

Pathways

THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

UT Southwestern
Medical Center

Winter 2023

Betting on
Breakthroughs

Perot family's gifts invest in the dual talents
of M.D./Ph.D. students

CAMPUS PATH

Students and faculty cross Dr. Donald Seldin Plaza among changing leaves on the South Campus of UT Southwestern.



Reflecting on a Year of Impact

As the seasons change across the UT Southwestern campus, it has been exciting to see the ongoing progress of construction projects that are preparing our campus for future generations. Many of these developments can be traced back to the Campaign for the Brain's billion-dollar investment and other gifts from the past year. As we reflect on a record year for philanthropy at UT Southwestern, we wanted to share this issue of *Pathways* in appreciation for the community partners who empower our mission.

For the sixth year in a row, *U.S. News & World Report* has named UT Southwestern the top hospital in Dallas-Fort Worth and the No. 2 hospital in Texas. The institution also ranked among the nation's best in nine specialties. These recognitions reflect the commitment to patients that is at the heart of everything we do, and we are grateful you have helped make us No. 1, again.

Gifts totaling \$50 million from the Perot family, the Perot Foundation, and the Sarah and Ross Perot Jr. Foundation continue to sustain the Medical Scientist Training Program, creating opportunities for students pursuing both an M.D. and Ph.D. These gifts build on a 37-year partnership between Dallas business leader and philanthropist Ross Perot and UT Southwestern that was inspired by a legendary research collaboration and a well-placed headline.

We also celebrate the sustained generosity of the family of one of UT Southwestern's original faculty members, Richard Mays Smith, M.D. For more than 40 years, Dr. Smith's family has honored his memory by supporting a scholarship fund that has touched the lives and careers of 43 internal medicine physicians and furthered Dr. Smith's legacy of compassionate care.

These stories and others underscore how philanthropy enables UT Southwestern to make a difference in people's lives. As we begin 2023, we are excited for the opportunities ahead and truly thankful for the support of a community that reaches across North Texas and beyond.



Marc A. Nivet, Ed.D., M.B.A.
Executive Vice President
for Institutional Advancement
UT Southwestern Medical Center

"These recognitions reflect the commitment to patients that is at the heart of everything we do..."

Pathways

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UT Southwestern Medical Center

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OUR PATIENTS
BRING OUT OUR BEST

A UT Southwestern staff member supports a patient as she walks along a hallway in William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital. The hospital was again named DFW's top hospital by *U.S. News & World Report*.



NEWS

Around Campus



UTSW Geneticist Elected to National Academy of Sciences



Jonathan Cohen, Ph.D.

Recognized with one of the highest honors for American scientists, UT Southwestern geneticist Jonathan Cohen, Ph.D., was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Cohen is Professor of Internal Medicine in the Center for Human Nutrition and the Eugene McDermott Center for Human Growth and Development. His research focuses on identifying genes that play major roles in the metabolism of cholesterol and triglycerides.

UT Southwestern currently counts 24 members of the National Academy of Sciences among its faculty, more than any institution in Texas and the most at any time in the Medical Center's nearly 80-year history.

Dr. Cohen holds the C. Vincent Prothro Distinguished Chair in Human Nutrition Research.

UT Southwestern Professor Leads Global Organization for Allergists, Immunologists



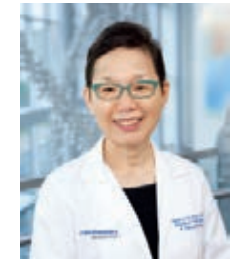
David Khan, M.D.

David Khan, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at UT Southwestern, has been elected President of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology, the leading international organization for allergists and immunologists. He has served as Program Director of UT Southwestern's Allergy and Immunology Fellowship Program for almost 25 years, helping to train an entire generation of allergy and immunology specialists.

U.S. News Ranks UT Southwestern Among Nation's Best

For the sixth year in a row, UT Southwestern has been named the top hospital in Dallas-Fort Worth and the No. 2 hospital in Texas according to *U.S. News & World Report's* annual Best Hospitals list. Underscoring its position as a leader in medical research and care, UT Southwestern ranked among the nation's best in nine specialties, including Urology, Cardiology and Heart Surgery, Diabetes and Endocrinology, Pulmonology and Lung Surgery, Cancer, Geriatrics, Rehabilitation, Neurology and Neurosurgery, and Gastroenterology and GI Surgery.

UT Southwestern Welcomes New Leaders



Heakyung Kim, M.D.



Robert D. Timmerman, M.D.

Heakyung Kim, M.D., has been named Chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at UT Southwestern where she holds the Kimberly-Clark Distinguished Chair in Mobility Research. With funding from the National Institutes of Health and other public and private support, Dr. Kim helps improve quality of life for children and adults with cerebral palsy. She investigates robotic therapy and exercise for treating weak muscles in children as well as ways to manage spasticity – the disruption in muscle movement that causes some muscles to involuntarily contract all at once. She joined UT Southwestern from Columbia University Irving Medical Center and NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Robert D. Timmerman, M.D., has been named Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at UT Southwestern where he holds the Effie Marie Cain Distinguished Chair in Cancer Therapy Research. An expert in diseases of the central nervous system, including brain, spine, and lung cancers, Dr. Timmerman has championed using extremely precise, noninvasive radio-surgical tools such as Gamma Knife to deliver radiation from multiple angles. The approach reduces toxicity levels, allowing patients to tolerate treatment better with fewer side effects. He joined UT Southwestern in 2004.



Genetic Study Confirms Gulf War Illness Cause

For 30 years, scientists have debated the unexplained and chronic symptoms affecting Persian Gulf War veterans. Last spring, researchers led by Robert Haley, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of Epidemiology at UT Southwestern, solved the mystery of Gulf War illness. Using a detailed genetic study, the group demonstrated that sarin gas released during bombings of Iraqi chemical weapons storage and production facilities in 1991 was largely responsible for the condition.

Dr. Haley holds the U.S. Armed Forces Veterans Distinguished Chair for Medical Research, Honoring Robert Haley, M.D., and America's Gulf War Veterans.

Forbes Ranks Medical Center Top Health Care Employer for Diversity

Recognizing an institutional commitment to diversity, *Forbes* named UT Southwestern to its list of America's Best Employers for Diversity 2022. The Medical Center ranked No. 1 in the U.S. in the Healthcare and Social category and No. 19 across all industries, the only health care institution to make the top 20. The annual list surveyed more than 60,000 U.S. workers from companies with more than 1,000 employees.



UT Southwestern employees lead a safety training exercise in the Emergency Department at William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital.

