

## SIMMONS BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH BUILDING OPENS ON UT SOUTHWESTERN'S NEW NORTH CAMPUS

DALLAS—May 27, 1993—Dallas philanthropist Harold C. Simmons and his family joined medical researchers, state and local officials today to dedicate the Simmons Biomedical Research Building at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Simmons' ongoing support for UT Southwestern includes a \$41 million gift in 1988, the largest single gift ever made to an academic medical center in Texas and the largest ever made to a public medical school.

The Simmons Building is the first of six biomedical research towers planned for UT Southwestern's new North Campus on Harry Hines Boulevard at Inwood Road, across from St. Paul Medical Center—one of UT Southwestern's affiliated teaching hospitals. The second research building is under construction, and a third is in the planning stage.

A dedication ceremony in the building's high-tech auditorium featured remarks by Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern; Bernard Rapoport, chairman of The University of Texas System Board of Regents; William Cunningham, UT System chancellor; and Harold Simmons.

HOLDERS of five distinguished chairs endowed by Simmons at UT Southwestern and directors of the institution's Harold C. Simmons Arthritis Research Center and Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center were among the guests of honor.

Tours of the recently opened biomedical research building followed the dedication.

A 13-story precast concrete structure, the Simmons Building is a memorial to Reuben Leon Simmons and Fairness Clark Simmons, parents of Harold Simmons. Simmons said his parents—East Texas schoolteachers who instilled in their children an abiding respect for education—would be proud to have their names associated with an environment where "talented teachers, bright, inquisitive students and some of the country's best researchers can work together."

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The Simmons Building houses molecular-level research in cancer and cancer immunobiology, neuroscience, cardiology, physiology, pathology, developmental biology and molecular genetics. Three floors are devoted to cancer research.

"One of the most important things in research is bringing together a critical mass of people working in many different areas who can help one another," said Dr. John Minna, director of the Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center and holder of the Lisa K. Simmons Distinguished Chair in Comprehensive Oncology. "This amazing physical plant is wonderfully designed to make that happen." Minna and his researchers are housed on the eighth floor of the Simmons Building.

The striking buff-colored building framed in glass and metal was designed by F & S Partners Inc. of Dallas, with internationally recognized architects Edward Larrabee Barnes and John M.Y. Lee of Barnes, Lee and Associates of New York as consulting design architects. Notable architectural details include a pyramidal skylight and two-story atrium common areas with panoramic views of the Main Campus and the downtown Dallas skyline.

Landscape architects were Johnson, Johnson & Roy Inc. of Dallas.

Art for the building was selected by Lisa K. Simmons, Harold Simmons' daughter and president of the Harold Simmons Foundation, with Dallas art consultants Jerrie Marcus Smith and Murray Smither. A bronze sculpture called "Bella Flora" was designed especially for the two-story lobby by sculptor David Deming. He is chairman of the Art Department at The University of Texas at Austin.

Paintings are by Kazuya Sakai, chairman of the Art Department at The University of Texas at Dallas; Robert Jessup, an art professor at the University of North Texas; David Bates, Hyun Ju Chung and Danny Williams of Dallas; Dennis Blagg, Fort Worth; Bill Hassell, Houston; Roger Winter, Maine; Patricia Tobacco Forrester, Washington, D.C.; and Patrick Hughes, London. Photography is by Lance Patigan, Tucson, Ariz.; Bruce Barnbaum, California; Christopher Burkett, Oregon; and Russell Munson, of New York.

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NOTE: The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School, affiliated teaching hospitals and outpatient clinics.