

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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UT SOUTHWESTERN FACULTY RECEIVE HONORS

DALLAS – Oct. 7, 2003 – Faculty members from UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas recently were recognized for outstanding achievement in their fields.

Dr. A. H. “Buddy” Giesecke, professor of anesthesiology and pain management at UT Southwestern, recently was presented the Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Society of Anesthesiologists (TSA) for his lifelong commitment to the field of anesthesiology. The award is the highest given by the organization.

Dr. Giesecke is widely known for his groundbreaking work on intraoperative fluids, anesthesia for traumatized patients, including children, and use of antacids to facilitate uptake of premedicates.

Dr. Ege Kavalali, assistant professor in the Center for Basic Neuroscience and physiology at UT Southwestern, recently received a \$99,880 grant to study the pathogenesis of Rett syndrome, a debilitating neurological disorder found almost exclusively in young girls.

Dr. Kavalali was chosen by the Rett Syndrome Research Foundation as one of 13 scientists worldwide to receive a grant.

He will study the function of *Methyl-CpG-binding protein 2 gene*, which in most cases causes the disease, in hopes of identifying functional deficiencies in neurons that may lead to symptoms associated with Rett syndrome.

Dr. Philip Perlman, associate dean for Southwestern Graduate School, has been elected as a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology – a leadership group within the American Society for Microbiology.

Fellows are elected by their peers based on leadership, scientific achievements and outstanding contributions to the field of microbiology.

Dr. Perlman pioneered studies that focused on intron RNA splicing and mobility mechanisms in yeast mitochondria. His findings have significant implications for understanding the origin and dispersal of introns in the genomes of higher organisms.