Academic Honors

Congratulations to UT Southwestern's new endowment holders appointed from April to November 2022. We celebrate their outstanding leadership in support of our mission to educate, discover, and heal.



Joshua Beckman, M.D.
Gayle and Paul Stoffel Distinguished Chair in Cardiology



Jorge Bezerra, M.D.
Robert L. Moore Chair in Pediatrics



Maralice Conacci-Sorrell, Ph.D.
John P. Perkins, Ph.D. Distinguished Professorship in Biomedical Science



D. Mark Courtney, M.D.
Riggs Family Chair in Emergency Medicine



Marc Diamond, M.D.
Effie Marie Cain Distinguished University Chair in Alzheimer's Research



Ihab Hajjar, M.D.
Pogue Family Distinguished University Chair in Alzheimer's Disease Clinical Research and Care, in Memory of Maurine and David Weigers McMullan



Romaine Johnson, M.D.
Beth and Marvin C. "Cub" Culbertson Professorship in Pediatric Otolaryngology



Heakyung Kim, M.D.
Kimberly-Clark Distinguished Chair in Mobility Research



Nisa Kubiliun, M.D.
Nancy and Jeremy Halbreich Professorship in Cancer Prevention, in Honor of Nisa Kubiliun, M.D.



Carrie McAdams, M.D., Ph.D.
The Fisher Family Distinguished Professorship in Women's Mental Health Studies



Darren McGuire, M.D.
Jere H. Mitchell, M.D. Distinguished Chair in Cardiovascular Science



Deepak Nijhawan, M.D., Ph.D.
Joseph F. Sambrook, Ph.D. Distinguished Chair in Biomedical Science



W. Matthew Petroll, Ph.D.
Dr. W. Maxwell Thomas Chair in Ophthalmology



Ava Pierce, M.D.
Michael Wainscott, M.D. Professorship in Emergency Medicine



William Prinz, Ph.D.
Virginia and Edward Linthicum Distinguished University Chair in Biomolecular Science



Drew Sanders, M.D.
Aaron A. Hofmann, M.D. and Suzanne Hofmann Distinguished Chair in Orthopedic Surgery in Honor of Richard E. Jones, M.D.



Daniel Siegwart, Ph.D.
W. Ray Wallace Distinguished Chair in Molecular Oncology Research



James Thornton, M.D.
Ellen L. Heck Chair in Tissue Transplantation



Larissa Velez, M.D.
A. Compton Broders III, M.D. Chair in Emergency Medicine

LEADERSHIP

Q&A

CATHERINE SPONG, M.D., was named Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UT Southwestern Medical Center in fall 2021. A tenured Professor, she had served as the Department's Vice Chair since 2018.

A renowned expert in high-risk pregnancies, also known as maternal-fetal medicine, Dr. Spong served more than two decades at the National Institutes of Health, including an appointment as Deputy Director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Under her leadership, William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital and Parkland Memorial Hospital achieved the highest level of maternal care, Level 4, from the state of Texas.

What brought you to UT Southwestern?

I wanted to work somewhere with great clinical volume, research infrastructure, and education. UT Southwestern has one of the largest obstetrics and gynecology departments in the country and is known for excellence in basic, clinical, and translational research. The Department, including faculty and staff working at Clements University Hospital and Parkland, annually delivers about 14,000 babies, treats the most complex cases, and trains 72 residents and 18 fellows each year.

What areas are of special interest to you?

Clinical research is a hallmark of my career, and in obstetrics, there are so many opportunities to create the evidence for clinical care and to change

practice. At UT Southwestern, we have the patient volume to define the impact of COVID-19 on pregnant women, determine anemia in pregnancy, and optimize pain management – all recent examples of our research that can be found in publications.

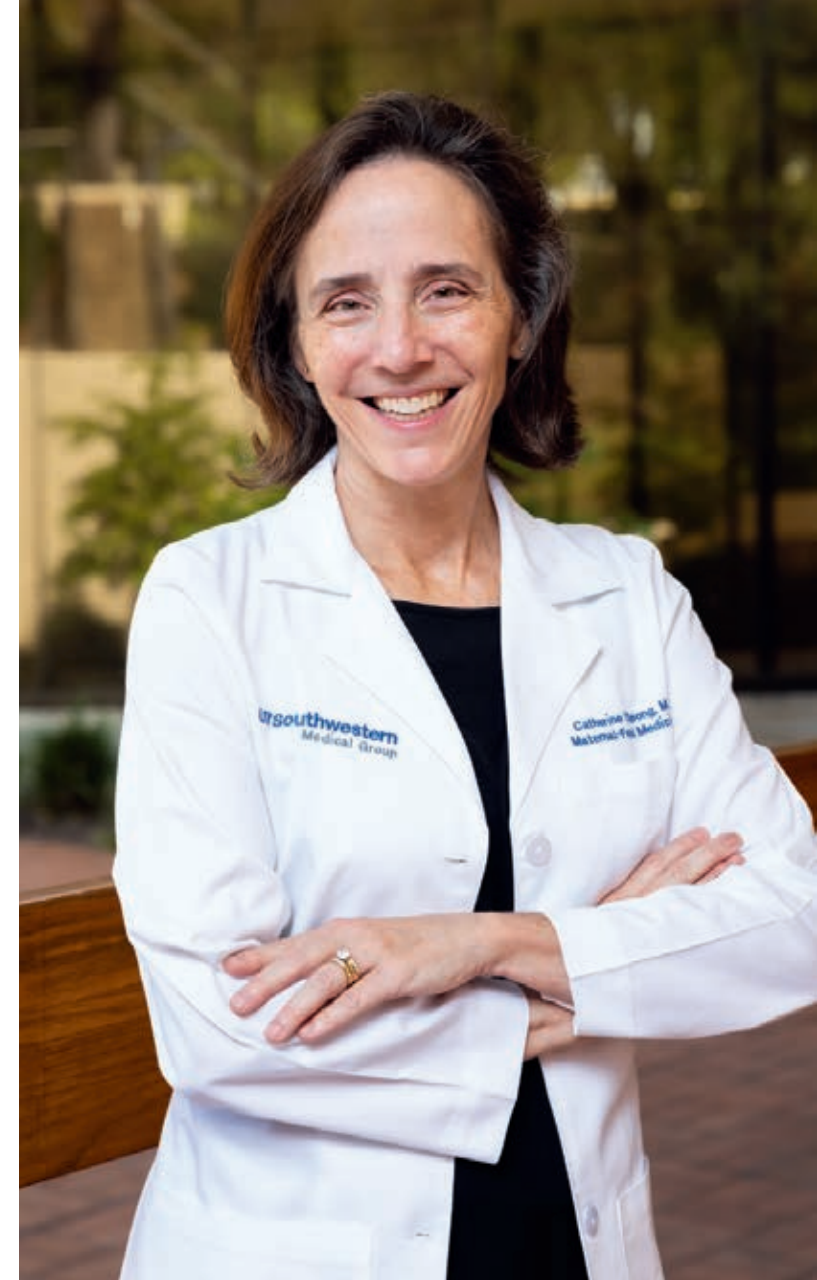
My lifelong interest has been the placenta. At UT Southwestern, we are studying placental development in the setting of chronic hypertension and placenta accreta spectrum, and improving pregnancy outcomes for both mom and baby. (Placenta accreta spectrum is a potentially life-threatening complication that occurs when the placenta grows into the wall of the uterus and is unable to detach at childbirth.) I also study the developing fetus, specifically understanding normal and abnormal fetal development.

