

Pathways

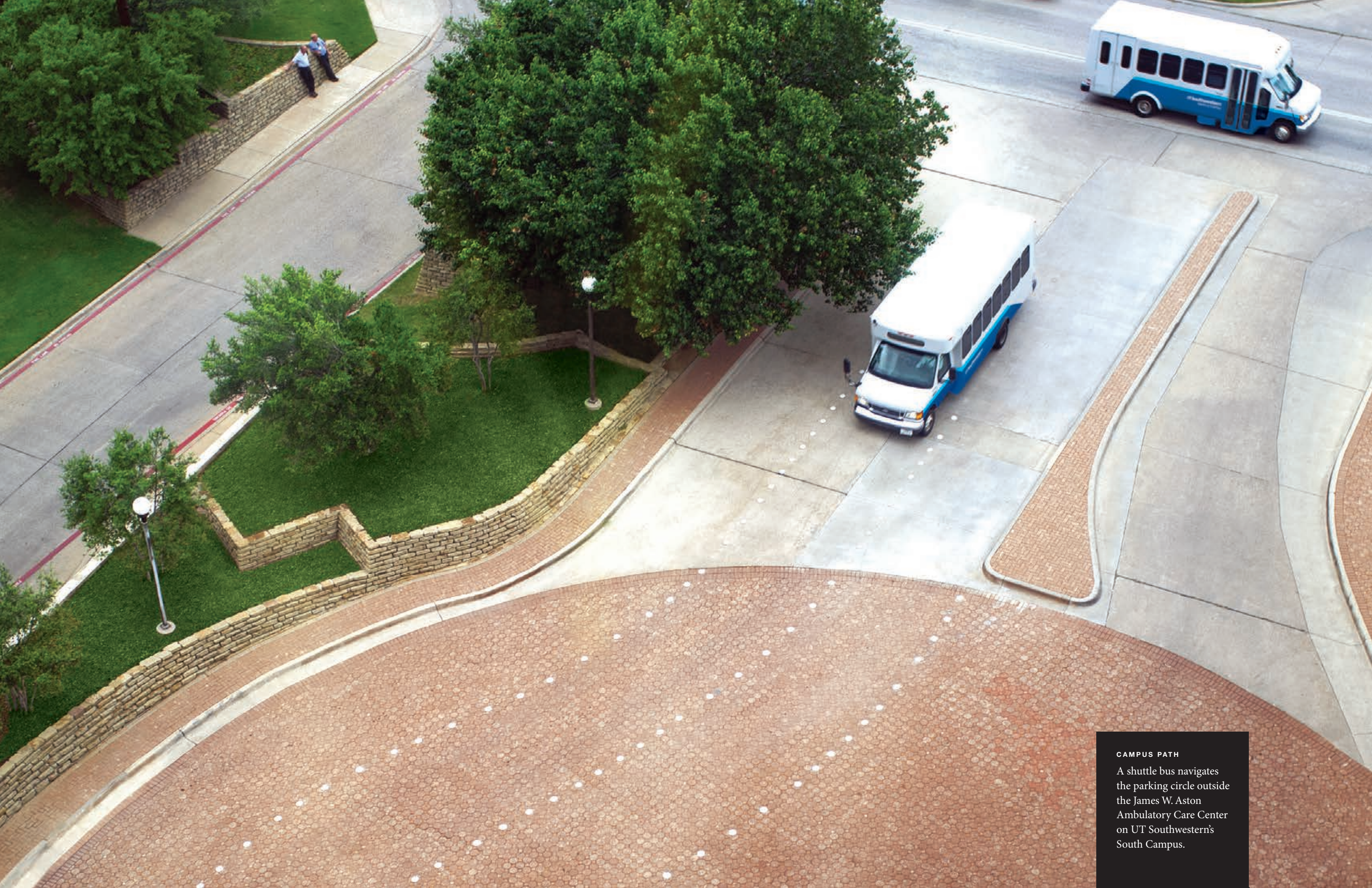
THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

UT Southwestern
Medical Center

Summer 2023



How a Fort Worth foundation is creating
an epicenter for cerebellar research



CAMPUS PATH
A shuttle bus navigates the parking circle outside the James W. Aston Ambulatory Care Center on UT Southwestern's South Campus.

Global Reach

On May 5, UT Southwestern marked its 80th anniversary, celebrating a legacy that began with Dr. Edward H. Cary's vision for a premier medical school and Karl Hoblitzelle's initial philanthropic investment. From humble beginnings and throughout the decades since, UT Southwestern's leadership in medicine and the biological sciences has exponentially grown in influence. This issue of *Pathways* recognizes this progression through stories that underscore our continued commitment to serve communities across Texas and beyond.

The Raynor Cerebellum Project, created by the Fort Worth-based Once Upon a Time Foundation, empowers novel interdisciplinary research aimed at impacting the lives of people with cerebellar disease. Initiatives target better understanding of a region of the brain that fine-tunes our body's movements and is increasingly associated with cognitive and social skills. UT Southwestern will receive \$19 million of the initial research fund and will be part of an international effort that is attracting the attention of the world's top brain scientists.

A chance encounter on a return flight led to UT Southwestern's nearly 30-year partnership with the Mary Kay Ash Foundation that has supported research in women's cancers. Through this collaboration, a recent investment is creating opportunities for research fellows from around the world to train at the Medical Center – a cohort that includes scientists from seven nations who will learn here and then return home with the training and financial support necessary to advance cancer research in their countries and extend UT Southwestern's global impact.

We also celebrate the legacy of Nancy and Robert Dedman Sr., whose endowed scholar program has influenced the careers of promising researchers at UT Southwestern for more than a decade. More than 30 Dedman Family Scholars in Clinical Care have benefited from the Dedman family's generosity, underscoring the incredible significance of one family's investment in the future of medicine.

These stories – and others like them – exemplify the ways in which philanthropy empowers UT Southwestern's mission. Whether providing best-in-class education and training, driving innovative research, or delivering exceptional patient care, this institution's contributions to science and a healthier society are amplified by the generosity of our partners, and we remain grateful for this sustaining support.



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

“From humble beginnings and throughout the decades since, UT Southwestern’s leadership in medicine and the biological sciences has exponentially grown in influence.”

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28 **Force for Good**
A different understanding of the universe continues to shape the research careers of promising physicians.

“The Scholars Program acts as a springboard to help launch the careers of highly promising doctors and researchers.” – Robert “Bob” Dedman Jr.

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RINGSIDE VIEW

Life Rings, Fig. 2 by Elmgreen & Dragset reaches skyward alongside the Eugene McDermott Academic Administration Building. The sculpture's purchase was supported by a gift from Nobel Laureate Joseph Goldstein, M.D., UT Southwestern's Chair of Molecular Genetics and Professor of Internal Medicine.

NEWS

Around Campus



Saad B. Omer, M.B.B.S., Ph.D.

“The sturdy foundation for the School creates an exciting environment to recruit the best and brightest faculty and students.”

Dean Chosen for O’Donnell School of Public Health

Internationally recognized epidemiologist Saad B. Omer, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., has been appointed the inaugural Dean of UT Southwestern’s Peter O’Donnell Jr. School of Public Health where he holds the Lyda Hill Deanship of the O’Donnell School of Public Health. He previously led the Yale Institute for Global Health.

The School will welcome its first students in the fall.

Academic Honors

Congratulations to UT Southwestern’s new endowment holders appointed from December 2022 to March 2023. We celebrate their outstanding leadership in support of our mission to educate, discover, and heal.



David Nelson, M.D.
Gillette Professorship of Obstetrics and Gynecology



Beatriz Fontoura, Ph.D.
Ruth S. Harrell Professorship in Medical Research



Lina Chalak, M.D.
The William Buchanan Chair in Pediatrics

Dallas Mavericks CEO Calls to Continue MLK’s Work

With a challenge to dream big, Cynthia “Cynt” Marshall inspired an estimated 450 attendees at UT Southwestern’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Celebration.

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, during the heart of the Civil Rights Movement, Ms. Marshall became an author and founded her own consulting company. She spent more than three decades at AT&T, rising through the company to lead Human Resources and serve as Chief Diversity Officer before being named CEO of the Dallas Mavericks in 2018. A dynamic force for promoting inclusion and diversity, *Forbes* honored her as one of the world’s 15 most inspiring female leaders and *Adweek* named her to their list of 30 Most Powerful Women in Sports.



