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# News

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Jonsson Visiting Professorship brings noted scientist/philosopher Dr. Lewis Thomas to UTHSCD Dec. 7-9.

DALLAS--The first Jonsson Visiting Professor, author of the popular book, The Lives of a Cell, will visit The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas (UTHSCD) Dec. 7-9.

Dr. Lewis Thomas, president of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, will present "On Altruism in Biology" at the Dec. 7 faculty seminar at 4 p.m. He will also participate in the 10th Annual Graduate Student Research Forum Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. when he will lecture on "Basic Science and the Future of Medicine."

"The health science center is deeply indebted to the family of Philip R. Jonsson for providing the funds to support this annual visiting professorship in the graduate school," said Dr. Charles C. Sprague, president of UTHSCD, in announcing the establishment of the first visiting professorship in the basic sciences in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, a component of UTHSCD.

Dr. Sprague extended an invitation to the public to attend Dr. Thomas's lectures on current issues in science.

He said the graduate school plans to bring a scientist of international distinction to Dallas for an extended period each year through the new Jonsson Visiting Professorship.

In addition to serving as president of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Dr. Thomas serves as professor of pathology and medicine at Cornell University Medical College. He has held a number of prestigious academic appointments, including the deanship of both Yale University School of Medicine and New York University School of Medicine.

He received the National Book Award in Arts and Letters for his book of essays, The Lives of a Cell, published in 1974. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences. He was the 1975 recipient of Modern Medicine's Award for Distinguished Achievement and in 1976 was awarded membership in Phi Beta Kappa at Yale University and in Phi Beta Kappa Association of New York.

"We are exceptionally honored to have Dr. Thomas serve as our first Jonsson Visiting Professor," said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, dean of the graduate school and professor of physiology.

"His scientific work is unsurpassed and, in addition, he is one of America's most gifted writers and speakers. He combines the best of basic biomedical science with a deep concern for human beings. His visit will be the highlight of the year for the graduate school."

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Dr. Thomas has served on the editorial boards of American Journal of Pathology, Cellular Immunology, Journal of Medicine and Philosophy, Perspectives in Biology and Medicine and other publications.

He has chaired the Department of Pathology at Yale-New Haven Medical Center and the Departments of Pathology and Medicine at New York University-Bellevue Medical Center. In addition to hospital appointments at New Haven and Bellevue, he has served as director of the Division of Infectious Disease at Tulane University School of Medicine.

Dr. Thomas was graduated from Princeton University in 1933 and received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1937.

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