Tara A. Ellis Accepts Position as the Chief of Development and Communications Officer

Tara A. Ellis has accepted directorship of the newly constituted Office of Development, Communications and Government Affairs at the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute. In her role as Chief Development and Communications Officer, she will be responsible for the overall operation of Development, Public Relations and Government Affairs, including recruitment, supervision and evaluation of staff, interns and volunteers. In addition, Ellis will be in charge of developing and managing the department’s budget as well as planning the Institute’s functions relative to the department.

Prior to accepting this new position, Ellis was the Director of Public Relations and Government Affairs at HWI. As the Director of the Public Relations and Government Affairs, she was responsible for establishing, coordinating and implementing local, regional and national publicity for HWI’s scientific work, services, activities and staff, as well as for government relations. Before Ellis joined HWI, she held various positions with M&T Bank, most recently serving as the Vice President of Internal Communications at M&T Bank in Buffalo, New York. Prior to her tenure at M&T, Ellis held positions with the Erie County Legislature and the University at Buffalo. In addition, she was the Richard J. Roth Fellow at the New York State Senate, where she was subsequently employed.

Ellis is active in the community. She serves as a member of the Buffalo Seminary Alumnae Association Board, on several of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus steering committees and the Buffalo Niagara Partnership Government Affairs Council. In addition, she volunteers at the Nativity of Our Lord School, St. John’s Lutheran Church and is a sustainer in the Junior League of Buffalo.

A graduate of the Buffalo Seminary, she received her bachelor’s degree in English from the State University of New York at Buffalo and her master’s degree magna cum laude in public communications from Syracuse University at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications.

Ellis resides in Amherst, NY with her finance, Tom Kucharski and their sons, Tad and Austin.

About HWI
With more than 50 years of exceptional scientific research, HWI is an internationally-renowned independent, non-profit facility specializing in the area of fundamental biomedical research known as structural biology. HWI’s team of more than 75 staff members is committed to improving human health by studying the causes of diseases, as well as potential therapies, at their basic molecular level. HWI is located in the heart of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in downtown Buffalo, New York, in a new state-of-the-art structural biology research center at 700 Ellicott Street. For more information, visit HWI’s website at www.hwi.buffalo.edu or call 716-898-8600.

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