Cynthia “Cynt” Marshall



UTSW Ranked No. 1 in Texas, Fourth in Nation for Tech Transfer

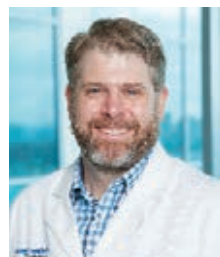
Patents, licenses, and startups continue to help UT Southwestern remain a leader in using research discoveries to advance patient care. According to economic think tank Heartland Forward, the Medical Center ranked No. 1 in Texas and fourth in the nation for technology transfer – the process of commercializing new biomedical technologies.

UT Southwestern faculty have been awarded nearly 750 patents and disclosed more than 4,000 innovations. Technology originating from the institution’s research includes new cancer treatments, lightweight shielding to protect surgeons from radiation during surgery, a new catheter design, cholesterol-lowering drugs known as statins, and new treatments for kidney stones and osteoporosis.



UTSW Pharmacologist Receives TAMEST Edith and Peter O'Donnell Award

The Texas Academy of Medicine, Engineering, Science and Technology (TAMEST) named James Collins III, Ph.D., the 2023 recipient of the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Award in Biological Sciences. He is the 16th UT Southwestern scientist to receive an O'Donnell Award since the



James Collins III, Ph.D.

honors for early-career Texas researchers were established in 2006.

An Associate Professor of Pharmacology, Dr. Collins was recognized for his work combating the spread of schistosomiasis, a parasitic disease that affects more than 250 million people each year in regions of the world that lack access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation.

Dr. Collins holds the Jane and Bud Smith Distinguished Chair in Medicine and is the Rita C. and William P. Clements, Jr. Scholar in Biomedical Research.



Texas Behavioral Health Center Breaks Ground

Construction has begun on North Texas' first state mental health hospital. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is partnering with the Medical Center to design, construct, and operate the new Texas Behavioral Health Center at UT Southwestern, providing much-needed access to inpatient care for those suffering from serious

mental illness and also expanding training for the state's mental health workforce.

Funded by the state of Texas, the 200-bed adult facility is expected to be completed in late 2025. A 96-bed pediatric wing, supported by a donation from Children's Health, is planned to open the following year.

UT Southwestern Welcomes New Leaders



Jorge A. Bezerra, M.D.

Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Pediatrician-in-Chief at Children's Medical Center

In his joint role with UT Southwestern and Children's Medical Center, Dr. Bezerra helps align the strategic priorities of the two organizations' partnership in pediatric care. Nationally recognized as a leader in understanding and treating pediatric liver diseases, he holds the Robert L. Moore Chair in Pediatrics at UT Southwestern. He joined the institution from Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.



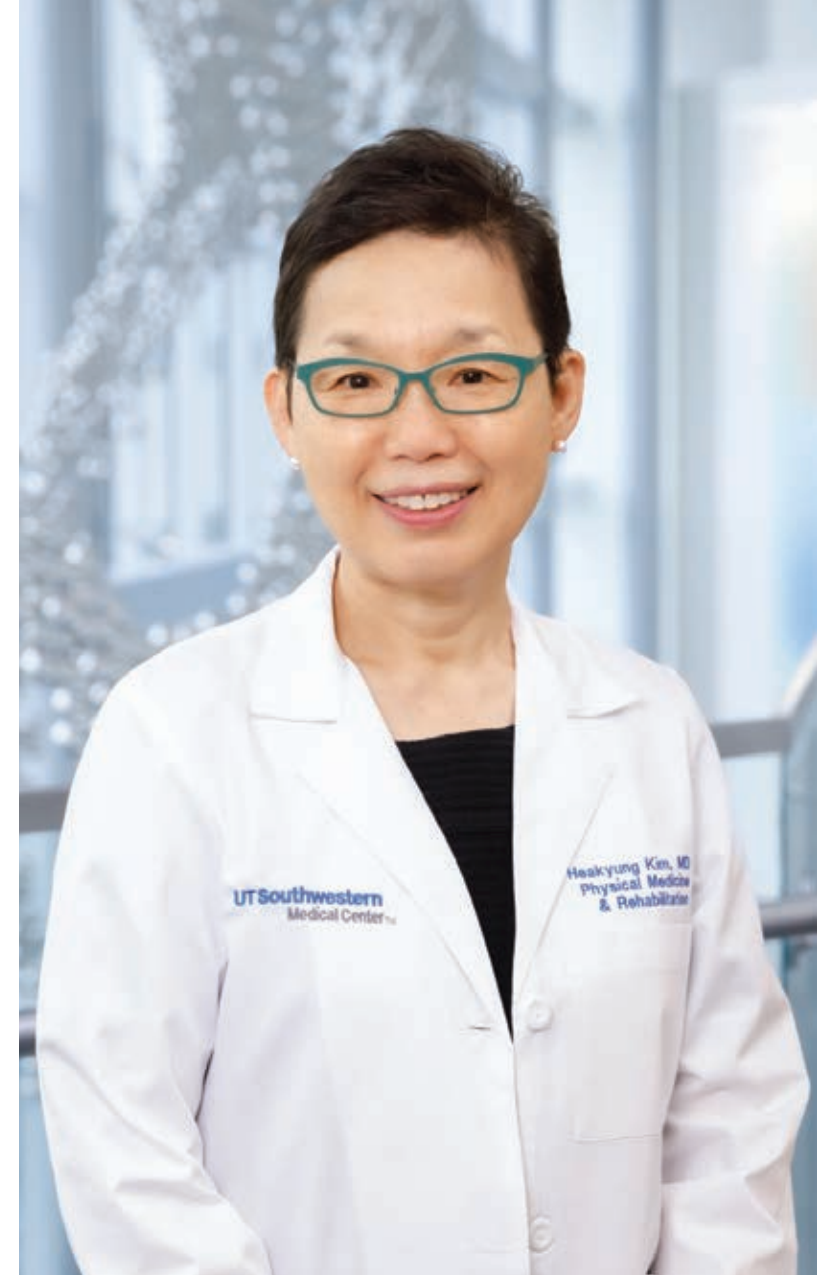
William A. Prinz, Ph.D.

Chair of the Department of Cell Biology

Working to attract top talent, Dr. Prinz's vision hinges on greater collaboration. Focused on researching specialized parts of cells called organelles that help keep cells alive, he spent more than two decades at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, part of the National Institutes of Health. He holds the Virginia and Edward Linthicum Distinguished University Chair in Biomedical Science.

LEADERSHIP

Q&A



Heakyung Kim, M.D., joined UT Southwestern last year as Professor and Chair of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R). With a vision for building a top-ranking PM&R Department across all hospital specialties, she is combining a focus on physiatrist-led, team-based, and patient-centered care with outstanding teaching, robust research, and specialized clinical programs.

An internationally renowned expert in cerebral palsy, Dr. Kim serves on the World Health Organization's committee for rehabilitation interventions for people with the disease. She previously served as Vice Chair and Professor of Rehabilitation, Pediatrics, and Orthopedic Surgery at Columbia University Irving Medical Center.

Why did you join UT Southwestern?

I am fascinated by the Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute, where clinical and scientific investigators work collaboratively to uplift research and patient care. This appointment affords me the chance to expand PM&R's presence in the medical community. We can enhance our patients' quality of life by preventing unnecessary complications caused by being less mobile and promoting early detection and intervention of chronic and complex medical conditions. We can also establish an ideal care model by a multidisciplinary team.

How are you building a top-ranking PM&R program?

First is education. I seek to hire additional faculty to diversify the care we provide and to offer resources to our current faculty to bolster their practice. This will attract medical students dedicated to patient care and expanding medical knowledge through research. Second, we must build research infrastructure that can consistently bring in grant funding from organizations such as the National Institutes of Health. Third is clinical work, the backbone of medicine. With additional faculty, we

can increase our community outreach and provide quality care to more people.

How can philanthropy help achieve your goals?

People with disabilities are the world's largest minority and are more likely to experience adverse socioeconomic outcomes than people without disabilities. They significantly lack resources including medical insurance coverage and access to health care and therapy gyms. Philanthropy will help us build the most comprehensive rehabilitation-model hospital at UTSW. When we move science forward, apply PM&R

knowledge, and implement PM&R techniques and therapy, we can prevent people from being disabled due to various medical problems or the aging process, as well as prevent disabled people from becoming further deteriorated. These efforts will decrease health care costs and create healthier communities.

Dr. Kim holds the Kimberly-Clark Distinguished Chair in Mobility Research.



