

# SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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## **Hegi family gives \$250,000 to establish professorship, lecture series at UT Southwestern in honor of Dr. Dan Foster**

DALLAS – Feb. 1, 2007 – A \$250,000 gift from the family of Dallas businessman Fred Hegi and his wife, Jan, will establish a professorship and lectureship at UT Southwestern Medical Center in medical ethics in honor of Dr. Daniel Foster, a distinguished faculty member whose entire career has been devoted to UT Southwestern.

The gift, which was made to Southwestern Medical Foundation, will be divided to create the Daniel W. Foster, M.D., Fund for Visiting Lecturers in Medical Ethics and the Daniel W. Foster, M.D., Professorship in Medical Ethics. Dr. John Sadler, professor of psychiatry who leads the Program in Ethics in Science and Medicine at UT Southwestern, will hold the professorship.

“Jan and I have tremendous respect and love for Dan Foster, who has been a close friend, teacher and medical confidante to our entire family for over two decades,” said Mr. Hegi, chairman of United Stationers, Inc. and founding partner of Wingate Partners. “His life and career epitomize the vital melding of medicine and ethics, and so we felt that this would be the most fitting way to pay tribute to his impeccable integrity, which our family admires so much.”

Dr. Foster holds the John Denis McGarry, Ph.D., Distinguished Chair in Diabetes and Metabolic Research. He was chairman of internal medicine for nearly 16 years. Dr. Foster’s scientific focus is in the area of lipid and carbohydrate metabolism. His research has led to his election and appointment to such prestigious organizations as the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians and the board of Scientific Counselors of the Clinical Center of the NIH. In January he assumed the presidency of the Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas, an organization made up of Texas members of the NAS. He is a member of President George W. Bush’s Council on Bioethics.

“Jan and Fred have been deep friends of mine for many years, so I am honored and touched by their gift to UT Southwestern and to me,” said Dr. Foster, who also has led the Sunday school class at the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas where the Hegis have attended for more than 20 years. “I also

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am delighted that John Sadler, a distinguished leader on campus, will be the recipient of the professorship.”

Dr. Sadler graduated *summa cum laude* in 1976 from Southern Methodist University with a bachelor’s degree in psychology. He earned his medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis in 1980 and joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 1984 after completing an internship and residency at the medical center. He currently directs the division of research ethics in the Department of Clinical Sciences at UT Southwestern, and he is an adjunct professor and director of the Center for Values in Medicine, Science and Technology at UT Dallas.

He has received numerous awards and honors, including being named Distinguished Teaching Professor at UT Southwestern in 2006. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, a founding member of the UT System Academy of Health Science Education, a charter member of the UT Southwestern Academy of Teachers, and an executive officer of the International Network for Philosophy and Psychiatry. In 2001 the Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians honored him with its Psychiatric Excellence Award.

“Given the multiple distinctions of Dr. Daniel Foster as a clinician, medical researcher, educator, community leader, and Presidential advisor, I’m flattered and honored to hold a professorship in his name,” said Dr. Sadler. “These endowments for the UT Southwestern Program in Ethics in Science and Medicine could not have come at a better time or be more greatly appreciated. These funds will advance our educational outreach to the greater Dallas community and open up new opportunities for growth.”

Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern, said, “We are extremely honored that the Hegi family has chosen to recognize Dr. Foster – one of the most outstanding and dedicated faculty members – in such a significant way. It is an exceptionally heartwarming and generous gift, which will enable bioethics to assume a still-greater prominence in our programs.”

The Hegi family had previously donated \$50,000 in support of UT Southwestern’s clinical service initiative, a program designed to develop new models of enhanced patient service for all those who seek medical care from UT Southwestern physicians. Mr. and Mrs. Hegi also have served as co-chairs of the medical center’s Presidential Research Council, which raises funds to provide early research support for new UT Southwestern faculty members.

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**About UT Southwestern Medical Center**

UT Southwestern Medical Center, one of the premier medical centers in the nation, integrates pioneering biomedical research with exceptional clinical care and education. Its more than 1,400 full-time faculty members – including four active Nobel Prize winners, more than any other medical school in the world – are responsible for groundbreaking medical advances and are committed to translating science-driven research quickly to new clinical treatments. UT Southwestern physicians provide medical care in 40 specialties to nearly 89,000 hospitalized patients and oversee 2.1 million outpatient visits a year.

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