

# News

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\*\*\*\*MacDonald honored with professorship

DALLAS -- A surprise gift of a professorship was made to Dr. Paul C. MacDonald, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, at the 23rd annual meeting of the Southwest Gynecological Assembly at the Plaza of the Americas recently. The Paul C. MacDonald Professorship was presented to MacDonald as both first holder and honoree. Friends and colleagues at the school and in the community, former students and residents around the country, and the local assembly as an organization participated in the gift.

This is the third major award to come to the professor of obstetrics and gynecology the past year. Earlier he was honored with a surprise dinner at the A.W. Harris Faculty and Alumni Center celebrating his 25th year with the school. MacDonald was also recently named to the National Institute of Medicine this year. "It's been a wonderful year," he said. "Now if all the grants come through, everything will be great."

MacDonald said that he was truly moved by the honor. "For an academician there can be no greater honor. And this particular professorship is a symbol of the close relationship between the former students and the school."

The professor explained that many former students and residents were among the "town docs" who came to Dr. Jack Pritchard as head of the department years ago and told him they wanted to start an annual in-depth OB/Gyn meeting in Dallas, which became the Southwest Gynecological Assembly. However, unlike most local meetings, their goal was to have the quality as high as that of national meetings and to stress basic science as well as clinical topics. In order to achieve this, the school would have to be closely involved -- and it has been, said MacDonald, who has worked with the assembly since its beginning. Academy members were also among the many friends and colleagues who honored Pritchard with a special tribute when he retired as head of services at Parkland several years ago.

"The assembly has performed a major service to the physicians in the community by keeping the prices for the meeting low and its standards high," MacDonald said. "Also, the assembly has made money, and much of it has come to the 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.