A partnership between two Dallas icons
is driving global research in women's cancers

By Andrew Marton



heirs was a chance encounter at 30,000 feet. The year was 1996. Then-World Chess Champion Garry Kasparov had defeated IBM's supercomputer, Deep Blue, Atlanta was finalizing preparations for the Centennial Olympic Games, and a young golfer named Tiger had just qualified for the PGA Tour.

As they settled into adjoining seats on a return flight to Dallas, Myra Barker and Jerry Shay, Ph.D., exchanged pleasantries and began to chat. She was the Chief Scientific Officer for global direct sales cosmetic company Mary Kay Inc. The company's Co-Founder Mary Kay Ash needed some scientific expertise for her new Foundation. Dr. Shay was, as fate would have it, a scientist.

The two hit it off. Ms. Barker shared how the Mary Kay Ash Foundation needed top-notch scientific guidance for a new committee tasked with reviewing grant applications. Dr. Shay, a Professor of Cell Biology at UT Southwestern, listened and shared a few thoughts. Days after touching down, he received a call from the President of the Mary Kay Ash Foundation, Michael Lunceford, asking him to lead the review committee. Dr. Shay agreed, and the two started a decades-long partnership between two Dallas institutions.

From its inception, Mary Kay has been synonymous with empowering women. After experiencing inequality in the workplace, Ms. Ash – who grew up northeast of Houston in Hot Wells, Texas – dreamed of creating a company built by women for women. Known for unshakable values, she ran her company based on the Golden Rule – treating customers and co-workers the way she wanted to be treated. She

changed the world of business by creating opportunities for women and became a champion for millions along the way.

Now in its 60th year, the company has grown from an upstart offering one foundation and four skin care products to a top global beauty brand in more than 35 markets around the world. As the business grew, so did its impact on women. Today, millions of Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultants are the company's front-line ambassadors to households worldwide.

Ms. Ash wished to have the same impact and enrich the lives of women everywhere through the Mary Kay Ash Foundation, raising and distributing funds to invest in ending domestic violence as well as breakthrough cancer research and clinical trials to find cures for women's cancers. The passion stemmed from Ms. Ash's experience losing her husband to cancer, an experience shared by many in the company's leadership and throughout its network of independent sales consultants. Cancer is the second leading cause of death for women in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In total, the nonprofit has contributed more than \$92 million to organizations aligned with its two-part mission across the United States. More than \$26 million of the Foundation's total giving has supported the domestic Mary Kay Ash Foundation Innovative-Translational Cancer Research Grants. Since 1996, more than 260 grants have been awarded to leading researchers at the forefront of researching women-related cancers. UT Southwestern has received 20. It's one part of a philanthropic partnership that has funded promising research, created educational opportunities through scholarships, and empowered women's health at the Medical Center.

"When you consider how much Mary Kay Ash wanted to help eliminate cancers in women, it made so much sense that she and UT Southwestern would partner to help those fighting these diseases," Mr. Lunceford said.



Ana Martin Vega, Ph.D., a cancer biologist from the Institut de Biotecnologia i de Biomedicina in Spain, was among the inaugural group of researchers selected in 2021 for the Mary Kay Ash International Postdoctoral Scholars Cancer Research Program. Under the mentorship of UT Southwestern Professor of Pharmacology Melanie Cobb, Ph.D., Dr. Vega's research focuses on treatments for lung cancer.



Natália Bernardes, Ph.D., a biologist from São Paulo State University in Brazil, joined the Program under the mentorship of UT Southwestern Professor of Pharmacology and Biophysics Yuh Min Chook, Ph.D. Dr. Bernardes' research focuses on how abnormalities in the molecules that organize and maintain our cells' DNA can lead to cancer, and she is excited to return to her home country to share techniques that target the most common types of cancers affecting Brazilians.

Opposite page, Jerry Shay, Ph.D., third from left, with Mary Kay Ash International Postdoctoral Scholars in Cancer Research, left to right, Natália Bernardes, Ph.D., Lillian Teixeira, Ph.D., Shengyan Gao, Ph.D., Ana Martin Vega, Ph.D., and Sebastian Diegeler, Ph.D.

After completing their fellowship, Mary Kay Ash International Postdoctoral Scholars return to their home countries to continue the fight against cancer.

Source: World Health Organization 2020 Country Cancer Profiles, includes incidence of all cancers

CHINA



POPULATION
1.4 billion

CANCER CASES
4,285,033

MEXICO



POPULATION
127.6 million

CANCER CASES
190,667

SINGAPORE



POPULATION
5.8 million

CANCER CASES
26,164

BRAZIL



POPULATION
211 million

CANCER CASES
559,371

GERMANY



POPULATION
83.5 million

CANCER CASES
608,742

PORTUGAL



POPULATION
10.2 million

CANCER CASES
58,199

SPAIN



POPULATION
46.7 million

CANCER CASES
270,363

The partners have taken their cancer fight abroad with more than \$2 million invested to date in a unique global fellowship program. Each year, the Mary Kay Ash International Postdoctoral Scholars in Cancer Research Program gives outstanding postdoctoral trainees from around the world the opportunity to work for two years at UT Southwestern. Upon completion of the fellowship program, trainees receive an additional \$10,000 grant to continue their research in their home country. To date, the program has attracted researchers from Brazil, China, Germany, Mexico, Portugal, Singapore, and Spain.

“The need for cancer research progress is not just a U.S. problem,” Dr. Shay said. “We need a global community of top scientists to work on specific types of cancer to reduce its overall morbidity.”

For more than 25 years, Dr. Shay has continued to serve as Chair of the Research Review Committee for the Mary Kay Ash Foundation Innovative-Translational Cancer Research Grant Program. Each year, he impartially leads a committee of prominent doctors and research scientists who volunteer their time to review approximately 100 new applicants, vetting top contenders from among the world’s best medical schools and research centers. Seeking out innovative projects, the committee whittles down the contenders to a short list and presents 10 to 15 finalists to the Foundation’s Board of Directors. It’s an essential review process that helps ensure the Foundation’s \$100,000 grants have the greatest possibility for impact.

“Without that partnership with Dr. Shay, we wouldn’t be nearly as effective stewards of our grant dollars,” said Ryan Rogers, the Mary Kay Ash Foundation’s Vice President and youngest grandson of Mary Kay Ash.

“The need for cancer research progress is not just a U.S. problem!”

To show their appreciation for Dr. Shay’s leadership and service, three years ago the Foundation honored him by establishing the Mary Kay Ash Foundation Distinguished Professorship in Women’s Cancer at UT Southwestern.

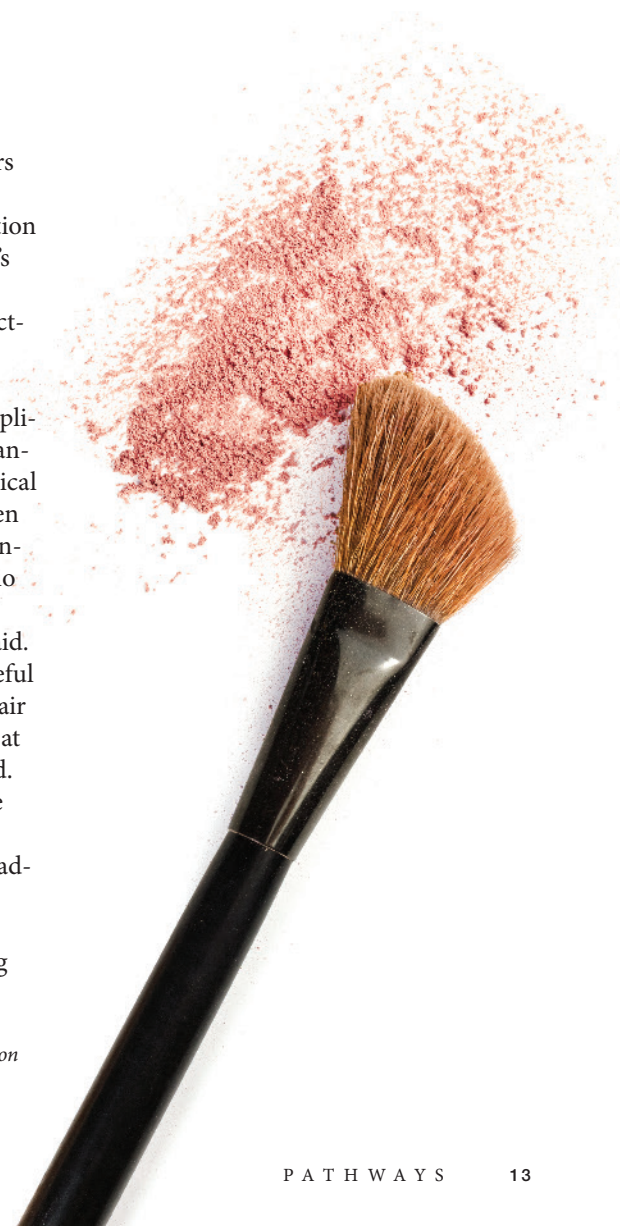
At the time of the gift, Dr. Shay reflected on what such an honor meant.

