



LEFT: At Diploma Day, the Class of '23 celebrated their achievements and looked ahead to new challenges. BELOW: Keynote speaker Victor J. Dzau encouraged the class to become leaders and effect social change.



## Meet Pitt's new chancellor

The University of Pittsburgh has a new hand at the wheel.

**Joan T.A. Gabel** took office as the University's 19th chancellor in July, following four years as president and chief executive of the University of Minnesota System and Twin Cities campus.



Gabel

"I am excited and filled with optimism when I think of leading this institution into its important next chapter—to taking leaps when needed, and incremental

steps as necessary, to ensure that every step we take, however large or small, moves us forward," Gabel said in a statement.

She will be the first woman to lead the University since its founding in 1787. Gabel succeeds Patrick Gallagher, who held the chancellor position for nine years.

At the University of Minnesota, Gabel led the development of the system's first comprehensive strategic plan, leading to record-setting graduation rates and annual research expenditures, as well as record numbers of startups and patents. During her tenure, the university completed a 10-year, \$4 billion capital campaign that exceeded its goal by 10%.

Anantha Shekhar, senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and John and Gertrude Petersen Dean of the School of Medicine, said he looks forward to collaborating with Gabel in pursuit of new successes for the Pitt community.

"Joan T.A. Gabel is a natural leader," Shekhar said in a statement. "It was clear to me that she is forward-thinking, innovative and driven—the right leader for our University at this time and place."

Gabel holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Haverford College and a juris doctor from the University of Georgia. She's no stranger to Pitt, though—one of her three children is currently enrolled here. —Staff reports

## A RESPONSIBILITY TO THE FUTURE

On May 21, members of the School of Medicine's Class of '23 stepped into the next stage of their careers—and all the responsibility that comes with it—as they gathered with loved ones at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall for Diploma Day.

"As the newest participants in the health and biomedical system, you've also been empowered to help change its future," said keynote speaker Victor J. Dzau, president of the National Academy of Medicine. "Maybe it sounds a little grandiose, but I believe that in so doing you shape the future of the nation, as well."

He encouraged the graduates to serve not only individuals but their communities by helping to shape policy and speaking out against injustice. "I've often said, 'There can be no health equity without social equity.'"

Austin Walker Anthony, class president, who gave the Senior Medical Student Address, reminded his classmates that the health care system hasn't always instilled trust in those it's meant to serve. "It is our responsibility to continue to rebuild that trust," he said. "In the coming months, as time becomes scarce, I hope that we will remember that we are not simply called to care for patients, but more importantly, we must care about them." —AD

## Pantanowitz leads pathology

**Liron Pantanowitz**, an MD, PhD, MHA, has returned to Pitt's School of Medicine and UPMC as the chair of pathology. He's an internationally recognized leader in digital pathology and informatics.

He first came to Pitt in 2010 as a faculty member in pathology, with a secondary appointment in biomedical informatics. In 2020, he left to join the University of Michigan, where he also served as director of anatomic pathology. Pantanowitz is known for his dedication to training the next generation of pathology clinicians, researchers and innovators.

As chair of pathology, Pantanowitz succeeds George Michalopoulos, an MD, PhD who held the position for 31 years. —Staff reports



Pantanowitz