David J. Birnbach, M.D., M.P.H.

**Special Award**

*David J. Birnbach* is the former executive vice provost and director of the University of Miami–Jackson Memorial Hospital Center for Patient Safety. He is currently professor of public health and anesthesiology, obstetrics and gynecology at the Miller School of Medicine. During his 18 years at the University, Birnbach made an indelible impact on many areas. From medical education to research and from patient safety to faculty engagement, he greatly influenced the student, faculty, and patient experience through his work. Birnbach became vice provost in 2007, and during his time in this role, he oversaw the promotion and tenure process for faculty, as well as programs for faculty mentoring, diversity and inclusion, and development and recognition.

In addition, Birnbach oversaw the application of faculty policies, and he assisted with other aspects of faculty affairs—including maintaining a close relationship with the Faculty Senate. He is known for steady leadership and sage advice. Birnbach earned his medical degrees at the Royal College of Surgeons and Harvard University and holds a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University. In 2010 he was a Fulbright scholar. He has authored more than 200 articles as well as numerous book chapters and two textbooks, and he has received many honors and awards for teaching and research.