

NEWS from the Office of Information
The University of Texas (Southwestern)
Medical School at Dallas
5323 Harry Hines Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75235
Telephone 631-3220, Ext. 404 or 460

Contact: Bob Fenley or John Weeks

DALLAS--Dallas' new School of Allied Health Professions today announced formation of a teaching and administrative team that will launch an organized academic attack on the continuing shortage of specialized health and medical workers.

Appointment of three department chairmen and 40 faculty members was announced by Dr. Richard D. Burk, dean of the school, which is a component of The University of Texas (Southwestern) Medical School at Dallas.

Department heads named were Dr. L. Ruth Guy, chairman of the school's Department of Medical Technology; Dr. Donald A. Pool, chairman of the Department of Rehabilitation Science; Marilyn B. Haschke, chairman of the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Officials also reported receipt of a \$27,887 grant from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare to help initiate academic training in four categories of professional study.

Faculty members named by Dr. Burk were:

Allied Health administration and core curriculum: Dr. Hal T. Weathersby, professor; Robert A. Bernstein, clinical associate professor; Paul A. Gross, clinical associate professor; Dr. Janice B. Dorn, assistant professor; Dr. H.M. Yuan and Joan Reisch, instructors; and William F. Sands, clinical instructor.

Department of Nutrition and Dietetics: Dr. Peggy J. Fry, clinical assistant professor; Bessie Lively, Rose Adair and Catherine McCarty, clinical instructors.

Department of Rehabilitation Science: Dr. Robert Lovitt, assistant professor; Dr. Pearl B. Diana, clinical assistant professor; Lester Lamb, Michael K. Muegge, William Henderson and Carolyn R. Parker, clinical instructors.

--more--

first add allied health

Department of Medical Technology: Dr. Vernie A. Stembridge, medical director of curriculum; Barbara Marshall, clinical instructor and teaching supervisor; Dr. Rolland C. Reynolds, Dr. Jay P. Sanford and Dr. Jack A. Barnett, professors; Dr. John D. Nelson and Dr. Jacob Kay, associate professors; Dr. Robert S. Putnam, Dr. A.B.C. Dowdey, Dr. Paul M. Southern and Dr. Waldemar Johanson, assistant professors; Dr. Van Q. Telford, instructor.

These clinical teaching assistants in medical technology also were appointed: Lorraine Sanford, Sandra Schwedler, Ruth Ragsdale, Earline Kutcher, Elwanda Cornelius, Teresa Martin, Billie Day, Helen Hall, Joy Hendrickson and Patricia Stanley.

Faculty appointments include members of the medical school faculty and experts from cooperating hospitals, health agencies and other academic institutions, explained Dr. Harry J. Parker, associate dean of the health professions school. Teaching personnel represent a "blend of part-time and full-time teachers," he said.

Drs. Burk and Parker, in addition to their administrative duties, will teach in the core curriculum section, with rank of professor.

Chairman and faculty appointments for the Department of Physical Therapy will be made later, Dr. Burk said.

Approximately 60 students are expected to begin classes this fall in the new school, authorized by the University of Texas System Board of Regents to help meet the spiraling need for more trained technical assistants for physicians and health-care institutions.

First classwork, in anatomy and physiology, will begin June 15 for some students. Specialized courses will begin Sept. 8 for all students in physical therapy, nutrition and dietetics, medical technology and rehabilitation science.

All students will study subjects in the school's basic or core curriculum as well as in their specialized field.

--more--

second add allied health

School officials report a deluge of applications for the available openings in each initial class. Interest has been heaviest in physical therapy, where 200 have applied for the 26 seats in the class. Other programs are receiving four to five applicants for each opening, Dr. Parker said.

Generally the courses represent the final year of a four-year college program leading to a bachelor's degree. Students in the allied health professions will come to the school as transfers from senior colleges, mostly from the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

One exception to the fourth-year timetable is the dietetics internship program, which requires a bachelor's degree for entrance, Dr. Parker pointed out.

Offices and classrooms for the new school are in the annex to Methodist Hospital and in Methodist's Weiss Memorial Education Building. Coursework and clinical training in the various specialties will be conducted there and at Parkland Memorial Hospital and other participating medical and health-care facilities.

Graduates will fill amply-available openings as laboratory technicians, agency interviewers and counselors, physical therapists, dieticians and other professional positions.

"The need for health personnel of all types and at all levels has been estimated at between two and one-half and three million over the next decade," commented Dr. Burk. "We've got to meet this challenge as quickly as we can."

Dr. Burk said the unique cooperative approach combining medical school training with study at other academic institutions should yield a higher quality of preparation for many medical assistants often now trained on-the-job in individual agencies.

The school plans to expand health professions education as rapidly as possible, subject only to limitations of available teaching space and qualified teaching personnel. A growth rate of at least 15 per cent per year is anticipated, Dr. Burk said, with additional degree programs and graduate study planned for the future.

MAY 8, 1970