What do you hope to accomplish?

I am excited to build on an incredible Department that thrives in an inclusive, supportive, collaborative, and collegial culture to enhance success, both individually and collectively. We will expand on clinical excellence by building signature programs at Clements University Hospital and Parkland; enhance excellence in education through innovative teaching techniques and technologies; strive to become one of the nation's top-ranking academic departments in clinical research in both obstetrics and gynecology; and maintain

a synergistic collaboration with UTSW's Cecil H. and Ida Green Center for Reproductive Biology Sciences to achieve national prominence in basic and translational research. In doing so, we will expand access for women to meet all their needs through their continuum of health; train the future physician workforce; and create the evidence underpinning women's health care.

Dr. Spong holds the Paul C. MacDonald Distinguished Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology.





Honor Roll

HOW ONE FAMILY KEEPS TABS ON A FATHER'S LEGACY

By Sharon Reynolds

After medical school, a physician's life often involves a lot of lists. There are checklists for procedures and appointment schedules for clinicians. Researchers have lab inventories and tables of data. Those who teach keep up with class rolls and curriculum vitae.

While Betty Morgan and Tricia Beall aren't physicians, their father was. Perhaps that's why they remember him with a special list of their own.

They started in 1975, the year he died. But it's not treasured family memories or stories from friends that they collect – although there are plenty of those. Instead, every year they add a name, sometimes a few, to the growing list of UT Southwestern medical students who have benefited from a scholarship award they established at Southwestern Medical Foundation.

"For almost half a century, Betty Morgan and Tricia Beall have kept their father's commitment to the art of medicine alive by investing in education at UT Southwestern Medical School," said Kathleen M. Gibson, Southwestern Medical Foundation's President and CEO. "This is a beautiful story of legacy and an example of how one man's vision and example can touch the lives of so many."



Betty Morgan and Tricia Beall, fourth and fifth from left, pose with UT Southwestern medical students at a reception on May 6, 2022. Included are Dr. Richard Mays Smith Award recipients Isabel Wees, M.D., second from left, Sanaa Tejani, M.D., third from left, and Heather Elizabeth Postma, M.D., second from right.

A prominent Dallas physician, Richard Mays Smith, M.D., was remembered for his compassion for patients and love of education. Born in 1897 in San Antonio, Texas, he completed medical school and his residency in Pennsylvania before returning to Texas to marry and raise a family of three daughters, Betty, Tricia, and Suzanne.

Part of the original faculty of Southwestern Medical College, the institution that became UT Southwestern, he served as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine from 1943 to 1945. Those were early days for the institution. The skyward-reaching buildings of steel and glass that define today's campus skyline didn't exist. Classrooms and laboratories were housed in simple Army barracks behind the old Parkland Hospital, which served as the Medical School's clinical teaching facility.

"When Daddy taught at UT Southwestern, he was so hopeful that the institution would grow," said Mrs. Beall. "I'm sure he would not believe how huge and sprawling the campus has grown."

A civic leader and permanent board member at Highland Park United Methodist Church, he continued to teach and practice internal medicine in Dallas over a 47-year career. His daughters often tagged along.

"I went on night calls with him and loved seeing how he treated his patients. He loved his work, and he was tender and very caring to his many patients," Mrs. Morgan said.

In 1970, after suffering a stroke that left him unable to speak, Dr. Smith ended his medical practice. He continued to live a fulfilling life and died five years later. That year, his family made a gift in his memory to establish the Richard M. Smith, M.D. Scholarship Fund.

Each year, funds distributed from the endowment are used to present the Dr. Richard Mays Smith Award to graduating UT Southwestern Medical School students who excel in internal medicine and demonstrate compassion for their patients. To date, 43 students have been honored by Dr. Smith's legacy and his family's generosity.

"He was very proud of his education. He was passionate about teaching the art of medicine to young men and women, and we felt by creating this scholarship, his wish would endure," said Mrs. Beall.

The family, including Dr. Smith's grandchildren, have made it a holiday tradition to give to the scholarship endowment, ensuring the list of student names continues to grow. It's one way they remember and celebrate the physician's passion for medicine and helping others.

"He would say, 'I wake up, and I can't wait to go to work. I love what I do. I've got the best job and the best family,'" said Mrs. Beall. "He was so proud and grateful for his life." ■

CONTINUING THE LEGACY

The 2022 recipients of the Dr. Richard Mays Smith Award demonstrate the clinical knowledge and patient-centered manner that characterized the award's namesake.



Nicholas Campalans, M.D.
Internal Medicine Resident
University of California, San Francisco

During medical school, Dr. Campalans spent hours at the bedside of a patient who insisted on leaving the hospital against medical advice. Only after talking with Dr. Campalans did the person agree to stay, demonstrating the new doctor's patient-centered care approach.



Patrick Lynch, M.D.
Internal Medicine Resident
Baylor College of Medicine

A college physics course unleashed Dr. Lynch's passion for science. He considered becoming a scientist, but after watching his grandparents navigate hospital care at the ends of their lives, he realized how meaningful medicine could be and switched to a career as a physician.



Heather Elizabeth Postma, M.D., M.B.A.
Internal Medicine Intern
UT Southwestern

Volunteering at Scottish Rite for Children since the age of 14, Dr. Postma was inspired to pursue medicine. She relishes working in team-based environments and focusing on the holistic care of her patients.



Sanaa Tejani, M.D.
Internal Medicine Intern
UT Southwestern

Selected for an Archer Fellowship as an undergraduate, Dr. Tejani interned at the United Nations and developed a database to assist refugees with low-cost medical and legal aid. She took these experiences in setting advocacy in motion and applied them to activities in medical school and beyond.



