



Roberta Ness, MD, MPH '89, Named Dean of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston's School of Public Health

Currently chair of the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Roberta Ness will become dean of the University of Texas School of Public Health, the oldest accredited school of public health in Texas, effective January 1, 2009.

"The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and the State of Texas are indeed fortunate that Dr. Roberta Ness has accepted the critical leadership position of dean," said University of Texas-Houston President Dr. James Willerson. "She brings both very significant accomplishments and proven leadership achievements."

During her fifteen year tenure at the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Ness has served as the school's interim dean, director of its cancer epidemiology program, and director of the Epidemiology of Women's Health Program. She is president-elect of the American College of Epidemiology and the Society for General Internal Medicine's 2008 distinguished professor of women's health.

Dr. Ness is the author of more than 200 publications and is currently researching novel risk factors and potential early detection markers for ovarian cancer, pesticides and infant neuropsychological development, neonatal health and maternal cardiovascular risk, and risk markers for endometriosis among active duty women in the U.S. military.

A trained obstetrician-gynecologist and epidemiologist, Dr. Ness earned her BS in microbiology from the University of Maryland, College Park, her MD from Cornell University, and her MPH in epidemiology at the Mailman School of Public Health.