

August 12, 1992

PIONEERING CELL BIOLOGIST NAMED TO CECIL H. GREEN DISTINGUISHED CHAIR

DALLAS--Dr. Richard G.W. Anderson, professor of cell biology and neuroscience whose research helped lay the groundwork for the Nobel Prize-winning work of Drs. Michael Brown and Joseph Goldstein, has been named first holder of the Cecil H. Green Distinguished Chair in Cellular and Molecular Biology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

Anderson has identified two mechanisms for transporting molecules into a cell. His earlier discovery of "coated pits" in the cell's surface helped Brown and Goldstein discover how low-density lipoprotein (LDL cholesterol) enters cells. Recently he described a mechanism using small pockets in the cell's surface membrane -- known as caveolae or "caves" -- to concentrate and transport molecules much smaller than LDL into cells. Anderson thinks this caveolar pathway may turn out to have significant clinical applications in cancer diagnosis and treatment as well as in gene therapy.

Anderson earned a Ph.D. in anatomy from the University of Oregon. He joined the faculty at UT Southwestern in 1973 and has served as chairman of the graduate program in cell and molecular biology. He is director of an ongoing National Institutes of Health-funded cell and molecular biology training program at UT Southwestern.

###

NOTE: 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 teaching hospitals and outpatient clinics.