

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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UT SOUTHWESTERN RESEARCHER WINS PRESTIGIOUS GERMAN RESEARCH AWARD

DALLAS — April 21, 1995 — Dr. Melanie Cobb, associate professor of pharmacology at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, has received the prestigious Max Planck Research Award from the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft and Alexander von Humboldt Foundation of Germany.

Cobb was nominated for the award by Dr. Rolf Kemler, a professor at the Max-Planck-Institute for Immunobiology in Freiburg, Germany. Cobb shares the award with Dr. Peter Shaw, who is also at the Max-Planck-Institute. The award includes a cash gift of 100,000 German marks (about \$25,000).

She is the leader of the cell regulation and signal transduction program in the Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center at UT Southwestern. The program is the major established basic research program of the center and has the goal of defining the mechanisms and pathways that integrate external and internal regulatory signals in cells. In her own research, Cobb is looking at how insulin and nerve-growth factor affect cell growth and metabolism. This information will help investigators learn how cancer cells and, ultimately, tumors develop.

Cobb joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 1983. She received her Ph.D. in biological chemistry from Washington University and completed postdoctoral training at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York.

"This award will be important in furthering Melanie's research. She is certainly deserving of this international recognition," said Dr. Alfred Gilman, chairman of pharmacology at UT Southwestern and 1994 winner of the Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine.

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