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NEWS RELEASE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL AT DALLAS



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DALLAS -- Dr. Donald S. Wiggans, Professor of Biochemistry at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas, will participate in an international congress on "The Integration of Science Teaching" to be held Sept. 11-19 in Varna, Bulgaria.

The Congress has been organized by the Inter-Union Commission on Science Teaching of the International Council of Scientific Unions, with the assistance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Scientists from more than 30 nations throughout the world will attend.

Discussion will center on techniques for integrating the various scientific disciplines in teaching programs in secondary schools, colleges and universities.

"Many of the traditional divisions of science are today becoming outmoded and artificial," Dr. Wiggans pointed out.

"The rapid expansion of scientific knowledge has resulted in science becoming compartmentalized into smaller and smaller divisions, and this is often reflected in the teaching. And yet some of the most rapid recent advances in science are at the so-called boundary level, with chemists, biologists, physicists and many others applying their special knowledge and skills to a joint problem."

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Teaching needs to center more on emphasizing the relationship between science and everyday life, enabling the pupil to see that science is not a thing apart, but an integral part of his day-to-day life and of the world in which he lives, the Dallas professor said.

A native of Lincoln, Nebraska, Dr. Wiggans joined the faculty at Southwestern in 1954 as Assistant Professor. He became an Associate Professor in 1958 and Professor in 1961. He studied at the University of Nebraska, took a doctorate from the University of Illinois and taught at Yale University School of Medicine before coming to Dallas.

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