

June 19, 1992

CANCER, MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS INVESTIGATORS  
SHARE DISTINGUISHED YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD

DALLAS -- Dr. Staley A. Brod and Dr. David P. Carbone have been named co-winners of the Distinguished Young Researcher Award given by the President's Research Council at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

The award includes a \$40,000 "seed money" grant to support an investigator's research. It is given annually to a young faculty member whose work shows exceptional promise. This is the first time two awards have been given.

Brod, an assistant professor of neurology, is investigating the mechanism underlying multiple sclerosis. A disabling neurological disease of young adults, multiple sclerosis occurs when myelin -- a protective sheath around nerve cells -- is destroyed. Brod's research focuses on a type of white blood cell he believes may regulate the growth and destruction of myelin.

"The seed grant from the President's Research Council award will allow us to acquire the preliminary data needed to obtain research funding to continue studying the regulation of these cells in humans," Brod said.

Brod received his medical degree from the Medical College of Ohio, where he also completed an internal-medicine residency. He did his residency in neurology at Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Conn., followed by a fellowship at the Center for Neurologic Disease at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. He was an instructor at Harvard Medical

(More)

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School before joining UT Southwestern in 1991.

Carbone, an assistant professor of internal medicine, is a researcher in UT Southwestern's Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center. His work focuses on the way molecular defects in specific genes may initiate the development of cancer. Carbone hopes to use this information to affect the course of the disease and, perhaps, to avert cancer altogether through genetic screening.

In other research, Carbone is trying to determine how tumors hide from the immune system. His research team hopes to use gene-therapy techniques to stimulate tumor cells to produce the antigens that elicit immune-system response, perhaps making the tumors more susceptible to the body's natural defenses.

Carbone earned his medical degree and a doctoral degree in molecular biology from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He completed his medical residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital and a fellowship in medical oncology at the National Cancer Institute. He joined UT Southwestern in 1991.

The President's Research Council is composed of community leaders who are interested in supporting and advancing medicine and science through research. They meet several times a year to hear presentations by UT Southwestern faculty members and to see new facilities at the medical center. Council membership fees support the Distinguished Young Researcher Award.

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NOTE: The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School, affiliated teaching hospitals and outpatient clinics.