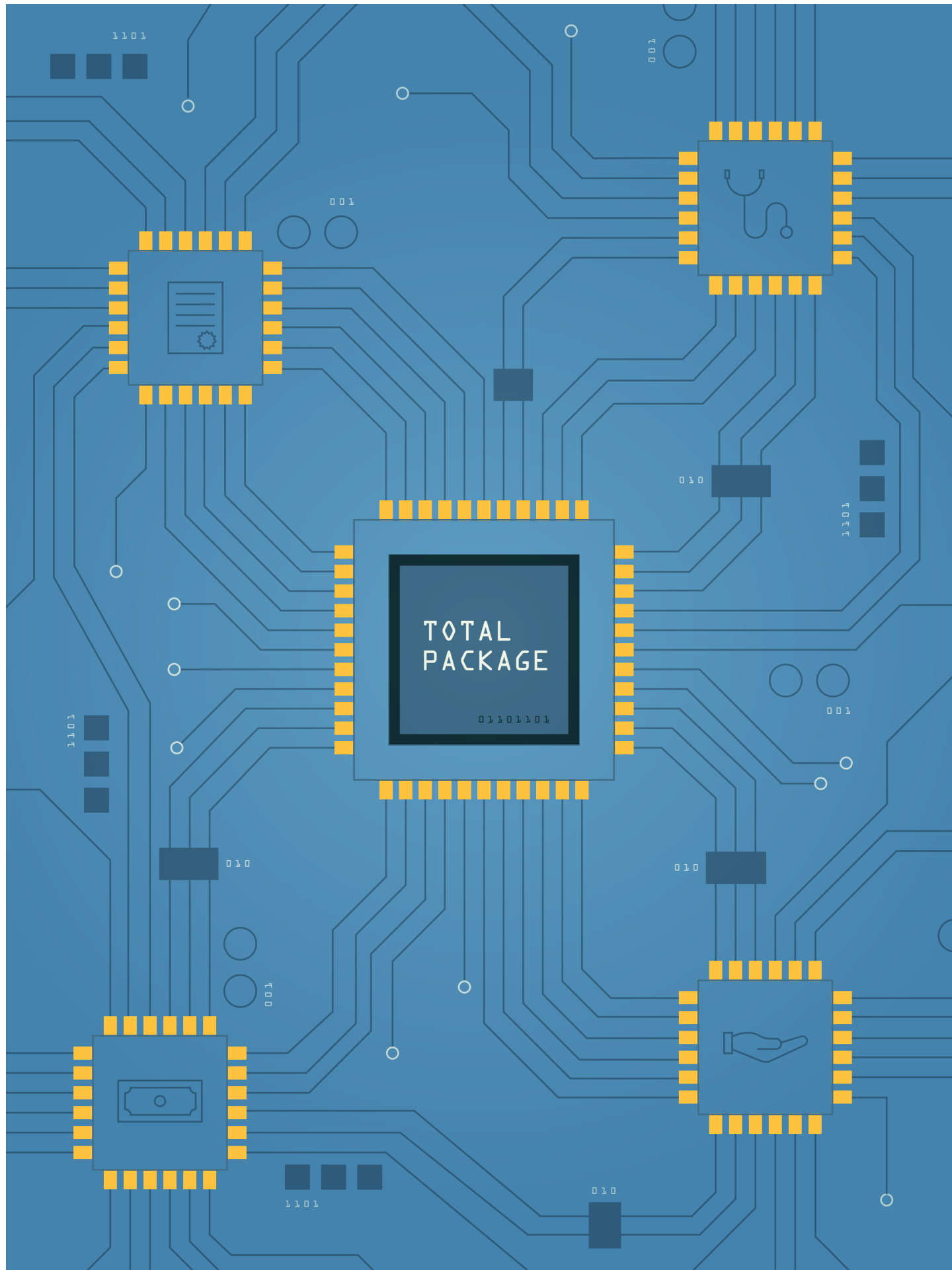
“As a scientist, I have dedicated my career to unlocking answers to the complicated interactions between aging and cancer. The support of grant funding is critical at every stage of research, and it has been very rewarding to partner with the Foundation to help guide their grant portfolio in an effort to fund the most promising ideas in women’s cancer research,” he said.

Today, Dr. Shay continues to be grateful that a partnership that began up in the air continues to have a meaningful impact at UT Southwestern and around the world.

“No one understands better than the Mary Kay Ash Foundation that turning cancer into a chronic disease from a deadly disease is not a race but a marathon,” Dr. Shay said. “It feels great to keep the momentum going that we started a long time ago.” ■

Dr. Shay holds The Southland Financial Corporation Distinguished Chair in Geriatrics.





A family's gift to honor a silicon innovator will provide crucial support services for patients with brain diseases

By Andrew Marton



Shao and Chao Mai

For Chao Chen Mai, the road to success was long and winding and paved with silicon chips. Born in China's Guangdong Province, the innovator found success manufacturing the kinds of integrated circuits that enable much of modern life.

More than 50 years after arriving on American soil, Mr. Mai's family established the Chao and Shao Mai Patient Services Support Fund at UT Southwestern. The endowment, along with matching funds contributed by Southwestern Medical Foundation, will support the Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute's Total Care Program, which offers patient and caregiver support services for people undergoing treatment for brain diseases.

"Our family is especially proud to contribute, through this endowment, to the Total Care Program at the O'Donnell Brain Institute, to help drive research and to provide for families like ours that have loved ones who suffered from diseases of the brain," said Shao Mai, Mr. Mai's wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Mai's families were already closely acquainted when, in the 1940s, the couple left China ahead of the advancing armies of the Chinese Communist Party. They moved to Hong Kong and then Taiwan before immigrating to the United States in the early 1960s. He pursued graduate degrees in electrical engineering at Utah State University. She earned a degree in pharmaceutical chemistry.

The family moved to Massachusetts, where Mr. Mai worked for the Sylvania Corp. In 1972, he joined the Mostek Corp., a semiconductor manufacturer in Dallas, as Vice President for Process Research and Development.

In 1984, Mr. Mai and several colleagues, including his close friend, C. Vincent Prothro, co-founded Dallas Semiconductor Corp., a specialty integrated circuit

manufacturer. There, Mr. Mai rose to become President and Chief Operating Officer and was awarded multiple patents related to the manufacturing of integrated circuits.

After living for years with worsening dementia, Mr. Mai died in 2019. The experience moved the family to find a way to support brain research and treatment at UT Southwestern.

"We felt very strongly that creating an endowment could make our money go even further when it comes to supporting brain research, especially the Total Care Program," said Glenn Mai, the family's eldest son.

Designed to help people living with chronic brain diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and dementia, the Total Care Program is striving to create a more patient-centered experience by bringing together a range of health care professionals including physicians, neurologists, social workers, and patient navigators, people who help connect patients and their families to financial, legal, and social support. A patient and family advisory council and appropriate support groups will also be part of the initiative's scope.

"The Total Care Program brings together services that help patients live their best life," said Vicki Dennis, Associate Vice President of the O'Donnell Brain Institute, who has been involved with the Program's launch. "From art therapy to nutrition counseling, total care offers the kind of lifestyle support that empowers people to function independently for as long as they possibly can." ■



ENERGY
XIMUM

ENERGY
MAX POSITION



By
Andrew Marton and
Sharon Reynolds



ALPHA RHYTHM
CURRENT FLOW

BSZ

LIKE MANY MOMS, CRISPINA HERNANDEZ WAKES UP WORRYING ABOUT HER KIDS.

Now that they're grown up, she worries less about getting them to school on time or what to cook for dinner, but she still hopes they're safe and happy.

She also worries about their health.

