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For Immediate Release:

IOM President to Address H1N1 Expectations for the Fall

Bethesda, Md. — Harvey V. Fineberg, M.D., Ph.D., president of the prestigious Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academies, will present “The Swine Flu Situation: 1976 as Applied to Now - What to Expect in the Fall,” at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) Tuesday, Sept. 8. Fineberg’s lecture is part of the ongoing National Naval Medical Center - Walter Reed Army Medical Center - USU Integrated Grand Rounds series.

“USU is delighted to welcome Dr. Fineberg to the campus. His careful analysis of the policy and political issues involved in the 1976 swine flu story provide important lessons for civilian and military leaders of today,” said USU President Dr. Charles L. Rice. “Many of the military and public health leaders of tomorrow receive their education here at USU. Dr. Fineberg’s message provides important context as the nation and the world respond to the H1N1 pandemic.”

Dr. Fineberg served as Provost of Harvard University from 1997 to 2001, following 13 years as Dean of the Harvard School of Public Health. He has devoted most of his academic career to the fields of health policy and medical decision making. His past research has focused on the process of policy development and implementation, assessment of medical technology, evaluation and use of vaccines, and dissemination of medical innovations.

Dr. Fineberg helped found and served as president of the Society for Medical Decision Making and served as consultant to the World Health Organization. At the Institute of Medicine, he has chaired and served on a number of panels dealing with health policy issues, ranging from AIDS to new medical technology. He also served as a member of the Public Health Council of Massachusetts (1976-1979), as chairman of the Health Care Technology Study Section of the National Center for Health Services Research (1982-1985), and as president of the Association of Schools of Public Health (1995-1996).

The co-author and co-editor of several books on epidemiology, vaccine research and clinical decision making, Dr. Fineberg also is the recipient of several honorary degrees and the Joseph W. Mountin Prize from the US Centers for Disease Control. He earned his bachelor’s and doctoral degrees from Harvard University.

The IOM was chartered in 1970 as a component of the National Academy of Sciences. The IOM’s mission is to serve as adviser to the nation to improve health. The Institute provides unbiased, evidence-based, and authoritative information and advice concerning health and science policy to policy-makers, professionals, leaders in every sector of society, and the public at large. The IOM works outside the framework of government to ensure scientifically informed analysis and independent guidance.

Located on the grounds of Bethesda’s National Naval Medical Center and across from the National Institutes of Health, USU is the nation’s federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. The university educates health care professionals dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the U.S. Public Health Service. Students are active-duty uniformed officers in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Public Health Service who are being educated to deal with wartime casualties, natural disasters, emerging infectious diseases, and other public health emergencies. Of the university’s nearly 4,400 physician alumni and more than 400 advanced practice nurses, the vast majority serve on active duty and are supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, offering their leadership and expertise. The University also has graduated more than 600 public health professionals.

For more information about USU and its programs, visit www.usuhs.mil.