



CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER JOHN CHIANG

NEWS RELEASE

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Treasurer John Chiang Appoints Deborah Deas To Stem Cell Oversight Panel

Physician Is Dean Of The UC Riverside School Of Medicine

SACRAMENTO – State Treasurer John Chiang today appointed Dr. Deborah Deas MD.MPH to the governing board of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

Dr. Deas in May became dean of the UC Riverside School of Medicine as well as the school's chief executive officer for clinical affairs. She is the first member of the institute's 29-person board from the Inland Empire region of Southern California.

The institute, created by voters in 2004, funds stem cell research with the goal of finding cures for serious illnesses.

"Dr. Deas has a passion to improve the health of underserved populations and to diversify the health care work force in the field of stem cell research," said Chiang. "She wants to ensure benefits are available to all Californians."

Dr. Deas was raised on a farm in Charleston County, S.C., where she developed a strong commitment to medicine. She earned a bachelor's of science degree from the College of Charleston in 1976, a master's of public health from the University of South Carolina in 1978 and a medical doctorate from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1989.

She is board certified in adult, child-adolescent and addiction psychiatry. Her research focuses on substance abuse treatment, anxiety disorders and depression. She has a particular interest in youth binge drinking, teenage nicotine dependence, marijuana use and panic disorder.

Prior to coming to UC Riverside, Dr. Deas served as interim dean and professor of psychiatry at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Dr. Deas is eager to put her nearly 30 years of clinical, administrative and research experience to work advancing the mission of the institute and helping Californians to live healthier lives.

“Stem cell research holds tremendous promise for new treatments for a variety of serious diseases, including cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease,” she said. “I am particularly honored to contribute to CIRM’s public mission to help patients with these unmet medical needs.”

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