

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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HILLCREST FOUNDATION DONATES \$250,000 TO UT SOUTHWESTERN

DALLAS — January 17, 1994 — The Hillcrest Foundation is contributing \$250,000 to fund basic neuroscience research at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in honor of Mrs. W.W. Caruth Sr.

"Over the years, the trustees of the Hillcrest Foundation have supported a variety of research projects at UT Southwestern," said Daniel Kelly, vice president of the foundation's board of trustees. "We've always been impressed with the results from the work in progress, and we think the researchers at UT Southwestern have more than proven themselves worthy of continued funding as they explore new areas of interest. We believe this grant will lay the foundation for significant improvements in the field of neuroscience." The gift will be matched, as part of UT Southwestern's Fund for Molecular Research, raising the available funds to \$500,000.

The Hillcrest Foundation, established in 1959 by Mrs. W.W. Caruth Sr., makes grants to Texas organizations that are dedicated to the advancement of education, the promotion of health and the relief of poverty.

Mabel P. Caruth, daughter-in-law of the founder, and D. Harold Byrd Jr., grandson of the founder, serve on the board of trustees of the Hillcrest Foundation, along with Harry A. Shuford.

The Caruth family and the Hillcrest Foundation have been generous benefactors to UT Southwestern for many years, having pledged more than \$1.75 million to the

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medical center during the last two decades for basic research and for the purchase of medical equipment. The foundation also donated money in 1971 toward establishing the Physician Assistant program at the UT Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School, and the foundation provided funds to expand and improve UT Southwestern's Department of Psychiatry in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

This latest gift will help equip a laboratory devoted to advanced neuroscience research. In this lab, an interdisciplinary team of researchers will work at the molecular, cellular and genetic level to determine how the brain and nervous system develop and function normally and how abnormalities result in mental retardation and neurological disorders later in life.

"This gift will fund basic research that may one day provide solutions for a wide array of neurological problems," said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern. "We deeply appreciate the longstanding support of the Hillcrest Foundation."

The Fund for Molecular Research is a \$150 million capital campaign, which began in 1992 to raise funds for construction on UT Southwestern's North Campus and to solidify and expand research efforts in cancer, molecular genetics, neuroscience and developmental biology.

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