Isabel Wees, M.D.
Internal Medicine Intern
UT Southwestern

During medical school, Dr. Wees took on complex cases, including a patient with liver cirrhosis, bile duct cancer, and multiorgan failure. She played a key role in helping the patient and their family navigate difficult end-of-life decisions and looks forward to assisting others as an internal medicine physician.

Spreading Innovation



By Sharon Reynolds

UTSW leads
a new mental
health program
for youth
through the
Texas Child
Mental
Health Care
Consortium

Established by the Texas Legislature under the leadership of Texas Sen. Jane Nelson, the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (TCMHCC) leverages the expertise and infrastructure of the state's health-related institutions of higher education to improve mental health.

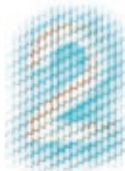
Part of statewide efforts to address the mental health of Texas youth, the Consortium was established in 2019 to strengthen the mental health care workforce and provide mental health services for youth in schools and communities. The Legislature appropriated \$100 million to develop and support five state mental health programs. As a Consortium member, UT Southwestern has participated in all five programs under the guidance of institutional representatives Carol Tamminga, M.D., Professor and Chair of Psychiatry, and Hicham Ibrahim, M.D., M.B.A., Professor of Psychiatry and Associate Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, Ambulatory Services.



The **Child Psychiatry Access Network** provides telehealth-based consultation and training to primary care providers.



The **Community Psychiatry Workforce Expansion** funds full-time academic psychiatrists as academic medical directors and new psychiatric resident rotation positions at facilities operated by community mental health providers.



The **Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine** program provides behavioral telehealth care to children and adolescents through their schools.



The **Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowships** program expands the number of child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship positions in Texas and increases the number of these training programs at Texas health-related institutions.



The **Research Initiative** has created two statewide networks – the Youth Depression and Suicide Research Network and the Childhood Trauma Research Network – to study and improve the delivery of child and adolescent mental health services in Texas.



Carol Tamminga, M.D.



Madhukar Trivedi, M.D.



Hicham Ibrahim, M.D., M.B.A.

Working together to benefit the youth of Texas

UT Southwestern's Center for Depression Research and Clinical Care has already deployed two TCMHCC programs to improve the mental health of children across North Texas. Under the leadership of Center Director Madhukar Trivedi, M.D., the institution hopes to use the strength of the Consortium network to scale the early success they have seen in the region.

Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM) is an interactive, experiential program for adolescents that promotes mental health and the development of coping and resilience skills. Created by the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden, YAM significantly improves mental health outcomes for adolescents. Students ages 14 to 16 participate in five group sessions led by trained adult facilitators. Activities include role-play and student-led discussions that provide opportunities to practice empathy, resilience, and problem solving.

Since 2016, UT Southwestern has provided YAM to more than 18,000 middle and high school students at 30 public, private, and charter schools across North Texas. Published results from these efforts have demonstrated that students who completed YAM experienced a significant reduction in the severity of depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation.

"My hope is that the successes we have seen in North Texas will be replicated Throughout the state," said Dr. Trivedi, who

is also Professor of Psychiatry and Chief of the Division of Mood Disorders at UT Southwestern.

Youth who would benefit from additional mental health care can now be referred to Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine (TCHATT), a school-based mental health program. Begun in 2020, the program uses technology to provide mental health services remotely to schools. To leverage the expertise of its member institutions, TCMHCC provides infrastructure for medical schools across the state to operate in partnership with public schools in their respective regions. UT Southwestern collaborates with Children's Health to administer telehealth services to students in schools throughout North Texas. More than 1,800 families have received mental health resources since the program began in May 2020.

"As these two programs expand across the state, Texas students will have improved access to care resulting from better identification of mental health struggles as well as reduced barriers to care with the opportunity to receive services within the school setting," Dr. Trivedi said.



The Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium

In 2021, the Texas Legislature received federal funding from the American Rescue Plan, and lawmakers appropriated an additional \$113 million in funding. UT Southwestern received \$11.5 million of the funds to deploy YAM in public schools across Texas. The Consortium's statewide infrastructure will enable UT Southwestern to scale this program to reach tens of thousands of high school students.

Baylor College of Medicine

Texas A&M University Health Science Center

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso

The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth

The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

The University of Texas at Tyler

The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

UT Southwestern Medical Center

Reducing youth depression and suicide

Dr. Trivedi leads TMCHCC's Youth Depression and Suicide Research Network (TX-YDSRN) to improve the evaluation of and response to the increasing problem of youth depression and suicide in Texas. The TX-YDSRN collaborates with health-related institutions involved in the research study to develop protocols and research methods. The Network will evaluate the Texas health care system's effectiveness in screening, response, and monitoring for signs of depression or suicidal behaviors. It will also examine whether these behaviors respond better to certain treatments.

"This collaboration of all medical schools in the state of Texas is truly exciting," Dr. Trivedi said. "We are leveraging our youth depression and suicide experts across the state to join forces to determine better ways to identify and treat our youth."

Stressing the urgent need to address mental health in youth, he added that people diagnosed with depression and anxiety often begin to develop symptoms in high school.

"This has been a crucial need for years, but with the increases in mental health needs in our youth due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have reached a critical juncture. We can keep doing the same thing, which we know isn't working, or we can figure out how to save our youth." ■

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is a hotline for individuals in crisis or for those looking to help someone else. To speak with a trained listener, call 988.

Dr. Tamminga holds the Stanton Sharp Distinguished Chair in Psychiatry.

Dr. Trivedi holds the Betty Jo Hay Distinguished Chair in Mental Health and the Julie K. Hersh Chair for Depression Research and Clinical Care.





Globe Life creates lasting impact on communities through support for UTSW initiatives

By Sharon Reynolds

In the insurance business, the term is beneficiary. It's someone who receives the funds from an insurance policy, the person who benefits.

The team at Globe Life thinks about beneficiaries a lot. Sure, it's part of the daily paperwork, but it's also integral to the company's core value, "Make Tomorrow Better."

Founded in 1900, the McKinney, Texas, company is a leader in the insurance industry, protecting more people and issuing more policies than any other U.S. life insurance company. Along the way, it has remained true to its values, encouraging its network of agents and employees to give back to the communities where they live, serve, and visit.

"We know that our actions today have a lasting impact on tomorrow," said Jennifer Haworth, Globe Life's Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer. "That trickles all throughout the organization."

The company supports UT Southwestern Medical Center through its employee giving program. Donations from agents and employees are matched, dollar for dollar. The program has supported

UT Southwestern's gene therapy program and relief efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2013, the company established an endowment to support community medicine and population health efforts.

