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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**HOXWORTH BLOOD CENTER DIRECTOR NAMED ACCA PRESIDENT- ELECT**

**(CINCINNATI, April 17, 2017)**— Ronald Sacher, MD, director of Hoxworth Blood Center, has been named the 2018 president-elect of the American Clinical and Climatological Association (ACCA). Founded in 1884, the ACCA is the oldest medical society in the United States. ‘Climatological’ refers to the fact that climate was a key factor in the treatment of tuberculosis, a major health problem when the society was formed.

“The ACCA is a multidisciplinary organization of people who have leadership in American medicine,” says Sacher. “We have members who are presidents of universities, as well as leaders and deans of medical schools and department chairs. It’s a very prestigious organization. This is really one of the highlights of my career.”

Sacher is only the fourth director in the 78-year history of Hoxworth Blood Center. He joined Hoxworth in 2000, with a commitment to establishing a primary mission of community service. Sacher continues to lead Hoxworth as an internationally recognized leader in the field of hematology and in guiding the blood center in cutting edge research areas involving transfusion and regenerative medicine.

“I think this is the most exciting time in medicine ever, because of the explosion of informatics and the ability to analyze big data,” Sacher says. “Also, there are new and novel therapies emerging in the mining of the human genome, particularly in cancer. I think that’s an area that is just really exploding day by day.”

Hoxworth continues to serve as a leader in transfusion medicine, developing strength in areas uncommon to many blood centers. The blood center boasts expertise in research, cellular therapies, transplantation immunohematology and teaching transfusion medicine to future blood bank leaders.

**About ACCA:**

The American Clinical and Climatological Association was organized in 1884 by a group of physicians and scientists who set about to improve medical education, research and practice in this country. Its initial concern was with tuberculosis and its treatment by residence in a suitable climate. Throughout its long history, the Association has expanded its interests to all scientific and clinical aspects of medicine and its specialties as well as epidemiology, preventive and environmental medicine, while retaining a continuing interest in the influence of global climate changes on health and disease. Its membership comprises outstanding physicians selected on the basis of their leadership, their excellence in their chosen field, their demonstrated high level of integrity and professionalism, and their yearning to nurture a spirit of warmth, diversity and friendship. The annual meeting of the Association provides an opportunity for presentation and critical discussion of the most recent progress in research, practice and teaching. It is devoted to the scientific understanding and to the compassionate care of human disease. The meeting also serves to reaffirm the values and the principles of the Association. Active membership is limited to 250 physicians.

**About Hoxworth:**

Hoxworth Blood Center, University of Cincinnati was founded in 1938 and serves 31 hospitals in 18 counties in Southwestern Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Southeastern Indiana.  Annually, Hoxworth collects more than 70,000 units of blood from local donors to help save the lives of patients in area hospitals. Hoxworth Blood Center. All Types Welcome.

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