

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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RON ANDERSON, M.D., ELECTED TO PRESTIGIOUS INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

DALLAS – November 11, 1997 – Dr. Ron Anderson, president and chief executive officer of Parkland Health & Hospital System and professor of internal medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, has been elected to the Institute of Medicine.

The institute is a component of the National Academy of Sciences. Its membership, which is separate from the NAS, addresses policy matters pertaining to the health of the public and advises the federal government on problems related to medical care, research and education.

Anderson, a nationally respected figure in public-health policy development and implementation became a faculty member at UT Southwestern in 1976 and was named president and CEO of Parkland Memorial Hospital in 1982.

"I've long admired the work of the Institute of Medicine. It is an honor to be among its current and past members," Anderson said. "I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the important work the institute is doing to improve the nation's medical-care system and the health of its people."

In his role as one of the nation's leading advocates of health care for the poor, Anderson is the immediate past chairman of the Center for Community Responsive Care in Boston and serves on the National Health Policy Initiative, an advisory board to the White House on health-care issues. He played a major role in the passage of landmark legislation concerning indigent health care in Texas and in the United States. His efforts led to a ban on transferring medically unstable patients from private hospitals to public hospitals because of inability to pay. Texas passed the ban in 1985 and President Reagan signed in to law similar federal legislation in 1986.

Locally, Anderson also led an effort to establish a network of neighborhood-based health centers through Parkland's Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) program. The COPC physicians, most of whom are UT Southwestern faculty members, offer primary-care services -- family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine and obstetrics/gynecology -- to low-income

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communities. This system blends preventive medicine and public-health services into the primary-care clinics, which are linked to Parkland's central campus for comprehensive backup support and hospitalization.

Under Anderson's leadership, Parkland has received several distinctions including being named one of the best trauma hospitals in the country. The hospital also received the 1994 Foster G. McGaw Prize for Excellence in Community Service.

Anderson himself is a recipient of several awards including the James E. Peavy Award, the highest award given by the Texas Public Health Association. He also has received the McGovern Award from the Association of Academic Health Centers for humanitarian medicine, the American College of Health Care Executives Regents Award (Texas), the Safety Net Award from the National Association of Public Hospitals, and the Earl M. Collier Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Texas Hospital Association.

Next month, Anderson will receive the 1997 Torch of Conscience Award given by the American Jewish Congress. The award honors distinguished men and women whose qualities of moral courage, love of liberty and service exemplify the noblest ideals of our common heritage.

Anderson was reared in Chickasha, Okla. He earned a bachelor of science in pharmacy from Southwestern University of Oklahoma in 1969 and a medical degree from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in 1973. He did his internship and residency in internal medicine at UT Southwestern between 1973 and 1976.

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UT Southwestern Institute of Medicine members

1. Ron Anderson, M.D.	1997
2. Scott M. Grundy, M.D., Ph.D.	1995
3. Jean Wilson, M.D.	1994
4. Daniel W. Foster, M.D.	1989
5. Alfred G. Gilman, M.D., Ph.D.	1989
6. Michael S. Brown, M.D.	1987
7. Joseph L. Goldstein, M.D.	1987
8. Paul C. MacDonald, M.D.	1987
9. Charles C. Sprague, M.D.	1979
10. Ronald Estabrook, Ph.D.	1975
11. Donald W. Seldin, M.D.	1974
12. Bryan Williams, M.D.	1970