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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEOUCOM Names Jay Alan Gershen, D.D.S., Ph.D., President

ROOTSTOWN, Ohio — Jay Alan Gershen, D.D.S., Ph.D., vice chancellor for external affairs for the University of Colorado Denver, has been named president of the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy (NEOUCOM), Steven Schmidt, Ph.D., chair of NEOUCOM's Board of Trustees, announced today (October 21, 2009).

Gershen will become NEOUCOM's sixth president, effective January 15, 2010. He will succeed Lois Margaret Nora, M.D., J.D., who will step down after a highly successful presidency spanning more than 7 years.

"We are delighted that Dr. Gershen has accepted our offer to become NEOUCOM's next president and we look forward to his arrival on campus," Dr. Schmidt said. "I am confident that his passion for health sciences education combined with his experience developing a leading-edge health sciences campus makes him an ideal match for NEOUCOM. The Board of Trustees and the entire NEOUCOM community are looking forward to continued excellence and growth under his leadership."

NEOUCOM's Board of Trustees approved the selection of Dr. Gershen on October 21, 2009.

"The opportunity to serve as NEOUCOM's president is an exciting one and I am truly honored to have been chosen for the role," said Dr. Gershen. "The University's outstanding faculty and staff, inspired students, and dedicated and loyal alumni make it a unique institution, one that offers an exceptional resource to the region. I anticipate working closely with NEOUCOM's diverse constituencies to build upon its strengths and to capitalize on both the accomplishments and emerging opportunities the University has achieved under the extraordinary leadership of Dr. Nora."

"The NEOUCOM Presidential Advisory Committee received numerous excellent nominations and applications for the position of president and carefully reviewed the merits of each candidate prior to making recommendations to the Board. The Board further vetted and considered the Committee's recommendations before making a decision. Based on his substantial experience in academic, research, and business development, legislative affairs, community relations, and

campus master planning, Dr. Gershen was the unanimous choice," said Dr. Schmidt. "His complete understanding of the complexities of a growing health sciences university, his

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impressive record of academic leadership, his knowledge of research and technology, and his enthusiasm for building lasting relationships made him the ideal candidate. We are proud to welcome him on board.”

Jay Alan Gershen, D.D.S., Ph.D., vice chancellor for external affairs for the University of Colorado Denver, has served as the university’s point person for business development, community affairs and external relations as well as holding positions on numerous business advisory boards in the Denver metropolitan area, state of Colorado and nationally. He has been a professor in the UC Denver School of Dental Medicine since 1997.

Dr. Gershen holds a BA in psychology from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a D.D.S. from the University of Maryland. He completed both a clinical specialty in pediatric dentistry and a Ph.D. in education at the University of California, Los Angeles. Concurrently, he was a postdoctoral scholar in child psychiatry at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute. In 1982 he was awarded a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship, sponsored by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

From 1997 to 2006, Dr. Gershen served as executive vice chancellor at the former University of Colorado Health Sciences Center (now the UC Denver Anschutz Medical Campus). He played a key leadership role in the creation of the University of Colorado’s 21st Century Health Sciences Center at the former Fitzsimons Medical Army Garrison. The new campus focuses on patient-centered healthcare, collaborative research models, and the education of health professionals as interdisciplinary teams. This \$4.3 billion project is providing a public/private model for bioscience discovery and emphasizes the commercialization of basic/translational research. Dr. Gershen worked to formulate the current vision and strategic direction for the bioscience research park at Fitzsimons. The Anschutz Medical Campus and Fitzsimons are the largest medical construction projects in the nation and will generate \$6 billion per year in economic activity at completion.

From 2000 to 2002, Dr. Gershen served as interim vice president for academic affairs and research for the University of Colorado. As the principal academic affairs and research officer for the UC system, he coordinated the development and review of undergraduate and graduate/professional programs. His responsibilities also included technology, diversity, external affairs, and partnerships with the business sector. Dr. Gershen was responsible for initiating the reorganization of the technology transfer program at the University of Colorado.

Prior to joining the University of Colorado, Dr. Gershen served on the faculty of the School of Dentistry at the University of California, Los Angeles, and directed the Mobile Dental Clinic, which served children of migrant workers in rural California. As acting dean of the dental school (1995-1996), he was the first dental dean in the nation to gain graduate medical education (GME) support funds for all of the non-hospital based postdoctoral programs in the school.

Dr. Gershen served as president of the American Association of Dental Schools and chair of the National Affairs Committee of the American Association for Dental Research.

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He was responsible for initiating the major study of dental education conducted by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He also played a leadership role in securing AIDS reimbursement funds for the nation's dental education institutions. In addition, Dr. Gershen was a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Institutional and Policy Strategies for Increasing the Diversity of the Healthcare Workforce, and he currently serves on the Sullivan Alliance to implement these strategies. He currently serves on the Board and Executive Committee of Research! America.

Before assuming full-time administrative positions, Dr. Gershen conducted research on issues relevant to dental education, health services, and behavioral sciences, and he developed innovative teaching methods for behavioral science curricula. He conducted research regarding dental delivery systems and third-party financing and their effect on the quality of dental care.

About the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy

The Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy (NEOUCOM) is a community-based, public institution focused on the interprofessional training of health professionals. Through its educational, research and service mission, NEOUCOM improves the quality of health care in northeast Ohio. The University is a member of the university system of Ohio and its partners include teaching hospitals, community sites and boards of health. To learn more, visit www.neoucom.edu.

Caption for photo tagged JAGershen:

Jay Alan Gershen, D.D.S., Ph.D., was named the sixth president of the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy.

Caption for photo tagged DrsGershenSchmidt:

At right, Steven P. Schmidt, Ph.D., chair of the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy's Board of Trustees, congratulates Jay Alan Gershen, D.D.S., Ph.D., at left. Dr. Gershen was named the sixth president of the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy on Oct. 21.

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