

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

Media Contact: Amy Shields
214-648-3404
amy.shields@utsouthwestern.edu

UT SOUTHWESTERN FACULTY RECEIVE HONORS

DALLAS – July 23, 2003 – Faculty members from UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas recently were recognized for outstanding achievement in their fields.

Dr. Michael Gale Jr., assistant professor of microbiology at UT Southwestern, has been selected as one of eight infectious disease researchers in the nation to receive the 2003 Burroughs Wellcome Fund Award, which includes a \$400,000 grant to investigate the pathogenesis of infectious diseases.

Dr. Gale recently made international news when his team of researchers discovered that a new generation of drugs known as protease inhibitors restores the immune response blocked by the hepatitis C virus, reducing the virus to nearly undetectable levels in a matter of days.

Dr. Gale and seven others were selected from a highly competitive group of more than 150 applicants who were nominated by their research institutions for the Burroughs Wellcome Investigators in Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease awards.

Dr. Mark Henkemeyer, associate professor in the Center for Developmental Biology and cell biology at UT Southwestern, was one of 15 neuroscientists recently awarded \$1.97 million in grants by the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation (CRPF) for research on spinal cord injury paralysis.

Dr. Henkemeyer received a two-year, \$150,000 grant to study Eph-Ephrin signaling in the growth cone in nerve cells.

The CRPF funds research that develops treatments and cures for paralysis caused by spinal cord injury and other central nervous system disorders.