

# SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

Media Contact: Scott Maier  
214-648-3404  
scott.maier@utsouthwestern.edu

## UT Southwestern faculty receive honors

DALLAS – Oct. 22, 2004 – Faculty members from UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas recently were recognized for outstanding achievement in their fields.

**Dr. Keith L. Parker**, professor of internal medicine and pharmacology at UT Southwestern, recently received the 2004 Research Award from the Society for the Study of Reproduction. This annual award recognizes active society members for outstanding research published during the previous six years.

Dr. Parker's research is dedicated to understanding the mechanisms that control the development and function of the adrenal glands, ovaries and testes. One major focus is a molecule called steroidogenic factor 1 (SF-1).

The Ellison Medical Foundation has awarded a New Scholars in Global Infectious Diseases grant to **Dr. Vanessa Sperandio**, assistant professor of microbiology at UT Southwestern. The award provides a \$200,000, four-year grant in support of her research on the role of cell-to-cell signaling in *E. coli* pathogenesis.

Enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* (EHEC) is a global public health problem. Results from her studies will provide new insights into EHEC pathogenesis as well as identify novel targets for the potential development of more effective intervention strategies for EHEC disease.

The award is intended to provide new faculty with support during the first three years of their independent research career.

###