Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief
Stony Brook Children’s Hospital
Stony Brook, NY

Position Specification

November 2014
Summary

The Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief and Chief, Division of Pediatric Surgery is a new senior leadership role for Stony Brook Children’s Hospital. Created to establish a strong leadership presence for the Children’s Hospital, the Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief will play a strategic and substantive role in planning for new faculty, facilities and services for the Children’s Hospital whose new building will open in 2016. Since the establishment in 2010 of Stony Brook Children’s as the only tertiary care pediatric hospital in Suffolk County, the development and growth of pediatric programs has been extraordinary.

Located on the 1,100 acre campus of Stony Brook University, Stony Brook Children’s Hospital, the School of Medicine and Stony Brook University Hospital create a powerful nucleus of clinical care, educational programs, and research opportunities. Stony Brook University, with more than 24,000 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students and over 13,000 faculty and staff, provides many opportunities for collaboration between the University, the School of Medicine, the University Hospital and the Children’s Hospital.

The Opportunity

The School of Medicine, the Stony Brook University Hospital, and the State of New York have devoted significant resources to the recruitment of highly regarded pediatric physicians and scientists. Many of the pediatric specialists have national reputations in clinical care, research or both and have spent their careers advancing the practice of children’s medicine. The Chair of Pediatrics has recruited 60 new faculty members since her appointment in 2007. Plans call for recruiting eight additional pediatric faculty in five specialties this year.

The expansion of pediatric surgical services for Stony Brook Children’s requires an enthusiastic and experienced surgical leader to envision and build out the pediatric surgical program. With the new Stony Brook Children’s Hospital under construction, the Hospital will have the capability to provide more complex care in medicine and surgery. There are plans to build unique pediatric clinical programs to serve regional needs and support the growth of research programs in muscular dystrophy, adolescent programs, bone marrow transplantation, and the development of a pediatric clinical trials network. A high priority initiative is underway to expand the primary care base and affiliations with community hospitals to grow referrals to tertiary care services. The Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief will lead the expansion of a pediatric surgical program that will serve more patients and include more surgical specialty areas.

This is an extraordinary time for Stony Brook Medicine, the Children’s Hospital and the School of Medicine. A former faculty member and now financier, James Simons, recently gave $150,000,000 to Stony Brook. This gift will be focused primarily on human health. The gift will advance Stony Brook School of Medicine’s goal to become a national leader in adult and pediatric care in cancer, neuroscience, infectious diseases and medical technology. There is ample flexibility to endow professorships in other areas of need as well. The grant and the matching funds it attracts exponentially increase Stony Brook’s ability to hire game-changing faculty and to build new facilities. This gift has drawn an additional $35 million challenge grant from Governor Andrew Cuomo to leverage the $150 million from the Simons. The scale of this gift is the largest ever to a public university since the 1960’s.
Stony Brook University Hospital

Stony Brook Medicine includes Stony Brook University Hospital and the Stony Brook Schools of Medicine, Dental Medicine, Health Technology & Management, Nursing and Social Welfare. Stony Brook University Hospital (SBUH) is the only tertiary care center and Level 1 trauma facility in Long Island’s Suffolk County serving a population of over 1.8 million, including 450,000 children. SBUH is the regional referral center for trauma, perinatal, and neonatal intensive care, burns, bone marrow and stem cell transplantation, and is the regional resource center for emergency management. The Medical School trains 450 students annually and there are over 540 residents and fellows working in the Hospital. The 603-bed facility is the largest hospital in Suffolk County and is located about 60 miles east of New York City. For more information, please visit http://stonybrookmedicine.edu/.

Stony Brook Children’s Hospital

The Children’s Hospital Today

The Stony Brook Children’s Hospital is a tertiary care pediatric hospital and the only dedicated children’s hospital east of the Queens border. The Hospital operates 106 beds, including a 12-bed Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) and is the Regional Perinatal Center, with a newly constructed Level III 46 bed NICU, the first in New York where all the rooms are private. The Pediatric Emergency Medicine program, which is staffed by PEM and pediatrics trained physicians, includes a dedicated Emergency Department that opened in 2010 and treated 28,000 children last year. The Hospital had more than 7,600 inpatient admissions and 130,000 outpatient visits last year. There were 1,600 surgical procedures supported by a highly specialized pediatric anesthesiology team. It is the only hospital in Suffolk that offers minimally invasive pediatric surgery and kidney transplants for children. The Hospital also has a Hematologic Malignancy and Stem Cell Transplant Team. With the addition of these new facilities and specialists, the Hospital has become an affiliate member of the Children’s Hospital Association (CHA).

The Hospital and the Department of Pediatrics have more than 160 pediatric trained faculty practicing in 30 pediatric specialties to care for most complex diagnoses, including hematology and oncology treatments, organ transplants, trauma, and severe burns. The Department is a vibrant and collegial environment led by Chair and Physician-In-Chief of Stony Brook Children’s Hospital, Margaret McGovern, MD PhD. The Department offers a categorical pediatrics residency program and a combined Pediatrics Medicine residency that together train over 50 residents. There are also five accredited fellowship-training programs in gastroenterology, neonatology, infectious diseases, endocrinology and academic general pediatrics. The Division Head of Emergency Medicine is developing a fellowship program in Emergency Medicine. For more information, please visit www.stonybrookchildrens.org.

The New Hospital

Stony Brook Medicine is embarking upon a $423 million building project with a completion date in 2016, consisting of a new Medical and Research Translation (MART) building and Hospital Pavilion, which will house Stony Brook Children’s Hospital.

