

# UT News

Office of Medical Information  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas  
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75235  
214/688-3404

October 10, 1986

CONTACT: Tommy Bosler  
OFFICE: 214/688-3404  
HOME: 214/327-1773

\*\*\*\*Nobel laureate Gerald Edelman will be  
1986 Jonsson Visiting Professor at UTHSCD

DALLAS--Nobel laureate Gerald M. Edelman will be the 1986 Philip R. Jonsson Visiting Professor at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas. Edelman, who is professor of developmental and molecular biology at The Rockefeller University, New York City, will make major addresses at the health science center on Oct. 28 and 29, 1986.

As Jonsson Visiting Professor, his appearance marks the high point of the academic year in the Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and coincides with the annual Sigma Xi Graduate Student Research Forum.

On Tuesday, Oct. 28, Edelman will give the Nineteenth Annual Sigma Xi Lecture at 3 p.m. in the Zale Lecture Hall (D1.600) at the health science center, 5323 Harry Hines Boulevard. His subject will be "Cell Adhesion Molecules in the Regulation of Animal Form and Tissue Pattern."

Following the lecture, the UTHSCD chapter of Sigma Xi, a national honorary organization of scientists, will honor selected graduate students with a display of their work and a reception in the A.W. Harris Faculty-Alumni Center.

Edelman's subject on Oct. 29 will be "Neural Darwinism: The Theory of Neuronal Group Selection." His address, at 4 p.m. in the L. Storey Stemmons Lecture Hall (D1.700), is part of the University Lecture Series.

Edelman has a broad range of intellectual interests both in and outside of science. He has made significant contributions in biophysics, protein chemistry, immunology, cell biology and neurobiology. His early studies on the structure and diversity of antibodies led to his being awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 1972.

Edelman's attention then turned to mechanisms involved in the regulation of primary cellular processes, particularly the control of cell growth and the development of multicellular organisms. In the course of this work he has focused on cell-cell interactions in the early development of embryos and in the formation and function of the nervous system. On the theoretical side, Edelman works on the organization of higher brain functions, the construction of non-von Neuman machines and recognition automata.

Edelman was born in New York City in 1929. He received his medical degree from The University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in 1954 and his Ph.D. at the Rockefeller Institute in 1960, where he has remained throughout his career. Edelman is a member of the National Academy of Sciences.

The annual Philip R. Jonsson Visiting Professorship was endowed by Mr. and Mrs. Erik Jonsson through the Southwestern Medical Foundation. Previous Jonsson Visiting Professors have included Lewis Thomas, Francois Jacob, Sir Peter Medawar, Sir Gustav Nossal, Arthur Kornberg, George Palade and Paul Berg.

xxx

Distribution: AA,AB,AC,AM,SC

Note: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and the School of Allied Health Sciences.