

For Immediate Release



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Dr. José López Named Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) for Bloodworks Research Institute

Bloodworks selects eminent scientist to shape future of 75-year-old Research Institute

SEATTLE, WA – Bloodworks Northwest announced today it has named Dr. José López as Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) for its Research Institute. Dr. López is an internationally recognized leader in hemostasis and thrombosis and a Principal Investigator at Bloodworks since 2006. Dr. López also holds an appointment as a Professor of Medicine/Hematology at the UW School of Medicine. In his new position, Dr. López will assume lead roles in growing Bloodworks' Research Institute, recruiting new principal investigators and ensuring that the Research Institute continues to generate innovative and impactful science. Dr. Lopez' appointment will expand and enhance decades of research and discoveries by Bloodworks that has transformed, and continue to transform, patient care.

Dr. López succeeds Dr. Barbara Konkle, distinguished Associate CSO at Bloodworks who was appointed interim CSO in 2019. Dr. Konkle is a leading expert in the area of clinical and translational research in disorders of hemostasis, including hemophilia and von Willebrand Disease (VWD), holds an appointment as Professor of Medicine/Hematology at the UW School of Medicine, and sees patients at the Washington Center for Bleeding Disorders. She is board-certified in Internal Medicine, Oncology and Hematology. She has longstanding interests in the genetic diagnosis of hemostatic disorders, novel therapies for patients, including gene therapy, and outcomes in patients with bleeding disorders, notably women and older patients. Her work has led to advances and improved outcomes for patients with hemophilia, VWD and other disorders.

Dr. Konkle led the Research Institute through the installation of a new CEO, overseeing the initiation of new partnerships and achieving the highest per-investigator funding in nearly a decade. Dr. Konkle will remain at Bloodworks as Associate CSO, a position she has held since 2016, where she will oversee clinical research and ensure the translation of research advances to improve diagnosis and treatment of bleeding and clotting disorders. Acclaimed for her work in bleeding disorders, Dr. Konkle is a member of the Board of Directors of the World Federation of Hemophilia, past Chair of the Board of Directors for the American Thrombosis & Hemostasis Network, and founding Board member of the Foundation for Women and Girls with Blood Disorders.

"Dr. López is uniquely suited as both an eminent scientist, one who recruited and mentored most of our investigators, and as someone who understands how to build successful research programs," said Curt Bailey, Bloodworks Northwest President and CEO. "As a researcher, Dr. López has been an essential part of propelling our mission of saving lives forward. With his new role, I'm confident we'll see even swifter

movement in all areas surrounding the Research Institute's growth, which means greater opportunities for finding cures and improving patient care for all of humanity."

Scientific discovery has been a part of Bloodworks since its inception in 1944 and it remains an inseparable aspect of nonprofit's identity and impact. That commitment continues today with a staff of scientists, whose specialized labs are working to better the lives of patients near and far. The Bloodworks Research Institute has contributed important advances in extended blood storage, transfusion and transplantation medicine, and treatment for people with bleeding and clotting disorders. Bloodworks Research Institute is one of only four organizations that collects, processes, distributes, stores, and researches blood. In 2020, Bloodworks Research was awarded four National Institute of Health (RO1) awards.

Dr. López is a native of New Mexico, where he attended college and medical school before moving to Seattle for residency, specialty training in Hematology, and laboratory training in Biochemistry at the University of Washington. Dr. López' first faculty position was with the Gladstone Institute for Cardiovascular Disease and the University of California, San Francisco, after which he moved to the Baylor College of Medicine, where he rose in the academic ranks to Professor of Medicine and Vice-Chair of Medicine for Research. In 2006, he was recruited back to Seattle to head the research program at Bloodworks Northwest as Executive Vice-President for Research for 10 years, stepping down in 2016 to focus his energy and expertise on research. Throughout his career, his research has focused on the mechanisms of platelet attachment to injured and normal blood vessels, and the diseases that involve this process, which include bleeding diseases such as von Willebrand disease and clotting diseases such as thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura, heart attack, and stroke. His research program has received continuous NIH funding since he established his laboratory. Dr. López currently serves as Associate Editor for the journal *Blood* and just finished a term on the Council (governing body) of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis. He also currently serves on the Council for the Center of Scientific Review of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and on the Board of Scientific Counselors, also at NIH. Dr. López is Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington and is Adjunct Professor in the Departments of Biochemistry, Mechanical Engineering, and Pathology. Dr. López was awarded the 2018 American Society of Hematologists Award for Leadership in Promoting Diversity for his work towards diversity and inclusiveness in hematology. In 2019, Dr. López was awarded an R35 Outstanding Investigator grant from the National Institutes of Health entitled, "Molecular and Translational Studies in Hematologic Disorders".

About Bloodworks Northwest – Bloodworks Northwest is backed by 75 years of Northwest history and 250,000 donors. It is local, nonprofit, independent, volunteer-supported and community-based. A recognized leader in transfusion medicine, Bloodworks serves patients at hospitals in Washington, Oregon and Alaska — partnering closely with local hospitals to deliver the highest level of patient care. Comprehensive services include blood components, complex cross-matching, specialized lab services for organ transplants, care for patients with blood disorders, and collection of cord blood stem cells for cancer treatment. Bloodworks Research Institute performs leading-edge research in blood biology, bleeding and clotting, transfusion medicine, blood storage and treatment of blood disorders. Patients with traumatic injuries, undergoing surgeries or organ transplantation, or receiving treatment for cancer and blood disorders all depend on our services, expertise, laboratories and research. Blood donation appointments can be scheduled at bloodworksnw.org.