Her three adult children – Amanda, Justin, and Christina – live with a neurological condition that affects their ability to coordinate movement and control their balance. The trio started showing symptoms when they were teenagers. As the disease progressed, it affected their balance and made daily activities like showering, dressing, and caring for themselves much more challenging.

“All three were diagnosed at the same time,” Mrs. Hernandez said. “For about five years, it was a devastating and very depressing time. They couldn't work, and they seemed to have good and bad days.”

The condition is ataxia with oculomotor apraxia type 2, a tongue twister of a name often shortened to AOA2. It affects the cerebellum, the small region at the base of the brain responsible for fine-tuning body movements. The disease is rare. The National Institutes of Health estimate fewer than 3,000 people in the U.S. currently live with the disease – less than half the population of Graham, Texas, the small city about 75 miles west of Fort Worth where Mrs. Hernandez and her family live.

Today, all of the siblings have fulfilling careers. Christina works as a receptionist. Amanda is a librarian. Justin teaches computer lab for local fourth and fifth graders. Because of their condition, they fall frequently and rely on wheelchairs and walkers for mobility. To help manage their condition, they visit doctors at UT Southwestern Medical Center and exercise regularly at a local gym, riding specially modified tricycles that they love to race.

“It is difficult to watch my children struggle to move and get through the day,” Mrs. Hernandez said. “But they wake up with a smile and are excited for each new day. They are my heroes, and it's what keeps me going. It would be a dream come true to find new treatments or a cure to stop the progression of this disease.”



Crispina Hernandez, top right, poses with her husband, Marcial, top left, and three children, left to right, Amanda, Justin, and Christina, during a family Christmas in 2021.



LAST SEPTEMBER, more than 30 of the world's top brain researchers gathered at a retreat just north of Albuquerque, New Mexico. It was an unassuming location, styled in the restrained Pueblo Revival architecture synonymous with the Southwest and surrounded by scrub brush, desert sage, and the majestic Sandia Mountains.

The group had sequestered themselves in search of inspiration. Whether seeking the muse of nature or history, they had come to the right place. A short, 30-minute drive down the road sat Sandia National Laboratories, the site of some of the nation's greatest breakthroughs in atomic energy, supercomputing, and national defense. Established during World War II, the site provided engineering support in the quest to build the first atomic bombs.

The task before the esteemed researchers was no less daunting: identify questions with the greatest potential to improve the lives of people who were living with cerebellar diseases – people like the Hernandez siblings. Billed as the Big Ideas Summit, the meeting was the brainchild of Geoffrey Raynor, founder of the Fort Worth-based Once Upon a Time Foundation. The son of a neurosurgeon, Mr. Raynor majored in philosophy in college and has continued to be “fascinated and intrigued by the mysterious riddle of the brain” ever since.

From that high-level gathering of cognitive neuroscientists, genetic experts, and imaging innovators emerged a singular vision to identify and evaluate new treatments to restore lost brain power. The initiative's two-part mission: to support collaborative research to advance humanity's understanding of how the cerebellum works and use that knowledge to develop new treatments to improve people's lives within the next 10 years. To accomplish this, the Foundation committed \$30 million in funding.

“THE RAYNOR CEREBELLUM PROJECT WILL BE A COLLABORATION OF THE BEST MINDS AND A MANHATTAN PROJECT-LIKE FOCUS.”

“The Raynor Cerebellum Project will be a collaboration of the best minds and a Manhattan Project-like focus,” said Mr. Raynor, for whom the initiative is named. “Our goal is to find the shortest path to improving the lives of patients suffering from cerebellar disorders. Timing is critical as these people cannot wait.”



THE PARTNERSHIP between UT Southwestern Medical Center and the Once Upon a Time Foundation dates back almost two decades, spanning research from emergency medicine to neurology to precision cancer treatments. With UT Southwestern's growing research expertise in cerebellar disorders, the Foundation's launch of the Raynor Cerebellum Project provided opportunities for even greater collaboration. The Once Upon a Time Foundation committed \$14 million to UT Southwestern – including \$1 million in matching funds from Southwestern Medical Foundation – to advance promising cerebellar research. The gift will establish the Raynor Cerebellum Research Lab at the Medical Center and includes the possibility of \$5 million in additional future funding.

“We are thrilled to increase substantially our giving to create the Raynor Cerebellum Project – an effort with the size and scope to alter the landscape of neurological medicine well into the future,” said Mr. Raynor. The gift more than doubled the Once Upon a Time Foundation's total giving to UT Southwestern, signaling the project's importance.

“Mounting evidence over the past decade has pointed to a role for the cerebellum in cognition and social skills,” said UT Southwestern President Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D. “The Foundation's bold vision for the Raynor Cerebellum Project will allow us to build an outstanding research program to advance scientific understanding and clinical insight into the cerebellum with the goal of developing effective therapies for cerebellar disease and ultimately preventing cerebellar dysfunction in both children and adults.”

The Raynor Cerebellum Research Lab will benefit from UT Southwestern's strengths in brain research as well as recent infrastructure investments at the institution's Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute.

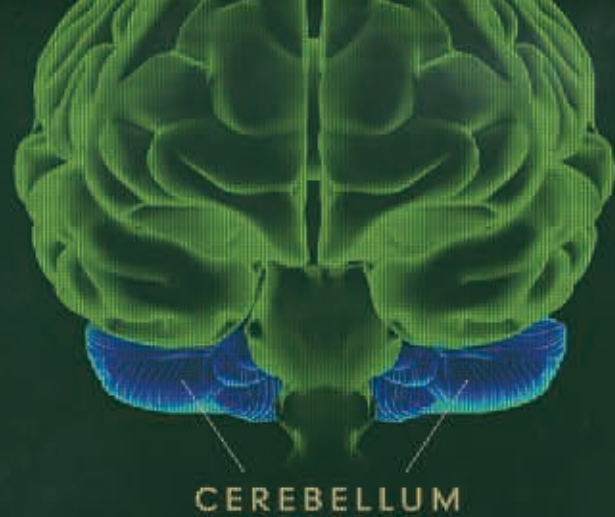
"Rapid advances in several technologies, including brain imaging, genetics, and laboratory techniques enabling precise mapping and manipulation of connected brain regions, are powering this new understanding of the cerebellum and its functions and hold great promise for future discoveries critical for better therapeutics," said William Dauer, M.D., the O'Donnell Brain Institute's inaugural Director and a Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience at UT Southwestern. "There has never been a more promising time for this kind of ambitious effort."

The gift is a notable investment in brain research at the institution. Funds will be used to recruit a senior scientist to lead the Raynor Cerebellum Research Lab, who will hold the Raynor Family Distinguished Chair in Cerebellar Research.

"Improving our understanding of cerebellar function, and importantly, our ability to repair and prevent dysfunction, represents a pioneering effort in this understudied area that holds great promise for improving the lives of affected patients and their families," Dr. Podolsky said.



Left, William Dauer, M.D. Below, the Institute's new home, the Peter O'Donnell Jr. Biomedical Research Building, opened last fall.



FINDING FOCUS

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE CEREBELLUM, START AT THE BACK OF YOUR HEAD. LOCATED BETWEEN YOUR EARS, IT'S A SEMICIRCULAR REGION WRAPPED AROUND THE BRAIN STEM, WHICH CONNECTS THE BRAIN TO THE SPINAL CORD. A LITTLE LARGER THAN THE SIZE OF TWO GOLF BALLS, IT GETS ITS NAME FROM THE LATIN WORD FOR "LITTLE BRAIN."

FOR MUCH OF THE LAST CENTURY, THE CEREBELLUM HAS BEEN LABELED THE PART OF THE BRAIN RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROLLING BODY MOVEMENTS. THINK ABOUT PICKING UP A PEN. YOUR EYES, ARM, WRIST, AND FINGERS MOVE THROUGH DOZENS OF FINE MOVEMENTS AS DEFTLY AS A BALLET DANCER. DURING THOSE FRACTIONS OF A SECOND, THE CEREBELLUM IS CALLING MANY OF THE SHOTS.

BUT DON'T LET ITS SIZE FOOL YOU, THE DIMINUTIVE REGION HOUSES MORE THAN 70% OF THE BRAIN'S NEURONS. IT'S A DENSE NETWORK THAT SCIENTISTS ARE ONLY BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF - AS WELL AS ITS VULNERABILITIES.

