

Welcoming New Department of Medicine Leadership

Steven Freedman, MD, PhD



Steven Freedman, MD, PhD, has assumed the role of **Vice Chair for Promotions and Faculty Advancement** for the **Department of Medicine**. In his 40-plus-year tenure at BIDMC and as faculty in the **Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition**, Dr. Freedman has continually demonstrated a deep commitment to the core values of our Department and has been extraordinary in his development of new research, clinical, and educational programs, always designed to strengthen and support our faculty and trainees. In this new role, Dr. Freedman will take an active role in the committee work involved in our promotions process.

Dr. Freedman will oversee the function of the departmental promotions committee from sorting the agenda to assigning reviewers of candidates as well as chairing the meetings. He will become an elected member of the HMS Executive Committee, attend the meetings, and participate actively in the evaluation of candidates from across the different departments of medicine at HMS-affiliated hospitals. He will work closely with Ken Mukamal, MD, MPH, newly-appointed Vice Chair for Career Development and Mentoring, to help our faculty members advance along the HMS promotions ladder. He will also work closely with Scot Sternberg, MS, Director of Quality Improvement, and the promotions computer program developed by our Division of Clinical Informatics to oversee the promotions process. He will explore continued development of new tools to help evaluate the readiness of faculty members for promotion and support the materials portfolio for each person.

Dr. Freedman is Director of the Pancreas Center in the Division of Gastroenterology, Chief of the Division of Translational Research, a Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, and the Rosenzweig-Feingold Family Endowed Chair in Pancreatic Disease. He has played a leadership role in clinical/translational research both at BIDMC and at HMS through his prior role as the Associate Dean for Clinical and Translational Research and Co-director of the Harvard CTSA (Harvard Catalyst).

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He is Director of the Grant Review and Support Program (GRASP) of the Harvard Clinical and Translational Science Center, which is a unique longitudinal program that provides project management support and grant writing tools to enhance the transition for junior faculty at Harvard from NIH K grant funding to successful independent funding as an NIH R01 grant. He also directs the BIDMC Internal Medicine Residency Physician Scientist Track as well as the Franklin Epstein Society which provides research support and education from residency to fellowship to junior faculty. Finally, he developed and leads the Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Foundation funded DIGEST program to train pediatric and adult gastroenterologists in the GI aspects of CF. He also plays a leadership role for the CF Foundation to develop and carry out all GI related CF research across the U.S.

Dr. Freedman received his PhD from Yale University School of Medicine followed by his medical degree at the University of Connecticut. He completed his residency and fellowship in Gastroenterology at the then Beth Israel Hospital and has remained on faculty since 1991. Dr. Freedman's expertise is in exocrine pancreatic disease with a particular focus on pancreatitis, pancreatic cancer, pancreatic insufficiency, and cystic fibrosis. He is an internationally recognized leader in these areas with an extensive research program that encompasses both basic science discovery, drug development, and clinical trials. His research discoveries on fatty acid metabolic defects in CF have been extended to the pathogenesis and treatment of neonatal morbidities.

This Vice Chair role is a newly established position, but assumes duties formerly executed by Peter Weller, MD, who continues his leadership as Vice Chair for Research and Chief of Allergy & Inflammation. We are deeply grateful for Peter's stewardship of the promotions process and for all the new processes he developed with Scot Sternberg, Dr. Yuri Quintana, and the rest of the team. Their work has been integral in advancing our faculty members at all levels. We look forward to having Dr. Freedman's expertise and dedication leading our promotions processes!