

news THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS

southwestern medical school • graduate school of biomedical sciences • school of allied health sciences

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*****Endowed chair, professorship
awarded to 2 Southwestern surgeons.

DALLAS--Two of Southwestern Medical School's foremost surgeons have been selected to occupy newly created academic positions, considered among the highest accolades that can be conferred by an institution, it was announced today.

Dr. Robert McClelland was named to the Alvin Baldwin Jr. Chair in Surgery, and Dr. Charles Baxter was appointed to the Frank H. Kidd Jr., M.D., Professorship in Surgery. Both were made possible by gifts to the Southwestern Medical Foundation.

Selection of the two Southwestern faculty members was announced Saturday by Dr. Charles C. Sprague, president of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas, at a luncheon in their honor at the center. Southwestern is a component of the UT center.

"We are proud to honor these two eminently able medical educators in this manner," Dr. Sprague said. "Both have brought distinction to this medical school, and to this community. These appointments give richly deserved recognition to their contributions to clinical science and teaching."

The Baldwin Chair in Surgery was made possible through a gift of approximately \$500,000 by Mr. and Mrs. Erik Jonsson to the Southwestern Medical Foundation. Mr. Jonsson, former Dallas mayor and a founder of Texas Instruments, Inc., is widely recognized along with Mrs. Jonsson for philanthropies benefiting science and education.

The chair was established as a tribute to Dr. Alvin Baldwin Jr., a well known Dallas surgeon.

The Kidd professorship, awarded to Dr. Baxter, was designated in honor of another prominent and respected Dallas surgeon, Dr. Frank H. Kidd Jr. The professorship is supported by income from a gift of \$100,000 to the foundation from the estate of Dr. Kidd's mother, the late Mrs. Frank H. Kidd Sr.

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first add surgery event

Scheduled to attend the Saturday luncheon in the Harris Faculty-Alumni Center at UTHSCD, in addition to the honorees and their wives, are Mr. and Mrs. Jonsson; Dr. and Mrs. Baldwin; Dr. Kidd and Mr. and Mrs. George L. MacGregor. Mr. MacGregor is chairman of the board of Southwestern Medical Foundation.

Hosts for the event are Dr. and Mrs. Sprague; Southwestern Medical School Dean and Mrs. Frederick Bonte, and Dr. and Mrs. William J. Fry.

Dr. Fry, chairman of Southwestern's surgery department, cited the two recipients as "principal strengths" in the department. He described Dr. McClelland as a "surgeon's surgeon and a teacher's teacher" who has made a major contribution to the teaching of general surgery. He said Dr. Baxter, an authority on treatment of burns, has "revolutionized" burn care through his research and innovations in treatment.

Dr. McClelland's creation and editorship of a widely circulated publication, "Selected Readings in General Surgery," has been praised as a major influence on improved surgery residency training. The monthly, non-profit "reading seminar," featuring reprints of scholarly and scientific articles on surgery topics, was begun in 1973 and is a part of surgery teaching programs in this country and abroad.

"Because of his dedication and the excellence of his work, Dr. McClelland is now contributing to the education of over 60 per cent of all surgery residents in training in the United States," Dr. Fry commented. "It seems singularly appropriate that this degree of excellence in surgical education has been recognized by awarding him the Alvin Baldwin Chair in Surgery."

Dr. Fry noted that Dr. Baxter "has organized and revolutionized the care of the burn patient in the North Central area of Texas.

"His great enthusiasm and diligence have promoted superior care of the burn patient, and his extensive and varied research program has contributed not only to this improvement in care but has extended the understanding of many of the metabolic changes that occur during trauma," Dr. Fry said. "Dr. Baxter's continued productivity in both the clinical and research settings is truly remarkable."

second add surgery event

Dr. Baxter, chief of the famed Burn Center of Parkland Memorial Hospital, received international recognition for his innovative treatment of a Dallas County girl, Sherry White, who survived after suffering second and third-degree burns over 92 per cent of her body. The girl, who was 8 when injured in a flash fire in her home in 1973, was the first known survivor of such extensive burns.

More recently, Dr. Baxter has taken the lead in development of a nationwide program for storage of skin for transplant to burn victims. At Parkland, one of the busiest burn centers in the nation, he has established a "skin bank" which stores frozen strips of human skin and pig skin, both of which are used as temporary grafts.

Dr. McClelland has been a Southwestern faculty member since 1962. The Gilmer, Tex., native received his M.D. degree from the UT Medical Branch at Galveston. He has published more than 50 papers on surgical management of trauma, ulcers and other problems.

Dr. Baxter received his M.D. from UT Southwestern in 1954 and studied at Parkland Hospital, Brooke Army Hospital in San Antonio and the National Institutes of Health before joining the Southwestern surgery faculty in 1962. He is a past president of the American Burn Association.

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