The company's charitable giving initiatives have supported the Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute's Total Care Program. Treating brain diseases can be complex, involving multiple specialists and the accompanying support teams, appointments, and paperwork. The Total Care Program offers a simpler, coordinated care approach that integrates medical expertise with ancillary services.

"We realize the incredible impact that UT Southwestern has on the community – from improving the health of our friends and neighbors to advancing medicine by providing better treatments and care," Ms. Haworth said. "We hope the endowment will help support those efforts and continue a pathway to serve the needs of patients and their families in North Texas and beyond." ■



Globe Life's American Income Division representatives gather for a Make Tomorrow Better campaign event.

'IT'S NOT FOR YOU'

As Senior Vice President of Recruiting, Bo Gentile embraced Globe Life's culture – especially the company's passion for philanthropy. He and his wife, Mindy, regularly participated in the company's annual Make Tomorrow Better campaign.

"It's not for you.' That was the mindset my wife and I had for the first 18 years of our marriage," he said.



Mindy and Bo Gentile with their son, Tre

For more than a decade, the Gentiles donated annually to UT Southwestern through Globe Life's employee giving program. Then on March 16, 2018, Mrs. Gentile received a diagnosis that changed everything. It was devastating news: brain cancer. Her husband described the family's shock as a "gut punch no one wants."

When evaluating treatment options, the family immediately thought UT Southwestern "was the best facility in Dallas-Fort Worth." For years, they had supported research and patient care to help others. Now they were the ones benefiting. The experience forever changed how they thought about charitable giving.

Thankfully, Mrs. Gentile has been cancer-free for four years. For Mr. Gentile, the drive to help others remains as strong as ever.

"Don't wait," he said. "Give generously with your heart."



Curtain Call

Family and friends celebrate the life of Michael Celico
by giving to support neuromuscular disease research

By Andrew Marton



From Broadway to London's West End and in theaters around the world, every performance ends the same way. Lights fade, the curtain closes, and whether the show is a comedy or a tragedy, the audience shows its gratitude with applause.

As an actor, Michael Celico knew the sound by heart. He loved performing in his hometown of Plano, Texas, snagging lead roles in shows ranging from "Journey to Oz" and "Willy Wonka" to "Shrek: The Musical."

"What appealed to many about Michael, in and out of his theater productions, was that he had the innocence of a child and a kind heart to match," said Brian Celico, M.D., Michael's father. "He was so brave, because as he declined, he just accepted it and remained one of the happiest people I knew. He never complained about the pain he was in, even at the end."

Michael was born with myotonic dystrophy, a hereditary kind of muscular dystrophy that causes progressive muscle loss and weakness. He died in April at age 29. For friends and family who wanted to honor Michael's life, the Celicos asked that they consider making a gift to support lifesaving research at UT Southwestern Medical Center to provide "hope and inspiration to those affected by neuromuscular diseases."

Not long after Michael's death, Susan Iannaccone, M.D., received an email from his parents. The UT Southwestern Professor of Pediatrics and Neurology had known Michael since he was 6 years old.

She first met the family in 1998 after the birth of Michael's brother, Matthew. Dr. Celico and his wife, Abby, had grown concerned about the boys' physical development. Dr. Iannaccone confirmed both children had myotonic dystrophy. Often characterized by progressive muscle wasting and weakness, the condition can include symptoms such as floppy muscle movement from birth and difficulty feed-



Michael Celico, top photo, poses as King Neptune in a production of "Ariel and Friends." Above, he poses as the grocer for a photo backstage with a fellow cast member after a production of "Beauty and the Beast."

ing and breathing. Later in life, it can cause delayed motor skill development, language difficulties, and cognitive impairment.

"Since many different organ systems are affected by this disease and its complications, I was in charge of a multi-disciplinary team of doctors, including cardiology, gastroenterology, orthopedic, and pulmonary specialists," said Dr. Iannaccone, who is an Associate Director of UT Southwestern's Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Center. "It was also necessary to work with his school so that Michael would get help promoting learning and overall success in the classroom."

Michael soon entered special education classes where he thrived. While his younger brother was more seriously affected by the disease and never developed verbal skills, Michael proudly showed off how many world capitals he could

name and eventually his computer skills. He graduated from Plano Senior High School.

Over years of caring for the brothers, Dr. Iannaccone saw firsthand the compassion with which the Celico family managed their children's conditions.

"Despite their severe disability, they were very happy and loving kids," she said. "They were wonderful to work with."

According to Dr. Iannaccone, the genetic nature of the disease makes it a challenge to bring to clinical trials. Creating animal models for testing and developing drugs to treat it are also difficult. While several trials involving adults didn't yield positive outcomes, she plans to develop clinical trials with children over the next few years.



Michael Celico, right, smiles for a photo with Maryann Leach at a party for his 26th birthday in 2018. A friend of the Celico family, Ms. Leach regularly volunteered to help with Michael Celico's medical care and became a close companion.



Susan Iannaccone, M.D.

"Dr. Iannaccone's work is our motivation for making these gifts," Dr. Celico said. "She has dedicated her entire life to children like our sons. She has tirelessly been on the front lines as an advocate for children and young adults with this terrible disease. She needs to be recognized and supported in her ongoing work."

In total, UT Southwestern received nearly 50 gifts in Michael's memory. The gifts will support the work of a research coordinator on Dr. Iannaccone's team who will compile data and help evaluate whether patients are well suited for research studies.

"I didn't expect this at all," Dr. Iannaccone said. "But I am honored and humbled by their generosity. And I will do my very best to make sure we use these gifts to further research in myotonic dystrophy."

For the Celico family, the decision to encourage others to support Dr. Iannaccone's research was easy. Intertwined with treasured memories of their son are reminders of how Dr. Iannaccone ensured Michael had leg braces and specialized wheelchairs to live his fullest life. When they think of him on stage pursuing his love of theater, they also recall how she made referrals to pulmonologists when his respiratory function declined



"He was so brave, because as he declined, he just accepted it and remained one of the happiest people I knew."



and eventually required a breathing apparatus. And although their happiest memories of Michael are mixed with those of times of struggle, the Celico family knows that by giving back, they have written an ending with hope.

"We were blessed to have Dr. Iannaccone right here in Dallas," Mrs. Celico said. "She was so supportive of us from the very beginning, and I just hope our little gift will provide momentum for others to support much-needed research to one day halt the progression of this disease." ■

Dr. Iannaccone holds the Warren A. Weinberg, M.D. Chair in Pediatric Neurology and Learning.



