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UT Southwestern names Dr. Susan Cox first regional dean for Austin area to further partnership with Seton Healthcare Family

DALLAS – June 30, 2011 – UT Southwestern Medical Center has named Dr. Susan M. Cox, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, the first regional dean who will oversee Austin-area programs and strengthen partnerships with Seton Healthcare Family.

In 2009, UT Southwestern signed an affiliation agreement with Seton to significantly increase the number and types of residents who practice at Seton facilities. The agreement also provides for creation of the Seton /UT Southwestern Clinical Research Institute.

“Dr. Cox has deep knowledge of both institutions, and her background and experience in education will cultivate the abundant clinical and educational opportunities that unite us,” said Dr. J. Gregory Fitz, executive vice president for academic affairs, provost and dean of UT Southwestern Medical School.

Dr. Cox, who holds the Gillette Professorship in Obstetrics and Gynecology, recently served as the Designated Institutional Official (DIO) responsible for Graduate Medical Education programs, which now include more than 1,400 residents and fellows in clinical departments at UT Southwestern. UT Southwestern is one of the largest medical schools in the nation and ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top 10 medical schools for research among public universities.

“Together, we are committed to the development of residency training programs of the highest quality, and to further development of clinical care and research within Seton Healthcare Family,” noted Dr. Cox. “By training more residents in Central Texas, Seton and UT Southwestern hope to address the local doctor shortage. Many physicians eventually establish permanent practice in the communities where they train.”

Seton’s larger goal is to improve the health of those it serves with a special concern for the poor and vulnerable. Seton is increasing its investment in medical education and research so that area patients receive necessary and timely medical treatment.

“Dr. Cox and UT Southwestern Medical Center faculty will help us realize our vision of expanding access to quality care for all Central Texans,” said Dr. Jim Lindsey, chief medical officer for Seton Healthcare Family, the leading health care provider in the region.

Dr. Cox received her medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine; previously served as medical director of the High Risk Pregnancy Unit at Parkland Hospital; and is a past president of the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics.

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