

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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CAIN FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES FUND FOR ANGIOGENESIS RESEARCH AT UT SOUTHWESTERN WITH \$1 MILLION ENDOWMENT

DALLAS – March 30, 2000 – A \$1 million endowment from the Cain Foundation of Austin has established a fund at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas to train, recruit and support scientists working in the area of angiogenesis.

The new Cain Foundation Research Scholar Fund will allow established researchers such as Dr. Philip Thorpe, professor of pharmacology at UT Southwestern, to provide in-depth training in angiogenesis to young researchers, either on the UT Southwestern campus or through temporary assignment to other leading centers around the world.

"The spirit behind this generous gift is the exchanging of ideas. This fund will allow us to send some of our brightest prospects elsewhere to learn new techniques and bring them to Dallas and to attract new recruits to our campus from around the world. By collaborating with other centers, we stand to make significant inroads in the treatment of diseases of global importance, such as cancer, heart disease and diabetes," said Thorpe, who holds the Serena S. Simmons Distinguished Chair in Cancer Immunopharmacology.

Angiogenesis is the formation of new blood vessels, the vehicles that take oxygenated blood to all organs of the body. Research into angiogenesis may provide valuable information for treatment of diseases such as myocardial infarction, in which stimulation of new blood vessels to nourish the damaged heart muscle may be useful. Inhibition of angiogenesis may also be therapeutic in diseases such as cancer. Thorpe has made significant progress in learning how to destroy the growing blood vessels that feed nutrients to malignancies. He has successfully blocked the blood supply of tumors in mice, causing death of the malignant cells.

A longtime supporter of UT Southwestern, the Cain Foundation has donated more than \$5 million to the medical center since 1990. In 1993 it became one of the earliest contributors to UT Southwestern's Fund for Molecular Research by establishing the Cain Foundation Center for Biomedical Research, later named the Effie Marie Cain Alzheimer's Research Center, and the

(MORE)

CAIN FOUNDATION - 2

Cain Foundation Distinguished Chair in Biomedical Research, now known as the Effie Marie Cain Distinguished Chair in Alzheimer's Research.

In 1994 the foundation made an additional grant to the fund, establishing the Effie Marie Cain Distinguished Chair in Cancer Therapy Research and the R. Wofford Cain Distinguished Chair in Bone and Joint Disease Research. The foundation in 1990 created the Effie and Wofford Cain Distinguished Chair in Diagnostic Imaging. The Effie Marie and Wofford Cain Endowed Clinical Research Program was established in 1997. The foundation also contributed to the endowed scholars campaign by establishing the Effie Marie Cain Research Scholar in 1998.

Wofford and Effie Cain created their foundation more than 47 years ago to support Texas educational institutions, public charities, civic organizations and medical research. Wofford Cain, who died in 1977, was one of the founders of Southern Union Co. along with Clint Murchison Sr. He also helped build Delhi Oil Corp., Aztec Oil and Gas Co., and Supron Energy Corp. He was chairman of the Southern Union board of directors for 30 years.

Effie Cain, who died in November, was a supporter of a variety of local civic, social and charitable organizations, including the University Park United Methodist Church and Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children.

"Effie and Wofford Cain will always be remembered as true champions of education and medicine," said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern. "They and their successors who serve as trustees to the Cain Foundation have built a legacy that will yield enormous benefits for future generations. We are very honored to have benefited so greatly from the Cain family's ongoing generosity."

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