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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

DALLAS--Dr. Vert Mooney, professor of surgery and chairman of the division of Orthopedic Surgery at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas, has been appointed W. B. Carrell Professor of Orthopedic Surgery.

The professorship was instituted by the board of Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children in honor of Dr. W. B. Carrell, eminent Dallas orthopedist who helped found the hospital and remained its only chief-of-staff until his death. Dr. Carrell's son, Dr. Brandon Carrell, carried on his father's medical tradition and remains chief-of-staff emeritus today. Chief-of-staff is Dr. Tony Herring.

The hospital, which offers its services free to eligible children in the state of Texas, specializes in the treatment of crippling disabilities in children resulting from birth deformities, accidents and diseases. Originally specializing in orthopedic problems of children who were victims of polio and congenital anomalies, today it has expanded its services and also includes treatment for children with neurological problems associated with language and reading. Approximately 5,000 children are currently on the patient roster.

Besides training orthopedic residents from the health science center, residents from its departments of pediatrics, radiology, anesthesiology, neurology and psychology also receive part of their education there. In addition, medical students rotate through the hospital during their clinical training.

"We are pleased to have Dr. Mooney assume the professorship named for my father," said Dr. Carrell.

Dr. Mooney succeeds the late Dr. Charles Gregory, former chairman of orthopedics, who was the first W.B. Carrell Professor. A graduate of Princeton and Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons, Dr. Mooney came to the health science center in October, 1977 from Los Ranchos Amigos Hospital in Downey, Calif. to head the department. His internship and residency were served at the University of Pittsburgh Hospitals, where he was fellow in charge of the orthopedic research lab in 1964. In 1965-66 the surgeon was in charge of stroke service at Los Ranchos Amigos Hospital.

first add carrell professorship

Dr. Mooney has served as clinical instructor, assistant clinical professor and associate clinical professor in the Division of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Southern California. His clinical responsibilities have included acting as chief of amputee clinic at Los Angeles County General Hospital; stroke service, amputation and problem fracture service and problem back treatment center at Los Ranchos Amigos; and amputee clinic at Orthopedic Hospital, also in Los Angeles.

A recipient of an American Orthopedic Association Exchange Fellowship in 1969, he went on the group's Program Tour of Great Britian that year. In 1971, Dr. Mooney was elected a member-at-large of the board of directors of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. His research activities include exploring prosthetic and orthotic development and evaluation, development of dynamic spinal instrumentation, transcutaneous neuroelectric communication, skeletal fixation of limb prostheses, innovative methods for ambulatory and external fixation of limb fractures, mechanisms for edema control and human reaction to chronic pain.

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