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**David M. Crowley Foundation donates \$100,000
to Spinal Cord Injury Lab at UT Southwestern**

DALLAS – May 2, 2006 – The David M. Crowley Foundation has given \$100,000 to support ongoing research at the Spinal Cord Injury Lab at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

“We hope that our contribution aids in the research to help find a cure for paralysis,” said Sandra Hallmark, president of the foundation. “We are excited about the research that is being conducted at UT Southwestern to help improve the quality of life of spinal-cord injury patients.”

The gift will provide funding for a new project that utilizes single photon emission computed tomography to measure the brain’s reorganization in individuals following spinal-cord injury once they have completed a regime of body-weight supported treadmill training. This training is one of the few clinically effective methods for improving functional recovery in persons following spinal-cord injury.

“I am grateful to the Crowley Foundation for making these funds available to the Spinal Cord Injury Lab,” said Dr. Patricia Winchester, chairwoman of physical therapy at UT Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School and co-director of the Spinal Cord Injury Lab. “This gift will allow continued exploration of what I feel is the most important goal of the lab, the establishment of effective and efficient therapies to improve upright mobility for persons following spinal-cord injury.”

Dr. Winchester recently led a study showing that people who have suffered partial paralysis from spinal-cord injury have increased activity in the part of the brain responsible for muscle movement and motor learning after 12-weeks of training on a robotic treadmill.

The study was the first to demonstrate that locomotor training can promote activation of the parts of the brain involved in walking in spinal-cord injury patients.

Mr. Crowley, an investor who died in 2003, established the foundation in 1990. Last year, the foundation donated \$100,000 to the Department of Ophthalmology at UT Southwestern to conduct research in retinal vascular disease and age-related macular degeneration.

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“The generous support by the David M. Crowley Foundation of our coordinated research efforts into the development of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) has allowed a two-pronged laboratory effort toward understanding this devastating blinding disease,” said Dr. James McCulley, chairman of ophthalmology and holder of the David Bruton, Jr., Chair in Ophthalmology.

The Crowley Foundation’s gift in 2005 has helped Dr. Wojciech Kedzierski, assistant professor of ophthalmology, investigate an animal model of AMD. In another research effort, Dr. YuGuang He, assistant professor of ophthalmology, has been able to advance his work on the possible role of platelet activating factor in the initial development of macular degeneration.

Born and raised in Dallas, Mr. Crowley graduated from North Dallas High School and attended St. Mary’s University in San Antonio. He served as a captain in the U.S. Army during World War II and was awarded the Bronze Star for action in the Battle of the Bulge.

Mr. Crowley was married to the late Mary Carter Crowley, founder of Home Interiors & Gifts, a leader in direct sales and the home décor industries. His brother was the late Dallas County Judge Frank Crowley.

“These gifts from the David Crowley Foundation are generous and key contributions in our research efforts,” said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern. “They enhance our ability to pursue important work in the area of spinal-cord injury and rehabilitation, as well as in understanding age-related macular degeneration development.”

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