

ACADEMIC CONNECTIONS

THOUGHTS AND UPDATES FROM DR. W. P. ANDREW LEE

December 1, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce, following a comprehensive national search, the appointment of **Stephen Kimatian, M.D.**, as the next permanent Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Management, effective immediately. He will hold the Margaret Milam McDermott Distinguished Chair in Anesthesiology and Pain Management.

Dr. Kimatian joined UT Southwestern in 2017 and has established himself as a highly respected clinician, educator, and leader, serving as the Vice Chair of Pediatric Anesthesiology. Since January 2025, he has capably and effectively fulfilled the responsibilities of Interim Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Management. Dr. Kimatian has also been the Anesthesiologist in Chief for Children's Health and is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Dallas Physician Medical Services for Children (DPMSC), a non-profit that supports the operation of multi-disciplinary clinical practices.



Dr. Kimatian received his undergraduate degree at Princeton University and medical degree at the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at SUNY University at Buffalo. He was assigned to active duty as a Flight Surgeon for Air Force Special Operations Command and served as Chief of Aerospace Medicine for the 16th Operations Support Squadron, Air Force Special Operations Command. Serving in numerous theatres of operation, Dr. Kimatian distinguished himself, receiving the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Malcolm C. Grow Award as the USAF Flight Surgeon of the Year.

Dr. Kimatian completed a residency in anesthesiology at Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. He pursued advanced fellowship training in pediatric anesthesiology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. In clinical practice, he specializes in pediatric and congenital cardiac anesthesiology. His clinical research focuses on neuroprotection during the perioperative period, particularly on pediatric patients with congenital heart disease, the use of intraoperative EEG monitoring to guide anesthesia administration, and the use of advanced analytics to assess neurocognitive function.

His contributions to graduate medical education have been recognized with the title of Distinguished Teaching Professor from the Southwestern Academy of Teachers (2023), the Duke Award for Excellence in Education from the Society for Education in Anesthesia (2020), the Distinguished Educator Award from the American Society of Anesthesiologists (2019), and the Teaching Recognition Award for Innovation in Education from the International Anesthesia Research Society (2009).

A Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Kimatian is a Past President of the Society for Education in

Anesthesia (SEA) and Co-Director of the SEA Teaching Workshop. He is also a member of the Society for Pediatric Anesthesia, the American Society of Anesthesiologists, and the Association of University Anesthesiologists. He is a scientific adviser to the board of directors of The Children's Cancer Foundation.

I would like to express my appreciation to **J. William Harbour, M.D.**, Chair and Professor of Ophthalmology, for his service as Chair of the Search Committee, and to all the Search Committee members – Jeffrey Cadeddu, M.D., Corey Kershaw, M.D., Nisa Kubiliun, M.D., Barbara Gaines, M.D., Romaine Johnson, M.D., Nader Pouratian, M.D., Ph.D., Todd Roberts, Ph.D., Douglas Sammer, M.D., Parsia Vagefi, M.D., Herbert Zeh, M.D., and Steven Bloom, M.D. – for the dedication and insights they brought to this comprehensive national search.

Dr. Kimatian's leadership in all areas of our mission will elevate the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Management and position our institution as a national hub for clinical excellence and innovation in anesthesiology for adult and pediatric patients.

Please join me congratulating Dr. Kimatian on his new role.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D.

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Dean, UT Southwestern Medical School