

-----For Immediate Release-----

Dr. Sean J. Hearne Named SURA President and Chief Executive Officer

WASHINGTON, DC, January 14, 2022 – Dr. David P. Norton, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA), announced today that Dr. Sean J. Hearne will serve as SURA's next President and CEO, starting February 14th. "Dr. Hearne has the full set of qualities we were looking for to lead SURA," said Dr. Norton. "He brings a collaborative leadership style, strategic vision, and an impressive record of scientific discovery demonstrated at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and Sandia National Laboratories (SNL). He has ably managed portfolios of projects across both basic science and applied programs and has worked in NNSA as well as in national security."

"I am excited and honored to accept this position," said Dr. Hearne. "My passion is to lead national user facilities and oversee academic and industrial research in collaborative environments. Throughout my career, I have developed diverse teams with a shared vision and focus on R&D excellence. These teams have successfully designed and implemented strategies for research institutions. Leading SURA is an exciting next step, and I look forward to the many challenges that enabling scientific discovery presents."

For the past two decades, Dr. Hearne has been a part of the Department of Energy (DOE) national laboratory systems during which time he held multiple leadership positions in areas including DOE Office of Sciences user facilities and managed DOE Applied Offices portfolios. He is currently the Director of the Materials Science and Technology Division (MSTD) at ORNL, which conducts fundamental and applied materials research for DOE's Office of Science, DOE's Applied Offices, the Department of Defense, and multiple industrial partners. MSTD's research programs span quantum materials, advanced manufacturing, fusion and nuclear energy, and transportation, conservation, fossil energy, and systems for space exploration. Dr. Hearne was formerly the Director for the Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences (CNMS), a DOE user facility at ORNL. Prior to directing CNMS, he was co-Director of the Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies at SNL and previously led SNL's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability's Grid Energy Storage program. Earlier in his career he was a Senior Process Engineer in Intel Corporation's Components Research Division where he worked on developing Intel's Cu interconnect technology.

Dr. Hearne earned a Ph.D. and M.S. in Solid State Physics from Arizona State University and a B.S. in Aviation Technology from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He was the 2018 president of the Materials Research Society, a Fellow of the American Physical Society, and a long-term member of the American Association of the Advancement of Science. He holds multiple patents in microfabrication and is published in topics ranging from fundamental material science to electroplating and energy storage for the electric grid. He has served as a member of the Southeastern Nanotechnology Infrastructure Corridor Advisory Board at Georgia Tech since 2019 and on the External Advisory Board of the Princeton Institute for the Science and Technology of Materials, also since 2019.

About SURA: SURA is a consortium of 59 universities established in 1980 to advance collaborative research and education and to strengthen the scientific capabilities of our member institutions and the nation. SURA enables the advancement of Big Science, large scale leading-edge research, and industry



innovations by facilitating the collaboration of teams from member universities. Since 1984, SURA has managed Jefferson Lab in Newport News, VA, the premier international research center for detailed studies of protons and neutrons within the nucleus. Jefferson Lab applies unique technologies and expertise to perform advanced computing and applied research with university and industry partners. More than 1,500 scientists from over 230 institutions and 30 countries conduct their research at the lab. SURA.org provides additional information on our organization, programs, partners, and membership.

For more information, please contact Scott Hartranft, Chief Financial Officer, SURA. 202-408-2421 (office) or 301-674-4422 (mobile).