

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

Media contact: Rachel Donihoo
(214) 648-3404
or e-mail: rachel.donihoo@email.swmed.edu

DR. DAVID FIXLER NAMED FRED S. BROOKSALER PROFESSOR

DALLAS-July 28, 1999-Dr. David E. Fixler, professor of pediatrics at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, has been appointed the first holder of the newly upgraded Fred S. Brooksaler Professorship in Pediatrics. The professorship was upgraded from a lectureship this spring through the combined efforts of UT Southwestern and its department of pediatrics and Children's Medical Center Foundation.

"We felt that a permanent professorship would be the most enduring and appropriate tribute to Dr. Brooksaler and a fitting honor for Dr. Fixler," said Dr. Charles Ginsburg, chairman of pediatrics at UT Southwestern, chief of staff at Children's and holder of the Marilyn R. Corrigan Distinguished Chair in Pediatric Research. "Dr. Brooksaler was admired enormously for his teaching skills and clinical acumen, and Dr. Fixler has carried on that tradition with his own remarkable clinical and teaching skills."

Ginsburg was responsible for recommending to the administrations of UT Southwestern and Children's that medical funds held at each institution be merged to create the professorship with the concurrence of Brooksaler's family.

Brooksaler and his wife, Irma, fled Germany in 1938 after his pediatric practice was destroyed during the Nazi regime's persecution of Jews. The Brooksalers immigrated to Dallas, where the young doctor familiarized himself with American medicine by taking additional pediatric training at Children's Medical Center of Dallas.

(MORE)

BROOKSALER PROFESSORSHIP-2

In 1939 Brooksaler earned his Texas medical license. After more than 20 years in private practice, he joined the full-time faculty at UT Southwestern in 1961 and remained for 10 years. He was the first director of the birth defects center at Children's Medical Center and received multiple civic and teaching honors before his death in 1973.

"It's a tremendous honor to be given a professorship named after a physician with such a legendary reputation," said Fixler, director of pediatric cardiology at Children's Medical Center. "Dr. Brooksaler was known for his unparalleled teaching ability, and his character and expertise continue to be a personal and professional inspiration to me."

Fixler began his career at UT Southwestern in 1971 after completing a research fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco. Fixler has won numerous professional honors, including the Variety Club of Texas Humanitarian of the Year Award, Children's Medical Center Residents Teaching Award and the American Heart Association's Gladys Fashena Award in Pediatric Cardiology. He also has served as a consultant to the National Institutes of Health.

###