

# NEWS RELEASE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL AT DALLAS



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DALLAS -- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas this fall begins its 26th year of turning out physicians to help keep Texans healthy.

Founded in 1943, Southwestern has graduated 2,068 medical doctors in the intervening 25 years. A large proportion of these graduates are now practicing medicine in Dallas, Fort Worth, Denton and in the entire North Texas area.

In its steady push to increase the output of physicians to meet the health needs of the North Texas community, Southwestern opens classes with the largest enrollment of medical students in its quarter-century history--413.

The freshman class of 106 students includes 10 women. There are 101 sophomores, 110 juniors and 96 seniors in the 1968-69 classes. In addition there are more than 50 graduate students in the basic life sciences, candidates for master's and Ph.D. degrees. The junior class is somewhat larger through transfers from other medical schools.

To instruct these students in the art of preventing and treating human ills are more than 200 fulltime faculty members and almost 1,000 clinical faculty. Clinical faculty are Dallas area physicians and others in the health sciences who volunteer several hours each month to pass on their special skills to the embryonic doctors.

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first add southwestern

There are two new deans at Southwestern this fall. Dr. Parkhurst Shore is acting Associate Dean for Graduate Studies. He succeeds Dr. Frank Harrison, who became on Sept. 1 acting President of The University of Texas at Arlington. Dr. Winfrey Goldman is Assistant Dean for Affiliated Hospital Programs, Coordinator of Regional Medical Programs and Associate Professor of Internal Medicine. Dr. Goldman until recently was Director of Medical Education for John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth.

In addition to the new deans, there are two new department heads on hand for opening of classes. Both are distinguished scientists, coming to Texas with outstanding records in research and teaching. They are Dr. Ronald Estabrook, Chairman of Biochemistry and Virginia Lazenby O'Hara, Professor of Biochemistry, and Edward Montgomery, Director of the Fred Florence Bioinformation Center and University Professor of Library Sciences.

Several new senior professors also are on hand, including Dr. Michael Blaw, a nationally known specialist in pediatric neurology -- disorders of the brain in children.

Southwestern has been most fortunate through the years in enlisting an outstanding faculty, said Dr. Charles Sprague, Dean. He pointed out that no less than nine Southwestern professors have been presidents of national and international learned medical societies in the past five years.

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second add southwestern

With the steady expansion of research and teaching at Southwestern, the present campus of four buildings is bursting at the seams and the first of a series of new buildings will be launched during the current school year. This will be the McDermott Basic Science Research Bldg. The McDermott Bldg. will connect with three present adjoining buildings, the Edward H. Cary Basic Science Hall, the Karl Hoblitzelle Clinical Science Center, and the Dan Danciger Research Center. Across the campus is the Skillern Student Union Bldg. Planning is proceeding for other new buildings to be erected in the next few years.

Southwestern was opened in 1943 during the height of World War II, to help meet the urgent need for physicians for the armed services. At first it was a private school, sponsored by the Southwestern Medical Foundation. In 1949 it became a part of The University of Texas System.

From the beginning the Southwestern Medical Foundation has been a strong supporter of the medical school. After the school became a part of The University of Texas System, the Foundation has continued to supply supplemental support.

The Southwestern campus and buildings are on Harry Hines Boulevard, adjoining Parkland Memorial Hospital. Parkland is the principal teaching hospital for the school, where students learn by helping to treat the sick, under the watchful eyes of their doctor teachers. While the majority of clinical teaching is carried on at Parkland, the medical school enjoys affiliations with many private hospitals in North Texas for certain specialized teaching opportunities.

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third add southwestern

Parkland and Southwestern are closely related in carrying on their mutual programs of patient care, research and education. Department heads at Southwestern also serve as chiefs of services for the hospital. The junior and senior students at Southwestern spend part of each school day at the hospital, assisting in the care of patients as a part of their learning experience.

Parkland is now planning a \$17,000,000 expansion-renovation program, financed in part by a \$7,300,000 federal grant, intended specifically to make Parkland a better teaching hospital.

The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System last April approved in principle a long-range development program for the Dallas medical school that will lead eventually to the establishment of a broad Life Sciences Center on the campus on Hines Boulevard.

This will mean that Southwestern will in the future offer a much broader scope of training in all of the life sciences that pertain to health care. It will mean that students with special interest in the allied health sciences that are becoming more and more important to health care will be able to study at Southwestern.

Meantime, the Board of Regents also has proposed creation of a regional University of Texas System for North Texas that will encompass the medical school at Dallas, The University of Texas at Arlington and the Southwest Center for Advanced Studies at Richardson. Pending approval by the Coordinating Board and the Texas Legislature, this complex would further extend the educational opportunities offered by the state university in North Texas.

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fourth add southwestern

Dean Sprague, who came to Southwestern a year ago from Tulane University School of Medicine, said:

"The swift advances of medical and scientific knowledge, coupled with increased and changing demands for health services, should be recognized in a curriculum which provides a modern fundamental understanding of the basic biological, physical, social and behavioural sciences, plus the broad clinical experience required of the competent physician.

"Since he will be called on increasingly to evaluate and transform medical discovery into clinical application, the evolving physician at Southwestern is intensively trained in those habits of scholarship which will help him arrive at intelligent judgments throughout a lifetime of practice. This flexibility and sensitivity to new knowledge is considered just as important -- in fact, often more important -- than rote storage of presently available facts.

"Southwestern, like most modern medical schools, is vitally involved in the production of new knowledge through research. The faculty and students have made recent, significant contributions in many fields, as evidenced by the large number of scientific publications made nationally and internationally. Some of this research already has resulted in improved methods of practice directly benefiting the public.

"As a result of new trends in health care, the medical school is involved not only in basic research, but in studies of better methods of delivering optimum treatment and prevention of disease. The concept of not only curing individual illnesses but of maintaining and improving health on a continuing basis, now has emerged."