

October 29, 1992

## UT SOUTHWESTERN ANNOUNCES \$150 MILLION CAMPAIGN FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

DALLAS--The largest fund-raising campaign for research ever undertaken by an American medical school was announced at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas today.

Lee Raymond, president of Exxon Corporation, and Liener Temerlin, chairman of the board of advertising agency Temerlin McClain, will co-chair the \$150 million "Fund for Molecular Research" in an effort to assure UT Southwestern's pre-eminence in the most rapidly developing field of medical discovery. Fifty prominent North Texas civic and business leaders have volunteered for the campaign committee.

"One of the outstanding features of Dallas is the way business and civic leaders get personally involved with worthy institutions to make sure they grow and prosper," Raymond said. "I am convinced there is no more worthy institution for us to support than The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and no better project to get behind than this one."

Temerlin observed that the success of UT Southwestern is not only important to the region but is significant for all mankind. "With this fund, some of the brightest minds in medical science will be able to aggressively attack some of the world's most perplexing medical mysteries," he said.

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## Fund for Molecular Research--2

"Understanding basic life processes at the molecular level holds the key to treating and preventing a majority of human illnesses, including cancer, heart disease, arthritis, neurological disorders such as Alzheimer's and multiple sclerosis and inherited dysfunctions," Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern, added.

He pointed out that as the youngest and most rapidly growing of the nation's top ten medical schools -- with more Nobel Laureates working on the campus than any other in the world -- UT Southwestern is well positioned to lead the way in exploring molecular science.

The fund-raising campaign has the following goals:

- \* \$26 million for molecular genetics: The endowment will support the work of scientists conducting forefront research in the molecular genetics of cholesterol abnormalities, diabetes, cardiac failure, immunologic abnormalities, arthritis, kidney disease and other disorders. UT Southwestern's programs in these areas hold great promise for finding preventions and cures for these diseases.

- \* \$39 million for cancer: Cancer research is of special importance not only because of the devastation caused by the disease but because of the opportunities made possible through new knowledge about the molecular genetics of malignancy. UT Southwestern researchers are rapidly uncovering the genetic basis for many forms of cancer and inventing and testing new forms of therapy -- from immunological "magic bullets" to advanced forms of radiotherapy. Research is aimed at a full understanding of the molecular and cellular abnormalities of cancer and with it the opportunity to conquer the disease.

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\* \$36 million for neuroscience: The ability to understand the molecular genetics and biochemical abnormalities of mental illness, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, paralysis and many other neurological disorders will soon be possible. Prize-winning research projects at UT Southwestern are pushing back the borders of understanding of nerve and brain function and are paving the way to overcoming a host of neurological and mental diseases.

\* \$19 million for developmental biology: The ability to develop from a single cell into a mature organism is programmed into each individual's genes. The study of the molecular and genetic control of development will reveal the basis for a wide variety of abnormalities and illnesses, ranging from congenital heart defects to mental retardation to cleft palate.

\* \$30 million for building and equipment: Funds are needed to provide state-of-the-art facilities in which to conduct the planned research. This amount from the private sector will supplement \$100 million already committed by The University of Texas System for constructing and equipping two new buildings on UT Southwestern's North Campus.

More than \$100 million has been raised to initiate the drive, including a donation of \$1 million Raymond announced on behalf of Exxon today and a gift of \$500,000 from committee member Charles E. Seay and his wife, Sarah.

"Liener and I are certain that with the support of this committee, our efforts will be successful," Raymond said.

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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.