ACCORDING TO THE UNITED BRAIN ASSOCIATION, A NONPROFIT THAT STUDIES BRAIN AND MENTAL HEALTH-RELATED DISORDERS, WHEN NERVE CELLS ARE LOST IN THE CEREBELLUM, THINGS START TO GO WRONG. SYMPTOMS CAN INCLUDE AN AWKWARD WALKING GAIT, BALANCE DIFFICULTIES, UNCONTROLLED MUSCLE MOVEMENTS, OR SLURRED SPEECH. BUT IN THE LAST 25 YEARS, RESEARCHERS HAVE FOUND RIPPLE EFFECTS. DAMAGE TO THE CEREBELLUM HAS BEEN RECENTLY LINKED TO SUCH CONDITIONS AS DOWN SYNDROME, MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS, AUTISM, ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER, STROKE, AND BRAIN INFLAMMATION.

SO, WHEN THE CEREBELLUM GETS DAMAGED, THINGS CAN START TO GO VERY WRONG. CHRONIC ALCOHOL ABUSE AND SOME CANCERS CAN DAMAGE THE CEREBELLUM. THERE CAN ALSO BE HEREDITARY CAUSES.

THE CEREBELLUM IS A CRITICAL PART OF THE BRAIN, AND AS SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING OF IT CONTINUES TO GROW, EVIDENCE IS MOUNTING THAT THE REGION PLAYS A FAR GREATER ROLE IN SOCIAL BEHAVIORS, EMOTIONS, AND DECISION MAKING. FOR RESEARCHERS LOOKING TO UNDERSTAND THE BRAIN AND FIND NEW TREATMENTS FOR MENTAL HEALTH DISEASES, THE CEREBELLUM IS INCREASINGLY AN AREA OF GREAT FOCUS.

"WE ARE ALL WRAPPED UP IN EXCITEMENT AND FILLED WITH GRATITUDE TO HAVE SUCH A GIFT HELP SET IN MOTION THIS WONDROUS ROLLER COASTER RIDE OF RESEARCH AND DISCOVERY."



ONE OF THE FIRST researchers to collaborate with the Raynor Cerebellum Project was Peter Tsai, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor in UT Southwestern's Department of Neurology, who specializes in child neurology. Dr. Tsai received a million-dollar grant jointly funded by the Raynor Cerebellum Project and Southwestern Medical Foundation to study how the cerebellum contributes to developmental disorders in the brain.

"As little as a decade ago, the cerebellum was thought to be exclusively used to regulate and coordinate motor function," said Dr. Tsai, who is also Director of the Cerebellar Neurodevelopmental Disorders Clinic at Children's Medical Center. "But a growing amount of research indicates that is just one small part of the cerebellum's story."

Researchers have established the connections between cerebellum dysfunction and disorders such as autism and essential tremor. However, further research is needed to understand if cerebellar disease can lead to complex behavioral disorders such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, dyslexia, dementia, and even anorexia.

Through experiments with mice, Dr. Tsai has worked to identify which circuits in the cerebellum help regulate social and behavioral flexibility and how changing these circuits can lead to improvements in some forms of autism.

"By using a low-dose electrical current to stimulate the cerebellar circuits, we hope to improve the cognitive function, working memory, language, and social behavior of individuals confronting challenges such as autism and other social and learning disorders," he said.

Dr. Tsai hopes to begin testing his findings in humans. Support from the Raynor Cerebellum Project will help provide everything from access to imaging equipment such as MRIs to hiring additional neuropsychologists, clinical staff, and researchers to evaluate patients, manage the trial, and analyze data.

"The Raynor Cerebellum Project has moved the needle of our research, and we hope it will lead to a meaningful and significant impact on the kids we care for," he said.

Joining Dr. Tsai as part of the Raynor Cerebellum Project's first cohort is Vikram Shakkottai, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Pro-

fessor and Vice Chair for Basic Research in UT Southwestern's Department of Neurology. Dr. Shakkottai also received \$1 million from the Once Upon a Time Foundation and Southwestern Medical Foundation to investigate childhood developmental disorders and autism, conditions that manifest with motor impairment and cognitive and speech delays that are linked to cerebellar dysfunction.

Dr. Shakkottai will use his award to understand why children and adults with disorders that affect how the cerebellum works cause that region of the brain to lose function. He is collaborating with neurosurgeons at UT Southwestern and Children's Medical Center to examine neurons from the cerebellum of children that have a malformation where a portion of the cerebellum does not have room in the skull to grow. By comparing these cells to normal human cerebellar neurons, Dr. Shakkottai hopes to identify possible treatments for cerebellar disease.

For both researchers, the Raynor Cerebellum Project is unlocking opportunities that Dr. Tsai described as "a game-changer in so many ways."

"It is hard to express how grateful I am for this opportunity from this gift," he said. "We are all wrapped up in excitement and filled with gratitude to have such a gift help set in motion this wondrous roller coaster ride of research and discovery." ■

Dr. Dauer holds the Lois C.A. and Darwin E. Smith Distinguished Chair in Neurological Mobility Research.

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.

Dr. Shakkottai holds the Dedman Family Distinguished Chair in Neurological Disease.



Defying Pain

How one woman's struggle led to a transformative gift
for bladder disease research and treatment

By Andrew Marton





Philippe Zimmern, M.D., with Felecia and John Cain

Felecia Cain knows all too well the debilitating effects of bladder disease. More than 20 years ago, she suffered from agonizing pain in her lower abdomen. A chain of doctors suggested it was interstitial cystitis – a chronic condition characterized by severe bladder pain.

Agonizing symptoms often left her lying in bed for days on end. One specialist after another offered limited treatment options.

“My doctors’ only solution was pain medication, and I wasn’t willing to do that for the rest of my life,” she said.

Desperate for relief, Mrs. Cain sought out a specialist in women’s urology, which led her to UT Southwestern Medical Center. There, she and her husband, John, met Philippe Zimmern, M.D., Professor of Urology, who suspected there was reason for hope.

“We felt strongly that Mrs. Cain had been misdiagnosed,” Dr. Zimmern said. “Women with this condition have an all-but-ruined life. It can be extremely sad.”

Tests revealed the source of Mrs. Cain’s suffering was chronic bladder inflammation. After treatment, she felt immediately better.

“I was relieved beyond words,” Mrs. Cain said. “While I might not have had a life-threatening problem, I certainly had a life-altering one. Dr. Zimmern gave my life back to me.”

Brimming with gratitude, the Cains wanted to support Dr. Zimmern’s research in women’s urology by giving back through their family’s foundation. The gift continued a family legacy of supporting UT Southwestern’s mission that reached back to the family’s patriarch, Dallas oilman Wofford Cain, and his wife, Effie Marie. In the generations since, the family has supported myriad causes at the Medical Center, including funding a Center for Biomedical Research, multiple awards for research scholars in medical science, and distinguished chairs to support faculty research in cancer therapy, radiology, and Alzheimer’s. They also helped fund the Cain/Denius Comprehensive Center in Mobility Research to advance the study of mobility disorders including multiple sclerosis and stroke and supported the institution’s Campaign for the Brain, which surpassed its goal of making a \$1 billion impact on UT Southwestern’s Peter O’Donnell Jr. Brain Institute last year.

The Foundation’s first gift to the Department of Urology came in 2007 with the creation of the Felecia Cain Fellowship in Urology, which supported the Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship Program. The gift solved a dilemma for Dr. Zimmern. He had begun to double the size of the fellowship program he led but faced challenges supporting the fellows’ salaries. The Foundation’s gift provided the solution.

“We knew there were lots of women who badly needed help but didn’t have the luxury of living close to UT Southwestern,” Mrs. Cain said. “Supporting the expanded fellowship program ensured skilled doctors would take their training into other communities.”

Today, more than 16 highly specialized urologists have completed training in female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery with the support of the Foundation’s Fellowship Program.

“Because of the Cain Foundation’s generosity, a generation of well-trained specialists in the field will help other women get better care and not suffer the kind of pain Mrs. Cain did,” said Dr. Zimmern, who was the next to benefit from the family’s philanthropy.

In 2018, the Cain Foundation established the Felecia and John Cain Distinguished Chair in Women’s Health, in Honor of Philippe Zimmern, M.D. In addition to being recognized by the gift, Dr. Zimmern was selected as the Chair’s first recipient. The appointment enabled him to dedicate more time to researching urological conditions that affect many women, including urinary tract infections, incontinence, and pelvic organ prolapse. He has also pursued research collaborations with other leading institutions in hopes of attracting federal grant funding.

