

UT News

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September 17, 1987

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****UTHSCD names new
associate deans

DALLAS--Two new associate deans for The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas have been announced by Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president. On Sept. 1, Dr. John Burnside assumed duties in the newly created position of associate dean for clinical affairs, and Dr. David Bilheimer assumed duties in a second newly created post as associate dean for academic affairs. Burnside comes to UTHSCD from the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center of the Pennsylvania State University. Bilheimer has been serving as medical director and an associate dean at Parkland Memorial Hospital since 1982.

In announcing the creation of the two new positions and the appointments of Bilheimer and Burnside, Wildenthal praised the qualifications of both. "Dr. Bilheimer has proved himself to be an excellent teacher, clinician and researcher in his 14 years at Southwestern. And as medical director and associate dean at Parkland he has demonstrated his administrative talents as well. At this point in our growth we must address the needs of our educational and academic programs with vigor. David is the ideal person to consolidate our administrative activities in this area and lead us forward."

Regarding Burnside's appointment, Wildenthal noted that "the school's clinical programs have grown remarkably in recent years, and no activity is more vital for our future success." He said that mushrooming activities at the Aston Ambulatory Care Center and construction of the new University Medical Center, along with the continued growth of programs at Parkland, Children's Medical Center, the VA Medical Center and the health science center emphasize the great importance of the clinical arena for the school, Wildenthal said.

Dr. Burnside has a reputation at Hershey not only for being a superb physician but also for being responsible more than anyone else for the great success over the past decade of their university hospital and clinic and for their referral medical programs. With Southwestern's priority on building quality clinical programs, we sought a person of national prominence to coordinate all our clinical activities and to provide the far-sighted leadership we need. We are very fortunate that this search has resulted in John's agreeing to join us at Southwestern and to assume responsibility for our clinical programs."

Burnside received his M.D. degree from the University of Illinois and did his training at Massachusetts General Hospital. There he served as an intern in medicine, assistant resident in medicine and pathology, resident in medicine and clinical research fellow in medicine. He was also chief medicine resident.

Dr. Burnside served as professor of medicine and associate vice president for health affairs and vice dean at Hershey. Other assignments Burnside has held there included acting senior vice-president of the Department of Medicine, vice chairman

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for the Center for Humanistic Studies, director of ambulatory services, and chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine. He was a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow from 1979 to 1980 and chairman of the board of Health Pass, Inc., a subsidiary corporation connected with Penn State.

Bilheimer, who is internationally known for his clinical investigations of abnormal cholesterol levels based on the basic science work done by Drs. Joseph Goldstein and Michael Brown, also trained in medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. A 1963 graduate of Mulenberg College in Pennsylvania, he received his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in Philadelphia. He is known to many as "Stormie Jones' doctor,"

From 1969 to 1973 he was a staff associate with the Molecular Disease Branch of the National Heart and Lung Institute at Bethesda, Md, and joined the health science center as assistant professor of internal medicine in 1973.

While at UTHSCD, the professor of internal medicine has served as attending physician and medical director at Parkland, chief of Parkland's lipid clinic, associate attending staff at Children's Medical Center and consultant in medicine at Dallas VA Medical Center. Bilheimer was an Established Investigator of the American Heart Association from 1974 to 1979 and has been the recipient of a number of research grants from the AHA and the National Institutes of Health. He is a frequent lecturer at international conferences on cholesterol and arteriosclerosis.

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Note: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and the School of Allied Health Sciences.