

Dear School of Medicine Community,

I am pleased to announce the appointment of [Jayanta Debnath, MD](#), as the new chair of the UCSF Department of Pathology, effective July 1, 2018.



Dr. Debnath is a Professor in the Department of Pathology at UCSF and serves on the Faculty Diversity Committee, which aims to ensure diversity and community building among our basic science departments and graduate programs.

Since joining UCSF in 2005, he has led an internationally recognized basic research laboratory focused on autophagy, a pathway of cellular recycling, and served as an Attending Pathologist on the autopsy service at UCSF Medical Center. In 2016, Dr. Debnath was appointed Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Pathology.

Dr. Debnath earned his MD from Harvard Medical School, magna cum laude, and subsequently completed his residency training in pathology at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Dr. Debnath is Board Certified in Anatomic Pathology. He is a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation.

Outside of UCSF, he serves as an Associate Editor for the journal *Autophagy*, the leading specialist journal in the field, Chair of the NIH Tumor Cell Biology Study Section, and on the Editorial Board of *Annual Reviews of Pathology: Mechanisms of Disease*, one of the premier review series in experimental pathology. Dr. Debnath is also widely known for his expertise in breast cancer research and serves as Chair of the Integration Panel for the DOD Breast Cancer Research Program, which oversees the second largest source of extramural grant funding for breast cancer research in the US. His bibliography comprises more than 90 publications.

Dr. Debnath's vision and leadership will enhance emerging institutional efforts in genomic and precision medicine to build a forward-thinking academic pathology department with an international reputation for cutting-edge research. I know he will work tirelessly to leverage the department's existing strengths in research and clinical care, both within the department itself and UCSF as a whole.

In closing, I want to also express my deep appreciation to [Dr. Abul Abbas](#), for his 19 year chairmanship of the department. Under his leadership, the department flourished as both a rigorous basic research program focused on the mechanisms of disease, and a devoted clinical enterprise committed to the outstanding practice of anatomic and clinical pathology.

I would also like to thank the search committee, chaired by Dr. Clifford Lowell, for their work in considering an exceptional pool of candidates from across the country for this position.

Sincerely,
Talmadge E. King, Jr., MD
Dean, School of Medicine