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## **\$1.5 million gift from Lupe Murchison Foundation to support medical research programs at UT Southwestern**

DALLAS – April 8, 2008 – The Lupe Murchison Foundation has given \$1.5 million to support UT Southwestern Medical Center’s Endowed Scholars Program and to foster medical research.

The gift, made to Southwestern Medical Foundation as part of the *Innovations in Medicine* campaign, will be used to help UT Southwestern recruit and launch the careers of outstanding new faculty members.

UT Southwestern’s acclaimed Endowed Scholars Program in Medical Science was established in 1998 with \$60 million in philanthropic funds. The program supports five or six basic-science researchers each year. A parallel effort for Scholars in Clinical Science has been begun more recently to support young faculty who concentrate on clinical care and research.

“We are pleased to support an institution as outstanding at UT Southwestern,” said Michael Redden, co-trustee of the Lupe Murchison Foundation. “Mrs. Murchison greatly valued and appreciated the quality of care she received from the physicians and staff associated with the medical center. In addition, she had a great respect for the cutting-edge research being conducted there and believed in UT Southwestern’s objective to improve the quality of life for people around the world.”

Mrs. Murchison died in 2001, and the Dallas-based Murchison Foundation was established the same year. In addition to Mr. Redden, its trustees are Jerry V. Smith and Robert McCulloch.

A Texas arts patron and civic leader, Mrs. Murchison was the widow of John D. Murchison, the son of legendary oilman Clint Murchison Sr. Her husband and brother-in-law, Clint Murchison Jr., were businessmen and owned the National Football League’s Dallas Cowboys from 1959, when it was an expansion franchise, to 1984, when it was sold to H.R. “Bum” Bright.

Mrs. Murchison served for 18 years on the University of North Texas System Board of Regents, and the school honored Mrs. Murchison by naming its performing arts center for her in 1998. Mrs. Murchison also received an honorary doctor of public service and philanthropy degree from UNT.

“Lupe was a loyal friend to UT Southwestern for many years, and it is very gratifying that the foundation has honored her legacy through the establishment of this permanent fund, which will advance medical science in Dallas in perpetuity,” said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of the medical center. “On behalf of all those who will benefit from this wonderful gift, I express our deep appreciation.”

W. Plack Carr Jr., president of Southwestern Medical Foundation, added: “Mrs. Murchison’s incredible generosity has made countless projects possible throughout our community, and we are extremely grateful for her dedication – and that of the Lupe Murchison Foundation – to the progress of medicine and unwavering support of young scientists.”

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