

# SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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## UT SOUTHWESTERN BREAKS GROUND ON NEW BIOMEDICAL TOWER

DALLAS — September 30, 1997 — Looking ahead to the medical challenges awaiting physicians and patients in the next century, UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas today officially kicked off construction of a third medical research tower on its North Campus.

At the completion of the Seay Biomedical Building — named in honor of Dallas philanthropists Sarah M. and Charles E. Seay — UT Southwestern's North Campus will include more than 1 million square feet of research and clinical space. The new structure will house dozens of state-of-the-art laboratories and clinics dedicated to research and the treatment of cancer, mental illness and a variety of other diseases.

The Seays contributed \$10 million to the construction of the new eight-story building, which is scheduled for completion in 1999. The couple was honored at a groundbreaking ceremony today at 11:30 a.m. After welcoming remarks by Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern, attendees heard from Rita C. Clements, vice-chairman of the UT System Board of Regents; Dr. William H. Cunningham, chancellor of the UT System; and Charles Seay.

The first floor will include an atrium lobby, while the second and third floors will house oncology-related outpatient services and research laboratories. Physicians will be able to consult with patients in the clinics, as researchers on nearby floors work toward developing better therapies for combating cancer. Levels five and six will house psychiatric clinics and labs, including the Sarah M. and Charles E. Seay Center for Basic and Applied Research in Psychiatric Illness, funded in part by a \$3 million donation from the Seays. Basic science research, some of which will be tied to major projects already under way in other North Campus buildings, will expand to fill the new building's other floors. Two levels of underground parking are planned.

The Seay Building will be constructed alongside the Simmons Biomedical Research Building, the Nancy B. and Jake L. Hamon Biomedical Research Building and the Mary Nell and Ralph B. Rogers Magnetic Resonance Center. A buff-toned, precast-concrete structure with glass and metal frames, the Seay Building will be a physical complement to the existing research towers on the North Campus, situated near the intersection of Harry Hines Boulevard and Inwood Road.

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The building was designed by Page Southerland Page in association with John M.Y. Lee/Michael Timchula Architects. The construction contract has been awarded to Clark Construction Group. The new building is part of a master plan for the North Campus that was a cooperative effort of F & S Partners and planners and landscape architects Johnson, Johnson & Roy, both of Dallas. The 40-acre North Campus site was donated by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

The Seay Building's interior and exterior design and floor plan will resemble the Simmons and Hamon buildings but will be customized to meet the needs of occupants. The Seay Building will add 342,727 square feet of research, support services and parking space to the medical center complex.

The Seays have contributed more than \$21 million to UT Southwestern and Southwestern Medical Foundation. Besides funds for the new building and the new psychiatric center, the couple's donations have established a new pediatric emergency orthopaedic center and two distinguished chairs and four chairs in pediatrics, child psychiatry and cancer research.

Charles Seay said it will be "wonderful to see this new building rise." Through the years, the Seays — who are UT Austin alumni — have credited the University of Texas for much of their personal and business success. "We believe strongly in the work going on at UT Southwestern," Mr. Seay said. "Anything associated with The University of Texas is close to our hearts, and we welcomed the chance to give something back to our community."

After meeting as students at UT Austin, the Seays married in 1937, and Mr. Seay began his career as an insurance agent for Southwestern Life. He launched his own business a dozen years later, an enterprise specializing in life-insurance common stocks. Securities later were added to the lineup, and the Seays' business interests thrived.

As their business prospered, the Seays' family also flourished. A hallmark of the couple's philanthropy has been their intense devotion to education and to children.

"The Seays are kind and generous people, whose concern for their fellow men and women has led them to outstanding displays of generosity," Wildenthal said. "We are proud and grateful to have been chosen as the recipient of so much of their support."

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