

Contact: Lucinda I. Ames

203-576-5550 Lames@stvincents.org

For Immediate Release

Dr. Lawrence Schek To Lead Cardiovascular Medicine at St. Vincent's

BRIDGEPORT, CT. November 18, 2010--Lawrence S. Schek, MD, FACC, has been named chairperson of the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine and medical director of the Regional Heart & Vascular Center at St. Vincent's according to Stuart Marcus, MD, FACS, senior vice president and chief medical officer. Dr. Schek comes to St. Vincent's from Poughkeepsie, N.Y. where he served as managing physician of the Hudson Valley Heart Center.

"We are fortunate to have someone of Dr. Schek's ability and record of innovation here at St. Vincent's to lead us into a new era of advances in the prevention and treatment of heart disease," said Dr. Marcus. "With his experience in clinical cardiology, administrative oversight and medical education, he is the right choice to ensure that St. Vincent's remains the hospital of choice for cardiovascular services in the region."

Dr. Schek served as acting vice-president of medical affairs at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, New York. In 1992, he was appointed chairman of the Division of Cardiology at Vassar Brothers, and later served in the positions of secretary, president and trustee for Vassar Brothers Medical Center board and as a trustee for the Health Quest Medical System. Earlier in his career, Dr. Schek held positions with St. Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie, and has also been affiliated with Northern Dutchess Hospital in Rhinebeck, New York. At Vassar Brothers, he was instrumental in developing their cardiology center, and he helped establish nationally recognized programs in interventional cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery and electrophysiology. He has lectured nationally on cardiology program growth and development.

Dr. Schek received his bachelor of science degree from Union College in New York. In 1977 he earned his medical degree from New York Medical College (NYMC). He also completed his internship and residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in cardiology at NYMC.

Dr. Schek is board certified in internal medicine and cardiovascular disease by the American Board of Internal Medicine, and holds certificates in nuclear cardiology and cardiovascular computed tomography from the Certification Board of Nuclear Cardiology. He completed the physician executive certificate program of the American College of Physician Executives. Dr. Schek is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology. He formerly served as president of the Dutchess County Chapter of the American Heart Association. Dr. Schek has conducted research in cardiology and has been published in medical journals. He resides in Bethel.

St. Vincent's Regional Heart and Vascular Center

With an outstanding medical staff of cardiologists and cardiac surgeons, St. Vincent's is a leading regional center for angioplasty and open heart surgery. Recognized over the years for its role in the development of emergency angioplasty for heart attack treatment, St. Vincent's is now at the vanguard of the minimally invasive surgical approach to treatment of cardiothoracic disease including the correction of atrial fibrillation and the *repair* rather than replacement of the mitral valve. HealthGrades, the leading independent ranking source in the nation, has ranked St. Vincent's # 1 in the state for cardiac surgery in 2010.