Michael Celico as Jafar with his cousin, Will Hudgins, as the title character before a production of "Aladdin."



B E T T I N G O N B R E A K T H R O U G H S

Perot family's gifts invest in the dual talents of M.D/Ph.D. students

By Andrew Marton

DALLAS BUSINESS MAGNATE AND PHILANTHROPIST H. ROSS PEROT OFTEN QUIPPED HE WOULD DONATE TO UT SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER WHEN HE READ ABOUT IT ON THE FRONT PAGE OF *THE NEW YORK TIMES*.



Joseph Goldstein, M.D., above, views a specimen through a microscope as Michael Brown, M.D., looks on in a UT Southwestern research lab circa 1985. Below, the researchers photographed in 2022.



On October 15, 1985, headlines canvassed President Ronald Reagan's growing concern about the Philippines, Japan's efforts to spur economic growth, and ongoing revelations about the hijacking of the Italian ocean liner, Achille Lauro. Halfway down the front page of the paper of record appeared the six words that irreversibly changed Mr. Perot's mind: "2 Americans Win Nobel Medicine Prize."

UT Southwestern Professors Michael Brown, M.D., and Joseph Goldstein, M.D., had received the honor for their collaborative research on cholesterol. It was a life-changing event for the physicians and a milestone for the institution. True to his word, Mr. Perot donated, footing the bill for a black-tie event feting the newly minted Nobel Laureates. He visited their laboratories soon after.

"And he said to us, 'I've done my homework, and you are both fantastic and continue to make great discoveries,'" Dr. Brown recalled. Then the straight-talking businessman asked a straightforward question, "What else can I do?"

The two physicians shared that many cures for diseases were discovered by people trained in both scientific research and clinical medicine. UT Southwestern had a fledgling Medical Scientist Training

Program that gave students an opportunity to pursue both an M.D. and a Ph.D. in science at the same time. It attracted only a handful of students each year but had captured the attention of the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Brown and Dr. Goldstein wanted to expand the program. Mr. Perot agreed, donating \$10 million, which enabled UT Southwestern to double the annual stipends awarded to students recruited to the program.

"It immediately made us very competitive with all the other physician-scientist programs across the country," Dr. Brown said.

In the ensuing years, the school would select 50 students applying to the program to visit campus for final interviews, capped off with a special dinner. Mr. Perot always made efforts to attend.

"He would give this speech, and it was the most inspiring, motivational speech I'd ever heard," Dr. Brown said. "He would tell the students how they were born with special brains and that they were obliged to use those brains for the benefit of humanity. ... We got some terrific students, and it was all thanks to Mr. Perot."

CONTINUING THE LEGACY

More than three decades later, the connection between Mr. Perot and UT Southwestern remains strong. While the native Texan died in 2019, his impact continues. Dr. Brown and Dr. Goldstein recently celebrated the 50-year anniversary of their thriving research collaboration and hundreds of M.D./Ph.D. students have graduated from the nationally recognized program spurred by Mr. Perot's first gift.

Adding to his impact at UT Southwestern, this fall, the Perot family, the Perot Foundation and the Sarah and Ross Perot Jr. Foundation committed a total of \$50 million to support students in the



The late H. Ross Perot and his wife, Margot Perot, third and fourth from left, with their five children, from left, Carolyn Perot Rathjen, Nancy Perot, Ross Perot Jr., Suzanne Perot McGee, and Katherine Perot Reeves

"My father always called the M.D./Ph.D. candidates 'genius doctors.' And it was his firm belief that if we can back even one great idea from their research, together we can impact the lives of literally billions of people."



The 2022 Perot Family Scholars include, back row from left, Ian Chambers, Shao-Po Huang, Peter Leung, Nicholas Sutliff, and Vishruth Mullanpudi, and front row from left, Matthew Cenci, Soumya Kulkarni, Nataliya Tod, Ben Kroger, and Tommy Tan.

Nataliya Tod

BORN in Kyiv, Ukraine, Nataliya Tod was 6 years old when she moved with her family to Fresno, California. After graduating from the University of California, Los Angeles, she spent three years volunteering as a researcher with a laboratory affiliated with the David Geffen School of Medicine.

“It was clear to me that I needed to do an M.D./Ph.D. program because I wanted to understand things in medicine that we don’t know that much about,” Mrs. Tod said. “And what I immediately found attractive about UT Southwestern is its strong reputation in the basic sciences, which is very important to the Ph.D. portion of the training program.”

As one of 10 Perot Family Scholars selected to join UT Southwestern’s Medical Scientist Training Program last year, Mrs. Tod is grateful for the Perot family’s investment into building a top-caliber program for physician-scientists.

“It means so much to have the kind of ongoing support to allow our program to recruit more students and fund more student-led research,” she said. “This kind of support also helps enormously in attracting top faculty.”



Nataliya Tod



Clinical Operations Specialist Bradly Mueller, second from left, leads Perot Family Scholars, from left, Nataliya Tod, Nicholas Sutliff, and Soumya Kulkarni through a training exercise with a patient simulator at UT Southwestern’s Simulation Center.

Medical Scientist Training Program. In recognition of the gifts, recipients will be known as Perot Family Scholars.

“Ross was so enthusiastic in supporting the Medical Scientist Training Program because he considered it to be one of our best investments in people and intellect,” said Margot Perot, Mr. Perot’s widow. “Our family is delighted to sustain our support and association with the MSTP program. We know that it will yield enormous rewards in the years to come. We are certain our funds will go far to train young scientists destined to make significant medical breakthroughs in the future.”

The gift will help provide full tuition for about 15 scholars each year, supporting four years of medical training and four years of research work toward a Ph.D. The added investment increases both the award amount and the number of students the program will be able to accept and provides opportunities to enhance the MSTP curriculum, enabling UT Southwestern to remain competitive with other top-tier programs across the nation.

“This extraordinarily generous and visionary gift from the Perot family will ensure the longevity of the M.D./Ph.D. program at UT Southwestern as it continues to produce generations of physician-scientists working toward the kind of breakthrough discoveries that can only

arise from this singular combination of research and clinical skills,” said UT Southwestern President Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.

When thinking about the best way to make an impact at UT Southwestern and continue the Perot family’s legacy, real estate developer Ross Perot Jr. said the family’s conversation centered around the Medical Scientist Training Program.

“My father always called the M.D./Ph.D. candidates ‘genius doctors.’ And it was his firm belief that if we can back even one great idea from their research, together we can impact the lives of literally billions of people,” he said. “Think of all the charity that goes on in this nation and how many gifts have the potential to impact a billion people. There aren’t many, but when you support medicine and medical research, you actually can have that impact.”

