WICHITA, KAN. – William J. Salyers, Jr., M.D., MPH, FACP, has been promoted to chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita (KUSM-W) effective July 30.

Salyers, a native of Ellsworth, Kansas, joined the medical school in 2006 and was an assistant professor, hospitalist in the Department of Internal Medicine until 2008. Between 2011 to the present, Salyers was gastroenterology division chief at the medical school and at the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center; associate program director, assistant professor, residency program director and associate professor at the medical school; and director of internal medicine education at Wesley Medical Center through KUSM-W.

Prior to joining KUSM-W, Salyers was assistant medical director of Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice in Wichita, an immediate care physician at the Wichita Clinic, an anatomy and physiology associate faculty member at Barton County Community College in Great Bend, Kansas, and a primary counselor at St. Francis Academy in Ellsworth.

After receiving his bachelor's degree cum laude in biology from Sterling College in Sterling, Kansas, in 1998, Salyers received a Doctor of Medicine and Master of
Public Health, with honors, at the KU School of Medicine-Wichita in 2003 and 2008 respectively. Salyers did his internal medicine residency at KUSM-W and a gastroenterology fellowship at the University Florida College of Medicine in Jacksonville, Florida.

He is ABIM board certified in internal medicine, gastroenterology, and hospice and palliative medicine. Salyers holds his medical license in the State of Kansas.

Salyers has published more than 80 manuscripts and abstracts/presentations and has served on numerous committees.

As a result of his outstanding academic career, Salyers has received numerous awards, including winning the Internal Medicine Residency Faculty Teaching Award in 2013 and being named a Wichita Business Journal ‘40 Under 40’ honoree in 2015. In addition, Salyers was a participant in the ACGME 2035 Internal Medicine Strategic Planning Workshop at ACGME headquarters in Chicago, during June 2017.

As the new chair, Salyers will lead 24 faculty and staff to fulfill key educational, clinical and research objectives and enhance the academic experience through relationships with community sub-specialty groups. He continues as program director for the Internal Medicine Residency Program, which provides high-quality, hands-on clinical training for internal medicine and medicine-pediatrics residents.

Salyers succeeds Jon Schrage, M.D., MPA, FACP, FACPE, who is retiring after serving 15 years as chair of the department since he was hired in 2003.
The University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita educates tomorrow's physicians and health care leaders through community partnership to improve the health of Kansans. We doctor Kansas.