

News

Office of Medical Information
The University of Texas

Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas

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****Southwestern Medical Foundation sponsors
neuroscience research symposium in Dallas

DALLAS -- Top neuroscience researchers from around the world will present and discuss their work at a Symposium on Neuroscience sponsored by Southwestern Medical Foundation on March 3 and 4 at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

The symposium will explore contemporary research into the biochemistry of normal neural development and functioning, as well as neurological disease and injury. The work raises hopes that physicians may be able to replace damaged nerve cells and restore severed neural pathways.

"New studies and continued research in the neurosciences are changing the way the scientific community approaches standard medical practice," said Dr. Charles C. Sprague, chairman and chief executive officer of Southwestern Medical Foundation. "This symposium will allow physicians and scientists from around the world an opportunity to hear and discuss innovations with some of the leading authorities in the neurosciences. It will also help us all to better understand the impact research will have on the way many neurological disorders are treated in the future."

Southwestern Medical Foundation is a nonprofit organization providing monetary support to UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas and medical programs in the North Texas region. Sponsoring this symposium reaffirms the Foundation's strong commitment to its mission of developing and improving medical education, research and care.

(More)

In addition to exploring the latest advances in neuroscience, the symposium will honor two internationally recognized pioneers in neuroscience research, Dr. Torsten Wiesel and Dr. David Hubel. In 1981, Dr. Wiesel and Dr. Hubel shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for work resulting in fundamental insights into the mechanism employed by the brain in analyzing visual stimuli.

Dr. Wiesel is president of Rockefeller University and director of its laboratory for neurobiology. He is past chairman of the Department of Neurobiology at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Hubel is the John Franklin Enders University Professor in the Department of Neurobiology at Harvard Medical School.

Another eminent neuroscientist, Dr. Eric R. Kandel, will address a dinner for Foundation trustees and guests. University Professor at Columbia University and senior investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute there, Dr. Kandel's research led to the development of simple cellular models for learning and memory.

Dr. A. James Hudspeth, chairman of the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience and holder of the Loyd B. Sands Distinguished Chair in Neuroscience at UT Southwestern, will chair the symposium, which begins at 8:45 a.m. Tuesday, March 3 in the Tom and Lula Gooch Auditorium on the UT Southwestern campus.

The first day's sessions will focus on development of neural connections and information processing in the nervous system. The second day speakers will explore neural disease and neuronal regeneration, as well as functional organization and development of the visual cortex.

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The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School, affiliated hospitals and outpatient clinics.

**The University of Texas
Southwestern Medical Center
at Dallas**

**SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL FOUNDATION
SYMPOSIUM ON NEUROSCIENCE**

Tuesday, March 3

9 am-12:15 pm: Development of Neural Connections

Connie L. Cepko, Ph.D., associate professor of genetics, Harvard Medical School

David L. Bentley, Ph.D., professor of molecular and cell biology and dean, Division of Biological Sciences, College of Letters and Sciences, University of California at Berkeley

Thomas M. Jessell, Ph.D., professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics in the Center for Neurobiology and Behavior at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

Martin C. Raff, M.D.C.M., professor of biology and co-director of the Medical Research Council Developmental Neurobiology Programme, University College, London, England

1:30-5:30 pm: Information Processing in the Nervous System

Erwin Neher, Ph.D., director, Membrane Biophysics Department, Max-Planck-Institut für Biophysikalische Chemie, Göttingen, Germany

Richard E. Tsien, Ph.D., George Smith Professor and chairman, Department of Molecular and Cellular Physiology, Stanford University School of Medicine

Eric I. Knudsen, Ph.D., professor of neurobiology, Stanford University School of Medicine

Mark Konishi, Ph.D., Bing Professor of Behavioral Biology, California Institute of Technology

William T. Newsome, Ph.D., associate professor of neurobiology, Stanford University School of Medicine

Wednesday, March 4

9 am-12:15 pm: Neural Disease and Neuronal Regeneration

Albert J. Aguayo, M.D., director, Centre for Research in Neuroscience, McGill University, Montreal

Dennis W. Choi, M.D./Ph.D., Andrew B. and Gretchen P. Jones Professor and chairman, Department of Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Jeremy Nathans, M.D./Ph.D., assistant professor of molecular biology and genetics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Stanley B. Prusiner, M.D., professor of neurology and biochemistry, University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco

1:30-5:30 pm: Functional Organization and Development of the Visual Cortex

Charles D. Gilbert, M.D./Ph.D., professor at Rockefeller University

David C. Van Essen, Ph.D., professor of biology, California Institute of Technology

Margaret S. Livingstone, Ph.D., professor of neurobiology, Harvard Medical School

Carla J. Shatz, Ph.D., professor of neurobiology, University of California at Berkeley

Michael P. Stryker, Ph.D., professor of physiology and co-director, neuroscience graduate program, University of California-San Francisco