It’s an impact the Perot family sees as a continuation of H. Ross Perot’s generosity.

“What this gift does is put a capstone on our father’s work,” said Ross Perot Jr., Co-Founder of the Sarah and Ross Perot Jr. Foundation. “I remember my father telling us that, as a boy, he always thought he was going to be a doctor. He loved being involved in supporting research, and that is why – all these years later – it’s the perfect gift for UT Southwestern.”

SPECIALIZED STUDENTS

For the past 50 years, physician-scientists, like those graduating from the Perot Family Scholars Medical Scientist Training Program, have been at the heart of some of the greatest advances in biomedical research. Part of an elite group, they make up only 3% of all U.S. medical school graduates.

Andrew Zinn, M.D., Ph.D., is one of those rare, dual talents. A graduate of UT Southwestern’s Medical Scientist Training Program, he leads the Program in addition to serving as Dean of the institution’s Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

“For the quintessential M.D./Ph.D. student,” Dr. Zinn said, “that special blend of passion, commitment, and dedication must be there, along with real resilience. They must realize that they are embarking on a long path, especially when it comes to doing research where the timeline for



Sarah and Ross Perot Jr.

discoveries is weeks, months, and years.”

Trained in both domains, physician-scientists understand the rigorous demands of scientific research and the opportunities for advancing clinical care. Poised at the intersection of medicine and science, they engage in the studied work of translating scientific knowledge and discoveries about how the body works into enhanced treatments and standards of care that impact the lives of patients. Those abilities can be crucial to making breakthrough discoveries, according to W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D., UT Southwestern’s Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Provost, and Dean of the Medical School.

“Clinically impactful discoveries often require the joint perspectives of clinicians with firsthand knowledge of patient challenges and scientific investigators with the most advanced methodology and understanding of biomedical advances,” Dr. Lee said. “An M.D./Ph.D. with training in both is uniquely capable of making fundamental discoveries.”

Across more than three decades, the Perot family’s generosity to the Medical Scientist Training Program has empowered the careers of 289 physician-scientists. More than three-quarters of them have joined the faculty of top-tier academic medical centers, such as Columbia, Stanford, Yale, and Harvard. A select group of 25 alumni are continuing their work as UT Southwestern faculty members.

The legacy that connects the Perot family and their giving to UT Southwestern echoes through the generations of graduates uniquely positioned to usher forward the next advances. For Dr. Brown, who has been part of it from the beginning, it’s precisely that sustained momentum that distinguishes this family’s philanthropy.

“What I so admire about the Perots’ contributions is how enormously forward-looking they are,” Dr. Brown said. “Their generous gift will make it possible for us to have a whole new way of producing physician-scientists who will make the discoveries that will then bring the cures.” ■

Dr. Brown, a Regental Professor, holds The W.A. (Monty) Moncrief Distinguished Chair in Cholesterol and Arteriosclerosis Research and the Paul J. Thomas Chair in Medicine.

Dr. Goldstein, a Regental Professor, holds the Julie and Louis A. Beecher, Jr. Distinguished Chair in Biomedical Research and the Paul J. Thomas Chair in Medicine.

Dr. Lee holds the Atticus James Gill, M.D. Chair in Medical Science.

Dr. Podolsky holds the Philip O’Bryan Montgomery, Jr., M.D. Distinguished Presidential Chair in Academic Administration, and the Doris and Bryan Wildenthal Distinguished Chair in Medical Science.



Ian Chambers

MEET THE SCHOLARS


Ian Chambers

GROWING UP on Maryland’s eastern shore, Ian Chambers first learned about medicine from his parents, who were both dentists. Drawn to helping others through medicine, he graduated from Rhodes College in Memphis and spent the next three years working at the National Institute on Drug Abuse in Baltimore.

“That program solidified my desire to go into some aspect of research as opposed to solely focusing on the clinical side of medicine,” said Mr. Chambers, a first-year Perot Family Scholar. “There, I learned the fundamentals of basic science research and fell in love with the daily work and commitment to solving challenging problems.”

This summer, Mr. Chambers worked in the research lab of Steven Shabel, Ph.D., an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience at UT Southwestern. Collaborating with research faculty confirmed the institution was the right choice for the next eight years, and Mr. Chambers appreciates the Perot family’s role in supporting the Medical Scientist Training Program.

“I definitely have a lot of gratitude to the Perot family,” he said, “especially for funding such an impactful program for training future leaders and thinkers – all to change the world for the better.”



LOOKING AHEAD

Jean and Tom Walter honor a venerated physician with a gift that will impact ophthalmology at UT Southwestern for decades

By Andrew Marton



Jean and Tom Walter

Our eyes enable one of our most vital senses. Vaunted throughout literature, Cicero called them the interpreter of the mind. For Shakespeare they were the “window to our soul.” Thoreau considered them the precious “jewel of the body.”

So, when Dallas resident Jean Walter began having trouble with her vision, she sought out the best doctor. Thirty years later, she sees she made the right choice.

James P. McCulley, M.D., occupies an iconic perch as academician and clinician in UT Southwestern Medical Center’s Department of Ophthalmology. Now a retired Professor Emeritus, Dr. McCulley carved out a reputation as a cornea specialist, earning spots on America’s Top Doctors list and some of the highest honors in his field.

In the years Dr. McCulley helped treat Mrs. Walter’s eye condition, she and her husband, Tom, came to think of him as part of their family.

“Dr. McCulley has been so very caring during those difficult times,” Mrs. Walter said. “He and the entire Department of Ophthalmology have been absolutely wonderful. Dr. McCulley made sure that the most qualified person treated me, preventing my condition from becoming more serious.”

A longtime champion of UT Southwestern, Mr. Walter is an active member of the President’s Advisory Board, which provides UT Southwestern President Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D., and the institution’s leadership with guidance on opportunities and challenges facing the Medical Center. The couple established the Jean and Tom Walter Scholars in Neurotherapeutics Program and were instrumental in creating the Ball for Eye Research. Prior to the pandemic, the Ball was considered one of the largest local annual fundraising events for ophthalmological research and care.

When Dr. McCulley retired last June after 40 years leading UT Southwestern’s Department of Ophthalmology, the Walters wanted to do something special. With gratitude for the exceptional care Mrs. Walter

had received, the couple made a \$1 million gift to establish the Jean and Tom Walter Distinguished Chair in Ophthalmology in Honor of James P. McCulley, M.D.

