



News Release

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Federation of State Medical Boards Names Vice President for Professional Affairs

DALLAS—The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) announced it has named David Watt, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.A., as the FSMB’s new vice president for Professional Affairs. A Portland, Ore., anesthesiologist, Dr. Watt is currently chair of the Oregon Board of Medical Examiners.

In this newly created position, Dr. Watt will lead implementation of a research program that will help shape policy development by leveraging the FSMB’s unique access to physician data. He will promote the FSMB’s physician competency and quality initiatives by enhancing strategic relationships with key constituents in the health care and government communities.

“We are very pleased to have someone of Dr. Watt’s caliber join the FSMB,” said James N. Thompson, M.D., president and CEO of the FSMB. “He brings an unusual combination of public administrative and health care experience to this position, including state medical board leadership experience, expertise in policy development and many years of clinical experience.”

Appointed by the governor of Oregon to the state's Board of Medical Examiners in 2004, Dr. Watt was elected vice chair of the board in 2006 and chair in January 2007. He has chaired the board's Investigative Committee and currently serves on its Legislative and Administrative committees, and as liaison to the board's Acupuncture Advisory Council. In 2005-06, Dr. Watt served on the FSMB's Bylaws Committee, which is responsible for reviewing and recommending revisions to the organization's bylaws.

Long active in the Oregon medical community, Dr. Watt is currently a member of the board of trustees of the Oregon Medical Association (OMA). Previously, he chaired the OMA's Reference Committee and also served on its Professionalism Task Force. Dr. Watt served as president of the Medical Society of Metropolitan Portland in 2005 and currently serves on the organization's board of trustees.

Dr. Watt has been a staff anesthesiologist with Kaiser Permanente for more than two decades, most recently with Kaiser Permanente Northwest in Portland. During his tenure with Kaiser, he has served as chief of the Anesthesiology Department for Bess Kaiser Medical Center; physician director for the Department of Provider Contracts and Relations; a member of the Credentials and Privileging Committee; and as vice chair of Kaiser's National Product Council.

Dr. Watt received his medical degree in 1982 from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, John A. Burns School of Medicine, and a Ph.D. in physiology in 1979, also from John A. Burns School of Medicine. He was a resident in internal medicine at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, Santa Barbara, Calif., and completed his residency in anesthesiology at Loma Linda Medical Center, Loma Linda, Calif. In 1990, he received a master of Public Administration in Health Care Delivery Systems from the University of San Francisco.

The FSMB is a national not-for-profit organization representing the 70 medical boards of the United States and its territories. The FSMB's mission is to continuously improve the quality, safety and integrity of health care by developing and promoting high standards

for physician licensure and practice. For more information, visit the FSMB's website at www.fsmb.org.