“The Cains’ generosity has totally changed my professional life,” Dr. Zimmern said. “When I wake up in the morning, I realize I’ve been given an opportunity to do some really good work. That’s a powerful feeling to start the day.”

The Foundation’s generosity was only beginning. To further support women’s urology at UT Southwestern, last year, it made a transformative gift to endow the John and Felecia Cain Center for Bladder Health, unlocking new potential for Dr. Zimmern and colleagues in the Urology Department, under the leadership of Chair Claus Roehrborn, M.D.

“We would love for this bladder center to become as well-known as some of the country’s premier cancer centers,” Mrs. Cain said. “And that it would be a place where any woman or man – from anywhere in the world – could get help with urological issues.”

Dr. Zimmern echoed her bold vision, hoping the Cain Center for Bladder Health will become “the number one destination for treating bladder disorders.” With preliminary work underway, he has begun hiring a program manager and securing licenses to perform telehealth visits with patients who are unable to travel to Texas. Citing patients from California to New Jersey, he sees tremendous potential for UT Southwestern to become one of the foremost destinations for treating bladder conditions.

“If a woman anywhere complains of any bladder disorder, I hope they will first say, ‘Let’s get help from UT Southwestern,’” he said. “It’s a goal that is only possible because of the Cain Foundation’s powerful generosity.”

Mrs. Cain said she looks forward to seeing that potential realized.

“Going through all that pain was worth it if it means so many more people will be helped.” ■

Dr. Zimmern holds the Felecia and John Cain Distinguished Chair in Women’s Health, in Honor of Philippe Zimmern, M.D.

Dr. Roehrborn, a Professor of Urology, holds the S.T. Harris Family Chair in Medical Science, in Honor of John D. McConnell, M.D., and the E. E. Fogelson and Greer Garson Fogelson Distinguished Chair in Urology.



Claus Roehrborn, M.D.



“My doctors’ only solution was pain medication, and I wasn’t willing to do that for the rest of my life.”



Susan Boucher celebrated her successful breast cancer treatment with a commitment that continues her fight

By Andrew Marton

Four years ago, Susan Boucher was diagnosed with breast cancer and was looking for the right surgeon. A friend recommended she visit Marilyn Leitch, M.D., a Professor at UT Southwestern Medical Center who specializes in breast cancer surgery.

“As soon as I met Dr. Leitch, I knew I wanted her to do my cancer surgery,” said Ms. Boucher, who retired from Hewlett-Packard as a Senior Director for Strategic Transactions. “There was something so thorough in how she explained everything and her meticulous attention to detail. She gave me more surgical options than I had received previously.”

One of those options was an introduction to Nicholas Haddock, M.D., an Associate Professor of Plastic Surgery and Orthopaedic Surgery at UT Southwestern specializing in breast reconstruction. He quickly joined Ms. Boucher’s care team along with Dawn Klemow-Reed, M.D., a medical oncologist in UT Southwestern’s Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center.

“Within two days, I was in to see Dr. Haddock, and that responsiveness was so reassuring,” she said. “He made me feel totally comfortable, and he and Dr. Leitch provided me an excellent surgical outcome.”

With gratitude for the exceptional care she received, Ms. Boucher made a gift from her will to support cardiology and oncology research and clinical advances at UT Southwestern. In recognition of her gift, she was welcomed into The Wildenthal Society, an organization honoring donors who make a gift from their estate to benefit UT Southwestern or Southwestern Medical Foundation. Formerly known as The Heritage Society, the organization was renamed in June to honor UT Southwestern President Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Internal Medicine Kern Wildenthal, M.D., Ph.D., who served as the institution’s second President.

Determined to advance the Medical Center’s lead in research and care, Ms. Boucher wanted to make a meaningful gift that would have an impact at

UT Southwestern. Because her family had a history of heart health problems, part of her gift will promote research in interventional cardiology – a branch of medicine that looks for minimally invasive ways to treat heart diseases using catheters, thin flexible tubes that are guided to the heart through a blood vessel and can eliminate the scarring and long postoperative recovery often associated with heart surgery.

“Transformative gifts like Ms. Boucher’s can enable promising young investigators to take risks on new projects that might not be ready to receive funds from such major sources as the American Heart Association or the National Institutes of Health,” said James de Lemos, M.D., a Professor and Chief of UT Southwestern’s Division of Cardiology.

Ms. Boucher’s gift will also further cancer research. Simmons Cancer Center Director Carlos L. Arteaga, M.D., thinks the gift comes at a most opportune time.

In the last five years, breast cancer has been an area where Simmons Cancer Center has experienced accelerated researcher recruitment. That means more top, cancer-focused minds working at the Center and more opportunities to bring new treatments to patients through clinical trials. Philanthropic investments, like Ms. Boucher’s, increase that momentum, and Dr. Arteaga sees such a gift making the greatest difference in two additional areas: breast cancer immunology and immunotherapy.

For Ms. Boucher, supporting UT Southwestern researchers is a way to make her ongoing fight against breast cancer part of her legacy. ■

Dr. Arteaga holds The Lisa K. Simmons Distinguished Chair in Comprehensive Oncology.

Dr. de Lemos holds the Sweetheart Ball-Kern Wildenthal, M.D., Ph.D. Distinguished Chair in Cardiology.

Dr. Leitch holds the S.T. Harris Family Distinguished Chair in Breast Surgery, in Honor of A. Marilyn Leitch, M.D.



Carlos L. Arteaga, M.D.



James de Lemos, M.D.

F O R C E

for

G O O D

*How one man's understanding of the universe
shaped the research careers of dozens of physicians*

By Andrew Marton

“Be a **G I V E R**,
not a taker”

Since the 1680s when Isaac Newton set forth his three universal laws of motion, it has been understood that for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. More than three centuries later, people take for granted this fundamental truth of the universe: Forces come in pairs. Action and reaction. Push and pull. Give and take.

But that’s not how Robert Dedman Sr. saw the world.

The Dallas businessman and philanthropist had a different take on the nature of things. Before his death in 2002, the avid golfer who turned a passion for the sport into the golf resort empire ClubCorp instilled in each member of his family his take on how change happens. His philosophy: “Be a giver, not a taker.”

That’s the core value of The Dedman Foundation, which Mr. Dedman co-founded with his wife, Nancy McMillan Dedman. It’s also been the driving force behind the family’s philanthropy to UT Southwestern Medical Center for more than three decades. In that time, the Foundation has donated more than \$16 million to support the institution’s mission, funding the construction of William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital and establishing a distinguished chair to support research and clinical work in the Department of Neurology.

Over the years, the family has seen “how UT Southwestern’s great work has impacted the quality of health care in Dallas and beyond,” said Robert “Bob” Dedman Jr., who continues his parents’ philanthropic legacy as The Dedman Foundation’s President. “That’s really why giving to UT Southwestern has become so vital to us.”

Mr. Bob Dedman is a member of the President’s Advisory Board, which provides guidance to UT Southwestern President Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D., and the institution’s leadership. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the Southwestern Medical Foundation Board of Trustees.

In 2008, The Dedman Foundation made a \$12 million gift to Southwestern Medical Foundation to establish the Dedman Family Endowed Program for Scholars in Clinical Care at UT Southwestern. Southwestern Medical Foundation matched the gift, establishing an endowment that enabled the Medical Center to recruit promising

early-career physicians and researchers for more than 15 years. In 2022, The Dedman Foundation made a gift in the final year of the Campaign for the Brain to support an additional Dedman Scholar in Clinical Care whose research will focus on brain diseases.

“With the creation of the Dedman Family Endowed Program for Scholars in Clinical Care, The Dedman Foundation has enabled the careers of the next and future generations of physician-scientists, who will position UT Southwestern as a leader in translating research into much-needed treatments and therapies,” Dr. Podolsky said. “We are grateful for the Dedman family’s transformational giving and the lasting impact their endowments continue to make on generations of researchers.”

Since 2009, 31 faculty have received the honor of being named Dedman Family Scholars in Clinical Care, representing a host of specializations ranging from Internal Medicine and Pediatrics to those pursuing brain disease research with the Peter O’Donnell Jr. Brain Institute.

“The generosity of the Dedman family is far-reaching in its impact, and they will forever be known as standard bearers for progress in our region,” said Michael McMahan, Southwestern Medical Foundation President and CEO. “It is Southwestern Medical Foundation’s honor to partner with The Dedman Foundation in stewarding this investment so that

the critical work of UT Southwestern continues to bring healing and hope to our communities.”

