

News

Office of Medical Information
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75235-9060 214/688-3404

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CONTACT: Jennifer Donovan
Office: 214/688-3404
Home: 214/328-3193
Fax: 214/688-8252

****UT Southwestern sponsors public meeting
on changing doctor-patient relationship

DALLAS -- What has become of the traditional doctor-patient relationship? Where have the mutual trust and understanding gone -- and why?

A panel moderated by Jim Lehrer, co-anchor of the award-winning MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour, will examine the changing doctor-patient relationship at a free public symposium from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 19 in Gooch Auditorium on the campus of The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd.

A physician, a heart-transplant patient and experts from the fields of biotechnology, law, medical ethics and economics will discuss issues and answer questions from the audience.

The panel includes Dr. Charles Galvin, Centennial Professor of Law at Vanderbilt University and former dean and professor of law at Southern Methodist University; Dr. Charles Sanders, chief executive officer for Glaxo Inc., a major pharmaceutical manufacturer; Dr. Thomas Rice, associate professor in the Department of Healthy Policy and Administration at the University of North Carolina's School of Public Health; Dr. Tom Beauchamp, professor of philosophy and senior research scholar at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University; Dr. John Burnside, associate dean of UT Southwestern Medical School; and A.C. Greene, Dallas historian, author and heart transplant recipient.

Among the legal considerations that Dr. Galvin sees affecting the doctor-patient relationship are standards of care in fixing liability,

(More)

medical experimentation, definitions of death and dying, abortion, methods of resolving disputes and issues arising from the Medical Practices Act.

Dr. Sanders has been CEO for Glaxo Inc. since June 1989. He is also chairman of Glaxo's Latin American and Canadian operations and a member of the board of Glaxo Holdings, p.l.c.

A Dallas native, Sanders is a UT Southwestern graduate.

Before joining Glaxo, Sanders spent eight years with Squibb Corporation as chief executive officer of the science and technology group, chairman of the science and technology committee, vice president of the company and finally its vice chairman.

His academic medical career spanned 25 years, during which he was a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and general director of Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston before joining Squibb.

Since 1977 Beauchamp has been staff philosopher for the N.I.H. National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research. Much of his study and writing has concentrated on problems of medical ethics, and he has co-authored several books on medical ethics: A History and Theory of Informed Consent (1986), Principles of Biomedical Ethics (1979, 1983) and Medical Ethics (1984).

Dr. Rice's career has centered around the issues of health economics. After earning a master's degree in economics at the University of California at Berkeley, he became a health economist at SRI International (formerly the Stanford Research Institute) while he wrote his doctoral dissertation on "Economic Incentive and Physician Practice."

In 1983 Thomas joined the faculty of the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, his undergraduate alma mater, where he is co-director of the Clinical Economics Training Component.

In addition to his faculty position, Thomas is currently a senior visiting analyst for the Physician Payment Review Commission in Washington, D.C.

(More)

Doctor-Patient Symposium - 3

Dr. Burnside became associate dean of clinical affairs at UT Southwestern in 1987 and has overseen a period of rapid growth in

clinical activities as a result of the success of the Aston Ambulatory Care Center and the opening of Zale Lipshy University Hospital.

Throughout his career, Burnside has been concerned with humanistic medicine and ethical issues in the care of patients. He was a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow in 1979-1980.

A.C. Greene has been a longtime fixture on the Texas literary scene, winning respect for more than 40 years as a journalist, a historian and teacher. He is currently associated with the Center for Texas Studies at the University of North Texas as its critic-in-residence and coordinating director. He writes a weekly historical column called "Texas Sketches" for The Dallas Morning News, which is syndicated in several Texas newspapers.

But Greene's involvement in a doctor-patient relationship started the day in 1979 he tried out a physician/friend's new treadmill and EKG machine. He found to his surprise he had heart trouble. His degenerating condition resulted in heart transplantation in June 1988 -- the first performed in Dallas by Dr. Steves Ring, director of UT Southwestern's heart transplant and cardiothoracic surgery program.

Greene described the event six months later in a lengthy and moving article in "Dallas Life," Sunday magazine of The Dallas Morning News. He has now written Taking Heart, a book about his experience to be published by Simon and Schuster in May.

The doctor-patient relationship symposium is part of UT Southwestern's annual reunion weekend, this year honoring Dr. Bryan Williams, retiring associate dean of UT Southwestern Medical School.

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