



*William J. Brunken, PhD (Pictured Left) and Dr. Mantosh Dewan, President of Upstate Medical University (Right)*

## **William Brunken has been named Distinguished Professor**

William Joseph Brunken, PhD, professor and vice chair for research in ophthalmology and visual sciences and professor of neuroscience and physiology, is a highly accomplished vision researcher. His research in the field of retinal development and degeneration focuses on the roles of the extracellular matrix and laminins in neurodegenerative eye disease, and more broadly in neuronal development. He has been funded continuously by the National Institutes of Health and other agencies for almost four decades. Published widely and cited frequently, he is deeply respected by colleagues locally, nationally, and internationally for his research, integrity, leadership and mentorship. Brunken leads the Center for Vision Research (CVR), a vision research group at Upstate and one of the preeminent ophthalmology research programs in the country. Under his leadership, funding for the CVR has more than doubled over the past decade. His past accolades include recognition as a fellow of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), recipient of the ARVO Foundation Recognition Award and recipient of the Upstate President's Award for Excellence in Leadership and Research. He is widely appreciated for his mentorship of junior colleagues.

*Written by Darryl Geddes*

*Published on Wednesday, June 12, 2024*

<https://www.upstate.edu/news/articles/2024/2024-06-12-sunyvd.php>