With 245,000 square feet, the eight-story MART will be located on Stony Brook University’s East Campus, home of Stony Brook Medicine, adjacent to the Hospital and Health Sciences Towers. The MART will be a home for understanding the basis for human disease, where scientific discovery will be
translated into clinical research, and where promising patient results can be turned into FDA-approved healthcare diagnostic and treatment options.

With 225,000 square feet, the 10-story Hospital Pavilion will contain 150 inpatient beds. Four floors will be dedicated to the Stony Brook Children’s Hospital including a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, adolescent unit, procedure suite, hematology/oncology unit, medical/surgical units. The expansion also includes 12 new classrooms and a 300-seat auditorium.

The new hospital is designed to be child and family friendly, with single bedded Cerner smart rooms, appropriate accommodations for adolescents, play and family space, and patient centered care based on the most advanced information systems.

The Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief: Leadership Experience and Qualities

The Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief (SIC) will provide charismatic leadership, a vision for the pediatric surgery program and seasoned management skills. S/he will bring a strategy for building a premier pediatric surgical program. The creation of this role comes at a time when the Children’s Hospital is poised to become a premier pediatric hospital for the New York metropolitan area and to develop clinical and teaching programs that will compete for the best residents and fellows. The Pediatric SIC will be a surgeon with leadership experience as a division head or program lead in a major pediatric teaching program. The Pediatric SIC will partner with the Physician-In-Chief to develop and implement an institutional strategy to take the program, currently in development, into the future with greater capacity and surgical specialty expertise.

In addition to organic growth, the Pediatric SIC will focus his/her efforts on cultivating relationships with community physicians for surgical referrals that are currently directed to hospitals outside of Suffolk County. This effort will include developing professional relationships and creating simple, streamlined processes for community based physicians to refer patients to Stony Brook Children’s Hospital’s pediatric surgical service.

S/he will report to the Dean of the Medical School and the Chair and Professor of Surgery. Within the Children’s Hospital, the Pediatric SIC will report to the Physician-In-Chief. The Pediatric SIC will be a member of the Children’s Hospital Executive Team, the Faculty Practice, and will chair the Preoperative Services Operation Team, the OR Committee and other committees and task forces that would benefit from the participation and leadership of the Pediatric SIC.

The Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief: Experience and Priorities

The Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief will:

- Be a pediatric surgeon with leadership potential as a division head or program lead in a major pediatric teaching program
- Develop a strategy and an implementation plan for building the pediatric surgical services program
- Maintain an active surgical practice at Stony Brook Children’s
- Be respected as a clinically excellent surgeon
- Have the ability to recruit top surgical candidates
- Have demonstrated the ability to develop a proactive approach to relationships with community based pediatricians and specialists
• Possess strong interpersonal and communication skills
• Be an advocate of excellence in education
• Be a champion of surgical quality and patient safety
• Be knowledgeable and experienced with surgical patient flow, clinics, pre-operative assessment, intraoperative care (Inpatient, Same Day), postoperative recovery care, postoperative care and discharge
• Possess working knowledge of faculty practice plans and compensation
• Be experienced and knowledgeable working within multidisciplinary team structures and promoting collaborative practice

Responsibilities of the Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief

The Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief will promote collegial and collaborative working relationships between the surgical subspecialty services, anesthesiology, nursing and other services. In addition, the Pediatric SIC will support the efforts of the Chief Nursing Officer in the recruitment and retention of surgical nursing personnel. The Pediatric SIC will be the role model for excellence, integrity, respect, commitment to diversity, and stewardship for Stony Brook Children’s Surgical program.

• As a member of the Children’s Hospital’s Executive Team, which includes Directors of Nursing and Operations, the Pediatric SIC will support the Hospital’s mission and strategic planning to ensure overall success
• The Pediatric SIC will make philanthropic fundraising and stewardship high priorities; they will be a greater metric of success than scientific and research endeavors
• S/he will provide leadership and program coordination in clinical service, teaching, research and fiscal management of the surgical program and specialties at Stony Brook with Physician-In-Chief and the Dean
• S/he will develop mentoring and professional development programs to retain surgical faculty
• S/he will develop short term, midrange, and long-range plans for the growth and development of the surgical program; this will include the development of centers of excellence in surgery and surgical subspecialties consistent with the Children’s Hospital strategic plan
• With the Physician-In-Chief and the Hospital Executive team, the Pediatric SIC will ensure compliance with all regulatory and voluntary certifications of external regulators and agencies

Critical Success Factors

The Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief will be viewed as successful in the first year if s/he:

• Establishes and implements a strategic plan for building the pediatric surgical enterprise
• Recruits surgeons in general surgery and ORL
• Establishes and implements the plan to capture 1/3 of the surgical referrals that could be cared for at Stony Brook Children’s Hospital that are now going elsewhere
• Establishes an esprit de corps among all the physicians in the pediatric surgical services and affiliated services to create a high performing and professionally satisfying environment
Eligibility for Faculty Appointment

Candidates for the Pediatric Surgeon-In-Chief position must be Board Certified in pediatric surgery and eligible for a senior faculty appointment by the School of Medicine. This is a tenure track position.

Licensure

A New York State medical license or eligibility for a New York State license is required.

Compensation

Compensation and benefits are very competitive, including generous employer contributions to the 401k and a New York State retirement program. The compensation package will be constructed commensurate with the experience, accomplishments and ability of the selected candidate to contribute. This is a tenure track position.

For More Information

We value all referrals. Interested parties should send a cover letter and resume to PedSurgInChiefSUNY2030@ZurickDavis.com. For additional questions please contact Lida Junghans, PhD at 781.305.2947 or Jacqueline Rosenthal at 781.938.1975. Contact with ZurickDavis will remain confidential.

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