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# News

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\*\*\*\*\*New dean selected for medical school

DALLAS--Dr. Claud Kern Wildenthal, a 38-year-old scientist and educator widely recognized for work in heart research, has been chosen as the next dean of The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

Dr. Wildenthal's appointment was recommended by a Southwestern search committee to Dr. Charles C. Sprague, president of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas and approved by the UT System Chancellor, Dr. E.D. Walker.

"I'm extremely pleased that we will have a person of Dr. Wildenthal's caliber as dean," said Dr. Sprague, noting his outstanding administrative record as dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, his research which developed new methods for culturing heart tissue and his citations for teaching ability.

Dr. Wildenthal, who possesses both M.D. and Ph.D. degrees, will assume his new duties Sept. 1. He will replace Dr. Frederick Bonte who becomes head of the new Center for Nuclear Medicine being developed at UTHSCD.

"A better appointment could not have been made," said Dr. Bonte.

In accepting the appointment, Dr. Wildenthal stated: "It's my intention to carry on the policies that have made Southwestern a truly distinguished institution."

A search committee will be appointed to recommend a new dean for the graduate school, Dr. Sprague said.

Chosen to head the medical school from which he graduated 16 years ago, Dr. Wildenthal has had a wide diversity of experience and education, both domestically and abroad.

He is scientific consultant to the Strangeways Research Laboratory in Cambridge, England. It was in Great Britain in studies with Dame Honor Fell, that Dr. Wildenthal was able to develop methods for maintaining mouse hearts in culture over long periods of time.

Dr. Wildenthal received a Ph.D. in cell physiology in 1970 from the University of Cambridge. Prior to his M.D. degree from Southwestern, he had graduated from Sul Ross College in Alpine with a B.A. degree which combined majors of English Literature and Premedical Sciences.



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Currently, Dr. Wildenthal is professor of physiology and internal medicine at UTHSCD. He is editorial consultant for North Holland Publishing Co., Amsterdam, and senior attending physician at Parkland Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Wildenthal has served an internship in internal medicine at Bellevue Hospital with the New York University School of Medicine and has been a resident at Parkland Hospital.

In 1966, he was appointed a postdoctoral fellow of the Cardiology Division at UTHSCD. In 1968 he became a guest scientist for the cardiology branch of the National Heart Institute and a special research fellow and visiting scientist at Strangeways.

He was appointed an assistant professor in the departments of Physiology and Internal Medicine and the associate director of the Weinberger Laboratory for Cardiopulmonary Research at UTHSCD in 1970.

After attaining rank as assistant professor and then professor, Dr. Wildenthal was named Guggenheim Fellow and visiting scientist at the University of Cambridge. He became dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at UTHSCD in 1976.

Dr. Wildenthal is a member of many medical and scientific societies, study sections and editorial boards of journals concerned with cardiology. He has been a member of executive and coordinating committees for the International Society for Heart Research, a member of the Royal Society of Medicine of Great Britain, among a number of others.

Dr. Wildenthal has published more than 110 scientific papers in heart research. One research finding which achieved world-wide attention was application of the so-called "diving reflex" in treatment of persons with episodes of rapid heart beating (Paroxysmal Atrial Tachycardia).

Among the scholarships, fellowships and awards received by Dr. Wildenthal are: Outstanding Teacher Award presented by the UTHSCD student body, Avalon Foundation Scholarship, Outstanding Student-of-the-Year Award at Sul Ross College, John Leddy Jones Memorial Scholarship, postdoctoral research fellowship, special research fellowship and career development award all from the U.S. Public Health Service.

Dr. Wildenthal was recommended by a select group of faculty leaders headed by Dr. William Fry, chairman of Surgery.

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