEO Janice E. Nevin, M.D., MPH, said, “Elevating our brand promise and engaging our diverse community of stakeholders in our academic mission help us to achieve our goals of optimal health, exceptional experience and organizational vitality.”

Staci Vernick joined Christiana Care in 2013 as vice president of communications in the External Affairs Department. She has been responsible for strategic communications planning and oversight of all External Affairs functions and programs, including marketing, media relations, digital communications and social media, website, publications, government relations, internal communications, fundraising support and community outreach.

Prior to joining Christiana Care, Vernick led strategic communications, public relations, marketing and fundraising support at several of the most respected institutions in health care and science. She was director of communications and public relations for The Wistar Institute, an independent biomedical research institute specializing in cancer research and vaccine development; the American Association for Cancer Research; and the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center, the children’s hospital of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions.

Vernick serves on the boards of directors of The Grand Opera House in Wilmington and Bartram’s Garden in Philadelphia. A former reporter for the Associated Press, she earned her bachelor’s degree in journalism and political science from the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Jasani, also chief academic officer and vice president of Medical Affairs, brings innovation to the health system's academic mission. He will retain these roles and continue to serve as the designated institutional official for graduate medical education.

Dr. Jasani is an associate professor of emergency medicine at Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

He has an extensive background in graduate medical education, having been Christiana Care's program director for emergency medicine since 2007 and assistant program director from 1992 to 2007. He is a national leader in quality and safety, serving as an independent examiner for the renowned Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

Dr. Jasani graduated from Georgetown University School of Medicine and completed his emergency medicine residency at Christiana Care in 1990. He received a physician executive MBA from the College of Business Administration, University of Tennessee.

He has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications and presentations.

About Christiana Care Health System

Christiana Care Health System is one of the country's largest health care systems, ranking as the 22nd leading hospital in the nation and 12th on the East Coast in terms of admissions. The health system includes The Medical Group of Christiana Care, a network of primary care physicians, medical and surgical specialists as well as home health care, preventive medicine, rehabilitation services and patient/family advisors for core health care services. A not-for-profit teaching hospital affiliated with Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University, Christiana Care is recognized as a regional center for excellence in cardiology, cancer and women's health services. Christiana Care has an extensive range of outpatient services, and through Christiana Care Quality Partners, Christiana Care works closely with its medical staff to achieve better health, better access to care and lower cost. Christiana Care is home to Delaware's only Level I trauma center, the highest capability center and the only one of its kind between Philadelphia and Baltimore. Christiana Care also features a Level III neonatal intensive care unit, the only delivering hospital in Delaware that offers this highest level of care to the most critically ill newborns. Christiana Care includes two hospitals with 1,100 patient beds. For more information about Christiana Care, visit www.christianacare.org/howeare.

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