“This generous gift from the Walters will be pivotal in our ongoing drive to carry out innovative research with the goal of discovering the causes of serious, vision-threatening eye diseases and developing new cutting-edge therapies,” said J. William Harbour, M.D., who succeeded Dr. McCulley as UT Southwestern’s Chair of Ophthalmology.

The endowment will enable Dr. Harbour to recruit and retain a top scientist for the Department, a search that is currently ongoing. For the Walters, it’s a way to honor the physician who made an impact in their lives.

“Endowing this Distinguished Chair is a way to ensure everyone remembers how much Dr. McCulley contributed to the Ophthalmology Department,” Mr. Walter said. “He spent his whole life building this exceptional Department, and we felt it was important for his name to remain part of this organization. It was just the right thing to do.”

The Walters hope the impact of their gift will reverberate across future generations of doctors who follow in Dr. McCulley’s lofty footsteps.

“We really consider how much our community has been the beneficiary of Dr. McCulley’s devotion to developing young doctors coming through his practice,” Mr. Walter said. “He devoted his entire professional life to building that Department, and we very much wanted to be a part of creating the atmosphere where his successors would carry on his legacy in the same manner.” ■

Dr. Harbour holds The David Bruton, Jr. Chair in Ophthalmology.

Dr. Podolsky holds the Philip O’Bryan Montgomery, Jr., M.D. Distinguished Presidential Chair in Academic Administration, and the Doris and Bryan Wildenthal Distinguished Chair in Medical Science.



James P. McCulley, M.D.

Donor Pulse

The Cary Council Announces Grant Recipients

Early investing can pay big dividends. Such long-term thinking is why The Cary Council continues supporting early-stage research at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Comprising young professionals and community philanthropists, the organization was formed in partnership with Southwestern Medical Foundation in 2015 and has been supporting early-stage research at UT Southwestern ever since. Members of the organization refer to the Medical Center’s exemplary physician-scientists as “DocStars.” Each year, proceeds from the group’s annual fundraiser, “An Evening with DocStars,” support the Early-Stage Research Grants.

Last year’s sold-out event was held November 3 and raised close to \$300,000 for the Medical Center.

2022 GRANT RECIPIENTS



Proshad Efune, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Pain Management and Pediatrics

To improve outcomes from tonsil-removal surgery, Dr. Efune works to predict which children can safely recover at home and which will be at risk for severe complications that require ongoing hospital care.



Robin Higashi, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor in the Peter O’Donnell Jr. School of Public Health

Working to understand the challenges of cancer patients in underserved populations, Dr. Higashi is developing telehealth care strategies to improve treatment.



Dominic Moon, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology

Investigating ways to customize head and neck cancer treatments to each patient, Dr. Moon is developing a blood test to help predict how an individual’s cancer may respond to treatment.

Founders Day Continues Tradition of Impact

For a second year, UT Southwestern celebrated the anniversary of its founding with a day of giving. Held on May 5, Founders Day continued to invest in the institution’s history of achievement by inviting supporters to make a gift of any amount to support the Medical Center’s continued growth.

Last year’s event was the first time faculty and staff were invited to join alumni and the broader community in giving back. The wide array of gifts shared a common thread of supporting the institution’s mission, creating educational opportunities for students, investing in innovative research, and providing funds for top-ranked patient care.

Founders Day celebrates UT Southwestern’s creation in 1943, when physician Edward H. Cary, M.D., approached Dallas philanthropist Karl Hoblitzelle with a vision to build a leading medical center. Together, they inspired a generous and caring community, setting in motion UT Southwestern’s journey to become a nationally recognized institution.



President’s Research Council Honors Researchers

The President’s Research Council announced the 2022 recipients of the Distinguished Early Career Research Awards. The annual grants are given to researchers whose work has great potential for advancing human health but may not have amassed the data often required to pursue public and private funding.

Throughout its history, the President’s Research Council has been a critical source of support for early-career faculty at UT Southwestern. Members support the Distinguished Early Career Research Awards through their annual gifts.

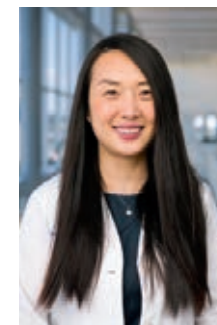
2022 AWARD RECIPIENTS



Sarah Shahmoradian, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Biophysics and in the Center for Alzheimer’s and Neurodegenerative Diseases at the Peter O’Donnell Jr. Brain Institute

A global leader in imaging brain tissue at near-atomic levels, Dr. Shahmoradian is advancing our understanding of neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson’s disease and Alzheimer’s that are linked to the toxic accumulation of proteins called amyloids.



Yuanyuan Zhang, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology

Specializing in using radiation to treat lung cancer, Dr. Zhang’s research has shaped our understanding of the causes of cancer cachexia, a wasting syndrome characterized by dramatic loss of weight and muscle mass in some cancer patients for which there are no effective medical interventions.



Cheri and Charles W. Whitten, M.D.

Preparing for the Future

Great leaders think about those who will eventually take their place. Charles W. Whitten, M.D., who leads the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Management at UT Southwestern, is doing much more than thinking.

Together with his wife, Cheri, Dr. Whitten made a gift to establish the Charles E. Whitten, Jr. and Dorothy D. Whitten Perioperative Leadership Development Program. Focused on developing a new generation of leaders, the program provides onboarding, mentoring programs, educational opportunities, and professional development to support roles within the Department, UT Southwestern, and its affiliated hospitals.

“Great medical leadership is the key to building high-quality health care and training others to be physician leaders of tomorrow,” he said.

The couple also made a gift from their will to further support the leadership development and talent management program. In recognition of their commitment, they were welcomed into The Heritage Society, an organization that honors donors who make a planned gift to UT Southwestern or Southwestern Medical Foundation.

Dr. Whitten established the fund in honor of his mother and late father, teachers and coaches who dedicated their lives to developing young people. He was also inspired by the examples of his colleague, friend, and mentor, M.T. “Pepper” Jenkins, M.D., who was UT Southwestern’s inaugural Chair of Anesthesiology, as well as A.H. “Buddy” Giesecke Jr., M.D., the Department’s second Chair, who mentored Dr. Whitten in his third year of medical school.

Dr. Whitten holds the Margaret Milam McDermott Distinguished Chair in Anesthesiology and Pain Management.

The future of medicine, today.

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For tomorrow's physicians

To help medical students who demonstrate financial need, Patricia Evans, M.D., Ph.D., joined The Heritage Society by making a gift from her estate to create a scholarship at UT Southwestern.



UT Southwestern
Medical Center



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