

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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FINA CHAIRMAN PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR IMMUNOLOGY RESEARCH

DALLAS — February 11, 1994 — A desire to support basic research in disease has led Paul and Betty Meek to establish a professorship in immunology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Funds pledged by the couple will create the Paul and Betty Meek-FINA Professorship in immunology. Mr. Meek, retired chairman of FINA, and his wife provided a \$25,000 gift which increased to \$50,000 with a matching grant from FINA.

The \$50,000 gift also is part of UT Southwestern's Fund for Molecular Research and will receive matching funds to create a \$100,000 endowment for the immunology professorship. The endowment will support research by an immunologist in the Harold C. Simmons Arthritis Research Center at UT Southwestern.

"We believe it is important to support basic immunologic research because this is where the answers to a lot of health problems can be found," said Meek, who retired from FINA in 1988 but retains the title of chairman of the board.

Meek, a chemical engineer, said he knows the value of immunology research. "What happens in this area will affect a number of other medical fields," he said.

Dr. Kern Wildenthal, UT Southwestern president, agrees and

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Page 2 --FINA CHAIRMAN

said, "Advances in immunology research will have a positive effect for people with many different kinds of illnesses. UT Southwestern is grateful to the Meek family and FINA for their foresight in supporting research that will help so many people."

Mr. Meek is a distinguished graduate of The University of Texas at Austin, and has had an extensive career in the petrochemical industry. He has been with FINA the majority of his career and has served as a vice president, president and chief operating officer, then president and chief executive officer, before becoming chairman of the board.

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