

August 5, 1980

# News

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas  
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75235 (214)688-3404

CONTACT: Ann Harrell  
Office: 214/688-3404  
Home: 214/369-2695

\*\*\*\*\*Work of Welch recipient basic to  
major research

DALLAS--A biochemist of international magnitude whose work is basic to some of the major research in progress at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas has been named the fifth recipient of the Robert A. Welch Award in Chemistry. The international prize carries a \$150,000 award along with a large gold medal.

Dr. Sune Bergstrom, chairman of the board of the Nobel Foundation, will be honored in ceremonies at the foundation's 24th annual Conference on Chemical Research in Houston November 10-12. Bergstrom was a distinguished visitor at the Dallas health science center where he lectured last year.

Dr. Ronald Estabrook, chairman of Biochemistry, says that the work Dr. Paul MacDonald is doing in biochemistry is related to the pioneering work of Bergstrom in prostaglandins, as is the work of Drs. Jack Johnston and Bettie Sue Masters. "Each is looking at a different facet of the puzzle but it is based on his work."

Both Johnston and Masters have Welch grants. Other faculty members who are 1980 Welch grantees include Drs. Ronald A. Butow, Larry Cottam, David Finkelstein, Brenda Griffin, Louis Hersh, Nancy Martin, Anna McCormick, Joseph Napoli, Julian A. Peterson, Russell A. Prough and Michael Waterman.

Bergstrom is located at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. His scientific accomplishments in chemical research have included work in heparin, steroid and bile acid metabolism, as well as prostaglandins. Currently he is the chairman of the WHO Prostaglandin Task Force. The biochemist received his M.D. degree in 1944 and has done research at London University, Columbia and Basel University. He was a member of the Biochemical Department of the Medical Nobel Institute in Stockholm from 1944-47. In 1947-58 he held an appointment as professor of physiological chemistry at the University of Lund in Sweden. Bergstrom served as dean of the Karolinska Institute from 1963-66 and as Rector there from 1969-77.

--over--



A member of both the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and Engineering Sciences, he is also a Foreign Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. He holds honorary doctors degrees from five universities and has received six major scientific awards.

The trustees of the foundation established the Robert A. Welch Award in Chemistry in 1972 to foster and encourage basic chemical research by recognizing the value of specific chemical research which will contribute to the betterment of mankind, as set forth in the will of Robert Alonzo Welch. Another goal was to strengthen the present grant-in-aid, conference and lectureship programs. The foundation also wants to make the general public realize that chemistry is not a cold intellectual abstract subject but a human activity in the mind of man which affects the lives of all of us and our hopes for the future.

The first award was made in November, 1972 to Dr. Karl Folkers of The University of Texas at Austin.

##

DISTRIBUTION: A,SL