

has served on advisory groups for the NIH and for various professional societies. He was a Harry Weaver Neuroscience Scholar, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, from 1982 to 1987 and is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society and several professional societies.

- John D. Loeser, MD, professor of neurological surgery and anesthesiology at the University of Washington School of Medicine. A faculty member there since 1969, he directed the university's Multidisciplinary Pain Center from 1983 to 1997 and served 5 years as assistant dean for curriculum. He is the author of more than 100 original papers, contributor to nearly 100 book chapters, and author and/or editor of 5 books on pain and the human nervous system. Dr. Loeser is a past president of the American Pain Society and the International Association for the Study of Pain. He was a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Australia (1989–1990) and received the University of Washington Medical School Award for Teaching Excellence and the Distin-

guished Service Award from the American Pain Society. He received his undergraduate degree (magna cum laude) from Harvard University and his medical degree from the New York University Medical School.

- Prisca Chen Marvin, JD, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Alliance for Autism Research, a non-profit advocacy group dedicated to funding and accelerating biomedical research focusing on autism spectrum disorders. She also chairs its Government Relations Committee. She is a 1988 graduate of the Georgetown University Law Center and received her undergraduate degree in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. A registered patent attorney with specialization in chemical patents, Ms. Marvin was an associate with firms in Wilmington, Delaware, and Washington, DC. She is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the American Intellectual Property Law Association, as well as the autism parent community.

- David Van Essen, PhD, head of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology at Washington University School of Medicine and the Edison Professor of Neurobiology. His research interests include information processing in the primate visual system and computerized mapping of the mammalian cerebral cortex. He received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology and his doctorate from Harvard Medical School. He has been a leader in two major professional societies and is a member of several advisory boards. Dr. Van Essen is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and has received teaching excellence awards from the California Institute of Technology and Washington University School of Medicine. He has written more than 140 peer-reviewed articles and invited publications. He has held editorial responsibilities for several scientific publications and is currently on the editorial board of the *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*.

## Robert Rich, MD, Named UAB Vice President and Dean, School of Medicine

Robert R. Rich, MD, has been named vice president and dean of the School of Medicine of the University of Alabama, Birmingham (UAB) effective October 1, 2004. Dr. Rich was formerly executive dean for research and strategic initiatives at Emory University School of Medicine.

Rich joined Emory in 1998. He was responsible for clinical and basic science research programs at the medical school and guided the unfolding of the school's new strategic plan for research. Since he joined, the School of Medicine's research funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has increased dramatically. For fiscal year (FY) 2003, Emory received more than \$158 million from the NIH—nearly double the amount when Rich arrived. UAB received more than \$208 million in FY 2003.

Prior to joining Emory, Rich spent 25 years at Baylor College of Medicine in

Houston, where he rose through the ranks to become vice president and dean of research.

The author of more than 200 scientific writings, Rich's research has focused on the biology and genetics of T-cell function, particularly on interactions between antigens and major histocompatibility complex molecules.

Rich received a bachelor of arts magna cum laude from Oberlin College and his medical degree in his home state of Kansas from the University of Kansas Medical School. He completed graduate medical training at the University of Washington, clinical and research fellowships at the NIH, and a clinical fellowship in allergy and immunology at Harvard Medical School. Since joining the Baylor faculty in 1973, he has held a number of administrative and leadership positions.

In addition, Rich has served as a science policy advisor to the NIH and the Association of American Medical Colleges. He has served on the boards of directors of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology (past chairman) and the American Board of Internal Medicine and, most recently, was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology. He chaired the National Research Committee of the Arthritis Foundation and the Research Programs Advisory Committee of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. He is past-president of the Clinical Immunology Society.

Rich follows William P. Deal, MD, who has served as dean of medicine at UAB since 1997 and announced his plans last year to return to the faculty when a successor was named.