southwestern medical school - graduate school of biomedical sciences - school of allied health sciences

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*****Noted Michigan surgeon accepts post as chairman of Surgery at University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

DALLAS--A prominent vascular surgeon from Michigan has accepted the job as chairman of the Department of Surgery for The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

Dr. William James Fry, holder of the Frederick A. Coller Professorship at the University of Michigan Medical School, will fill a position vacated by Dr. G. Tom Shires in December, 1973.

In announcing Dr. Fry's acceptance, Dr. Frederick J. Bonte, dean of Southwestern, said Wednesday:

"Dr. Fry is dedicated to building a strong surgery department on our campus and to the cementing of relations with the medical community and the community of teaching hospitals."

Dr. Charles C. Sprague, president of the UT Health Science Center, of which the medical school is a part, also expressed pleasure that Dr. Fry would be the person filling the important chairmanship.

Formal ratification of the new chairman is expected at one of the next meetings of The University of Texas System Board of Regents.

Since the departure of Dr. Shires and a dozen general surgery faculty, Dr. Ronald C. Jones has been acting chairman of the department.

"The school certainly owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Jones in acting as chairman during this period," commented Dean Bonte. "In his term the graduating medical students placed first in surgery in a national competetive examination."

Dr. Bonte said Dr. Fry will be doing a substantial amount of recruting nationwide to fill the vacant surgery slots.

In coming to Dallas, Dr. Fry will assume the Dr. Lee Hudson-Robert R. Penn Chair in Surgery. As chairman of the medical school's surgery department, he automatically becomes chief of the surgery service at Parkland Memorial Hospital.

In addition to the Coller Professorship at Michigan, Dr. Fry was a 1970 recipient of Galens Shovel from the Galens Honorary Medical Society; was given the Class of 1964 Senior Award and the 1963 Distinguished Service Award of the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor.

He is current president of the Central Surgical Association and past president of the Central Surgical Association and past president of the Michigan Chapter, American College of Surgeons, and the Victor Vaughn Society. He has held several positions with the Coller Surgical Society and is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Fry has contributed chapters or parts of chapters to six textbooks, and has written some 77 scientific papers with principal interest in surgery involving blood vessels, arteries and veins.

He was head of the section of general surgery in the Surgery Department at the University of Michigan Medical school from 1967 to 1974. He has been chief of the Red Surgical Service, Michigan Medical School.

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Dr. Fry attended the University of Michigan for both undergraduate and medical training, then became a surgery intern at the University of Minnesota. He then moved from assistant surgery resident to senior clinical instructor at Michigan

He moved through the various positions from instructor in surgery to professor from 1959 to 1967. A consultant for the Ann arbor Veterans Administration Hospital and Wayne County General Hospital, Dr. Fry is a diplomate of the American Board of Surgery.

Dr. Fry is a member of a large number of societies and professional organizations connected with medicine and surgery.

A native of Ann Arbor, Dr. Fry is married and he and his wife have two children.