

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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\$250,000 GIFT ESTABLISHES ALTSHULER FUND FOR PSYCHIATRIC EDUCATION

DALLAS – May 2, 2001 – Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Z. Altshuler have pledged \$250,000 to Southwestern Medical Foundation from the Sharp Foundation to establish the Kenneth Z. Altshuler Fund for Psychiatric Education. The gift will endow the Kenneth Z. Altshuler, M.D., Grand Rounds in Psychiatry at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, as well as assist in supporting visiting professors in the Department of Psychiatry.

“Both Ruth and Ken have given generously to UT Southwestern, Southwestern Medical Foundation and the community,” said W. Plack Carr Jr., president of Southwestern Medical Foundation. “We are delighted that they chose to honor us along with the school by making this important educational gift through the foundation.”

Kenneth Altshuler, professor of psychiatry at UT Southwestern, holds the Stanton Sharp Distinguished Chair in Psychiatry and is immediate past chairman of the department. During his 23-year tenure at UT Southwestern, Altshuler built the department to national stature and scientific reputation and stimulated funding for 10 endowed chairs, five professorships and two endowed centers. Ruth Altshuler is a noted civic volunteer, a member of the Zale Lipshy University Hospital board and vice chairman of the board of Southwestern Medical Foundation.

“Endowing our department’s Grand Rounds is a particularly fitting way to recognize and acknowledge Ken Altshuler’s lasting contributions to the department,” said Dr. Eric Nestler, chairman of psychiatry. “Training our next generation’s leaders in psychiatry was always a priority for Ken and will be helped significantly by this gift. We are all extremely grateful to Ken and Ruth Altshuler for their extraordinary generosity.” Nestler holds the Lou and Ellen McGinley Distinguished Chair in Psychiatric Research.

“I’ve been in psychiatric education all of my professional life,” Kenneth Altshuler said, “and it’s exciting to be able to make an enduring contribution in this way. Ruth has been interested in the school as well, and we both owe it a debt of gratitude for having brought me

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down here, supported my career and given us the chance to meet.”

Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern, said, “Ruth Altshuler is a longtime contributor to Southwestern Medical School and the Department of Psychiatry. She has given tirelessly of both of her time and her resources to support the school before Dr. Altshuler came to UT Southwestern to rebuild the then-foundering psychiatry department to the outstanding leader in the field it is today. We are grateful to Ruth and Ken for their joint support for postgraduate education for our faculty and workers in the mental-health field through this gift.”

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