

# NEWS RELEASE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL AT DALLAS



FRANK CHAPPELL *Director of Medical Information*

JOHN WEEKS *Science News Editor*

DALLAS -- Dr. F. Douglas Lawrason, vice president for academic medical affairs of Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories at Rahway, N.J., has been named associate dean for academic affairs of The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas.

Dr. Lawrason's appointment to the newly created senior post at Southwestern was announced today by Dr. Charles C. Sprague, dean. The new associate dean will have as a primary responsibility the development of the academic programs encompassed by the Life Science Center concept, Dr. Sprague said. He also will have a faculty appointment as professor of medicine.

Prior to joining Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories in 1961, Dr. Lawrason was for six years with the University of Arkansas Medical Center at Little Rock, as professor of medicine, provost for medical affairs and dean of the school of medicine. Earlier he served as assistant dean of the University of North Carolina School of Medicine at Chapel Hill, and was on the staff of the Division of Medical Sciences of the National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences, in Washington, D.C.

--more--

A native of St. Paul, Minn., Dr. Lawrason attended the University of Chicago and completed undergraduate, graduate and medical studies at the University of Minnesota. He completed internship and residency training at New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn., and was a fellow and instructor at Yale School of Medicine.

Dr. Lawrason conducted studies in cancer and leukemia in inbred strains of mice at Minnesota. At Yale he investigated new methods for the determination of plasma proteins, and also studied salt and water excretion as related to renal dynamics. At North Carolina he did studies in experimental leukemia in inbred mice, with particular reference to immunologic aspects and factors of resistance of transplanted tumors.

As a U.S. Naval Reserve officer, he studied experimental anemia in swine, carried out hematologic -- (blood related) studies in animals exposed to atomic bomb radiation at Bikini, and did hematologic follow-up studies in individuals exposed to the atomic bombs dropped on Japan. This work was done at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital and the Naval Medical Research Institute at Bethesda, Md.

Dr. Lawrason currently is secretary of the Medical Sciences Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is on the board of governors of the Pennsylvania Heart Association and the board of directors of the Geisinger Medical Center's Institute for Medical Education and Research. He is a member of the New York Academy of Science, American Federation of Clinical Research and Association of American Medical Colleges.