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**LASKER FOUNDATION WELCOMES DR. E. ALBERT REECE,
LEADER IN ACADEMIC MEDICINE, TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

New York – April 26, 2021 – The Lasker Foundation today announced the addition of E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A., to the Lasker Foundation Board of Directors. Dr. Reece is the Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs, University of Maryland Baltimore, and the John Z. and Akiko K. Bowers Distinguished Professor, and Dean of the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM). He is a renowned thought leader in academic medicine.

“We are pleased to welcome Al Reece to the Lasker Foundation Board,” said Lasker Board Chair Anthony Evnin, Ph.D. “His outstanding achievements as both a university leader and an exemplary physician scientist position him to make significant contributions to the Lasker organization.”

“Dr. Reece’s visionary leadership has dramatically advanced academic medicine on multiple fronts,” said Claire Pomeroy, M.D., M.B.A., and President and CEO of the Lasker Foundation. “His groundbreaking research investigating the bio-molecular mechanisms of diabetes-induced birth defects has impacted the well-being of populations worldwide. We expect to greatly benefit from his counsel.”

Originally from Jamaica, West Indies, Dr. Reece is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, and directs a National Institutes of Health (NIH) multimillion-dollar research laboratory. Dr. Reece’s research focuses on diabetes in pregnancy, birth defects and prenatal diagnostics. He and his colleagues have developed the diagnostic technique of embryofetoscopy for early prenatal diagnosis and, ultimately, for curative fetal therapies.

Dr. Reece is regarded as one of the nation’s leading academic and institutional leaders. He oversees a world class medical institution with an annual budget of over \$1.2 billion, including a robust research enterprise with external research funding of nearly \$600 million. The state-wide clinical programs serve more than 1.2 million patients each year. Under his leadership, the UMSOM has achieved record growth and success in virtually every aspect of its key mission areas and operations. Research funding has increased more than 40 percent over the past five years, clinical revenues have grown more than 20 percent, and the economic impact of the School of Medicine and Medical System enterprise exceed \$15B.

As Dean, Dr. Reece led a series of initiatives that transformed the UMSOM into a research powerhouse, now ranked by U.S. News & World Report in the top 10 among all public medical schools in the U.S. and 27th among the 188 public and private medical schools. He recently led the planning and construction of a 430,000 square foot state-of-the-art advanced research facility. Subsequently, he launched a nationwide investigator recruitment effort, resulting in 30 teams of top scientists from leading institutions joining the School’s faculty of more than 3,500 physicians and scientists. Dr. Reece is a sought-after Visiting Professor and Lecturer at numerous institutions both nationally and internationally. He has published extensively in the scientific literature—12 books including revisions and more than 500 publications.

He has received from various universities and government organizations numerous special awards, citations, and honorary degrees in recognition of his distinguished leadership, lifetime achievement, and major contributions to science and medicine.

Prior to joining the University of Maryland, Dr. Reece served as Vice Chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and as Dean of its College of Medicine between 2001 and 2006. He received his education from New York University (M.D.); Columbia University Medical Center (Residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology); Yale University (Fellowship in Maternal-Fetal Medicine); the University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica (Ph.D., Biochemistry), and Temple University's Fox School of Business & Management (M.B.A.).

About the Lasker Foundation: The Lasker Foundation seeks to increase support for biomedical research by celebrating the power of biomedical science to save and improve human lives. Through its internationally renowned Lasker Awards, educational initiatives, and public advocacy, the Foundation recognizes the most important achievements in science and public service, supports and encourages the scientific leaders of tomorrow, and raises awareness of the ever-present need for research funding. Established in 1942 by Albert and Mary Lasker, the Foundation is committed to inspiring robust and sustained support for biomedical research, fueled by Mary Lasker's call to action: "If you think research is expensive, try disease!" For more information, please see: LaskerFoundation.org.

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