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NEWS

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*****Mind-brain interaction subject of
all-day symposium.

DALLAS--"The Human Mystery--The Self-conscious Mind and Its Brain" will be explored in an all-day symposium Nov. 27 at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas. Nobel Laureate, Sir John Eccles, author of a series of Gifford Lectures on Natural Theology entitled "The Human Mystery," is guest lecturer.

In the Gifford Lectures, now in book form, the Distinguished Professor Emeritus of the State University of New York ponders what he calls "the great and mysterious problems" presently beyond science and which "may be, in part, forever beyond science." The lecture series, which he presented at the University of Edinburgh in 1978, addresses problems such as the origin of the universe in the "big bang theory," the origin of life, the manner in which biological evolution was constrained to lead eventually to Homo sapiens and, finally, to the origin of each individual, conscious level.

"Hitherto," says Eccles in one of his lectures, "we have considered the brain with little more attention to its structure than if it were a black box. It is now necessary to get inside the black box and to examine in some detail what goes on there in what we may call the neural machinery."

The symposium at the health science center brings together noted theologians and philosophers for a dialogue on mind-brain interaction with an increased awareness of problems facing both science and religion.

Eccles will speak in the morning session of the symposium. Richard M. Zaner, Ph.D., Easterwood Professor of Philosophy at SMU, will amplify and critique Eccles' presentation.

Later that morning there will be a panel response to Eccles' remarks, including James A. Gwaltney, D.Min., Perkins School of Theology, panel chairperson; Harville Hendrix, Ph.D., director, Center for Psychotherapy and Religious Counseling; Leroy Howe, Ph.D., professor of philosophical theology, Perkins; and Josef Seifert, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Dallas.

Panel members from Southwestern Medical School faculty include Dr. Kenneth Z. Altshuler, professor and chairman, Department of Psychiatry; Dr. Anne R. Race, associate professor of psychiatry; Dr. Howard P. Roffwarg, professor of psychiatry and Dr. James A. Hall, clinical assistant professor of psychiatry. Dr. Hall is also president of one of the symposium sponsors, the Foundation for Study of Theology and Human Sciences. The Department of Psychiatry, Southwestern Medical School, co-sponsors the event.

In a give-and-take discussion that afternoon, Eccles, Zaner and the panel members will continue the dialogue. Then discussion will be open to the audience.

Gooch Auditorium is the location of the symposium, which runs from 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Registration fee is \$40; student registration is \$20. For further information, contact Lela Breckenridge, Continuing Education Coordinator (688-2166).

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