Each year, two faculty are selected through a competitive process and recipients receive \$150,000 per year for four years to support their research efforts. Throughout the program’s history, more than \$18 million has been awarded to support promising faculty at UT Southwestern.

“The Scholars Program acts as a springboard to help launch the careers of highly promising doctors and researchers,” said Mr. Bob Dedman. “Our gift just gives more focus to the entire program.” ■

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



Robert Dedman Sr. and Nancy McMillan Dedman



The 2022 and 2021 Dedman Family Scholars in Clinical Care stand with representatives of the Dedman Foundation and the Dedman family, including, from left, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry Jessica Moore, M.D., Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology Jessica Grubman, M.D., The Dedman Foundation Vice President Rachael Dedman, The Dedman Foundation President Robert “Bob” Dedman Jr., Jonathan Dietz, Sarah Dietz, Assistant Professor of Surgery Natasha Corbitt, M.D., Ph.D., and Assistant Professor of Urology Xiaosong Meng, M.D., Ph.D.

DEDMAN FAMILY SCHOLARS IN CLINICAL CARE

Since 2009, 31 UT Southwestern faculty have benefited from the Dedman family’s generosity, with many continuing their careers at the institution.

Gaurav Arora, M.D.

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
Founder, Texas Digestive Care

Aditya Bagrodia, M.D.

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Urology, UT Southwestern
Associate Professor, Urology, UC San Diego Health

Muhammad Shaalan Beg, M.D.

Adjunct Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, UT Southwestern
Vice President, Oncology, Science 37

Jarett Berry, M.D.

Professor, Internal Medicine

Drew Bird, M.D.

Professor, Pediatrics and Internal Medicine

Michael Bowen, M.D.

Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, and Peter O’Donnell Jr. School of Public Health

Alexandra Callan, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery

Pearlie Chong, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine

Natasha Corbitt, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Surgery

Neil Desai, M.D.

Associate Professor, Radiation Oncology, and Director of Clinical Research

Maria Florian-Rodriguez, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology

Donald Glass, M.D., Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Dermatology and Eugene McDermott Center for Human Growth and Development

Kimberly Goodspeed, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, Neurology, and Psychiatry

Jessica Grubman, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology

Olga Gupta, M.D.

Instructor, Pediatrics
Duke University

Jacob Hunter, M.D.

Associate Professor, Otolaryngology, and Chief, Otolaryngology Division, Thomas Jefferson University

Raksha Jain, M.D.

Associate Professor, Internal Medicine

Laura Klesse, M.D., Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Pediatrics and Neurological Surgery

Binh-Minh “Jade” Le, M.D.

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine

Xiaosong Meng, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Urology

Jessica Moore, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

Ian Neeland, M.D.

Associate Professor, Medicine, Case Western Reserve University

David Nelson, M.D.

Associate Professor and Division Chief, Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Sarah Oltmann, M.D.

Associate Professor, Surgery

Matthew Porembka, M.D.

Associate Professor, Surgery

Nina Sanford, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Radiation Oncology, and Chief, Gastrointestinal Radiation Oncology Service

Ksenya Shliakhtsitsava, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Pediatrics

Amit Singal, M.D.

Professor, Internal Medicine and O’Donnell School of Public Health, Medical Director, Liver Tumor Program, and Chief of Hepatology

Anna Tavakkoli, M.D., M.Sc.

Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine and Population and Data Sciences

Peter Van Buren, M.D.

Associate Professor, Internal Medicine

Tanya Watt, M.D.

Associate Professor, Pediatrics

MENTAL HEALTH GAME-CHANGER

Dedman Family Scholar in Clinical Care Jessica Moore, M.D., practically grew up in academia. Her mother was Dean of Student Life at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio. Dr. Moore attended high school just down the street. Decades later, Dr. Moore joined UT Southwestern as an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, where she quickly launched a psychiatric clinic aimed at helping patients aged 16 to 27 who suffer from mental disorders tackle the transition to adulthood.

Because of the Dedman Family Scholars Program, Dr. Moore has expanded the Transitional Age Youth Program and become a leading advocate for the mental health of young adults. The clinic that she started alone has grown to include two psychiatrists, a nurse practitioner, a therapist, and a case manager.

“It would have been impossible to achieve my goals without the Dedman Foundation’s gift,” said Dr. Moore, who co-founded UT Southwestern’s Psychiatry Race, Diversity, and Inclusion Task Force. “Before they came along, it was just me, and now it’s becoming a full-fledged program. The Dedman family’s gift changed how we can provide care to those making the tough transition from childhood to adult independence, ensuring that they don’t fall through the cracks of being forgotten.”

Donor Pulse

A Revolutionary Tool for Detecting Eye Cancer

Dedicated to improving the understanding and treatment of cancers of the eye and the surrounding area, the Tumori Foundation made a generous gift to support ocular cancer research currently underway in the Department of Ophthalmology and UT Southwestern's Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Under the direction of J. William Harbour, M.D., Professor and Chair of UT Southwestern's Department of Ophthalmology, the gift supports the purchase, installation, and maintenance of two digital polymerase chain reaction (PCR) systems. One of the most accurate methods for studying differences in gene sequences, the advanced equipment enables Dr. Harbour's team to develop new and innovative methods to detect cancerous tumors circulating in the blood stream, a procedure known as liquid biopsy.

UT Southwestern is one of the first labs in the world to explore the use of liquid biopsy in ocular oncology. Current research suggests that digital PCR is the most effective approach for developing liquid biopsy methods that can be used clinically with patients.



J. William Harbour, M.D.



Tina Joslin, center, with Patterson Law Group attorneys Anna Patterson, left, and Travis Patterson

Law Firm Rallies for Moncrief Cancer Institute

Celebrating as a team, Patterson Law Group commemorated their co-worker's 10,000th day on the job by giving back. The firm's senior paralegal, Tina Joslin, passed the milestone after working with the firm since 1995.

Described by her fellow employees as hardworking and empathetic, Tina helped lead the fundraising effort, which more than doubled its goal. She asked that donations be given to Moncrief Cancer Institute in memory of Osvaldo "Valdo" Ribota, a colleague who specialized in investigations and property damage for the firm and died of cancer in 2017 at the age of 34. Mr. Ribota was a patient at Moncrief Cancer Institute.

A prominent Fort Worth personal injury firm, Patterson Law Group is a family business that values employees by fostering a family atmosphere and supporting co-workers in times of need. Employees are encouraged to serve their community by giving back to causes they are passionate about.

Part of UT Southwestern's Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center, Moncrief Cancer Institute extends UT Southwestern's cancer expertise to Fort Worth by providing cancer detection and support services.

Promoting Careers in Medicine to Students of Color

Shaping the next generation of health care leaders, Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Dallas supported the Future Doctor Pipeline Program, encouraging minority students to pursue careers in medicine. For 40 years, the organization has advanced the careers of women commercial real estate professionals, providing opportunities for networking, professional education, leadership development, and civic involvement.

Developed by Rebecca Vasquez, M.D., Assistant Professor of Dermatology at UT Southwestern, the Future Doctor Pipeline Program presents students of color with opportunities to learn about medical professions and interact, often for the first time, with a role model from a similar cultural background.



Rebecca Vasquez, M.D.

Raised in the predominantly Latino Rio Grande Valley of South Texas, Dr. Vasquez witnessed firsthand the importance of representation in medicine and the challenges minority students often face when pursuing medical careers. She and her colleagues developed the Program to serve schools with large Latino and Black student populations. Physicians and medical students of color share experiences about how they overcame barriers in their careers. Designed for youth of all ages, the Program engages younger children with educational-themed toys, while older students and their parents can learn about topics including navigating college and medical school and applying for financial aid and scholarships.



Students of color make up 26% of the Medical School's Class of 2024.

Easing Cancer's Challenge

Sewell Subaru employees shared their heartfelt generosity with children undergoing cancer treatment at UT Southwestern's Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center. Bearing gifts of blankets, craft kits, and stuffed animals, the team wanted to provide comfort and distraction for patients battling cancer.

"The work UT Southwestern does is beyond admirable. I'd like to think that our organizations share many of the same values, so it's been a pleasure for us to be able to hopefully bring some joy to your patients," said Baden Rowland, Sewell Subaru's General Manager.

The Dallas dealership has been a longtime supporter of the Medical Center. Donated comfort items will improve the treatment experience and

enhance the exceptional care provided by Simmons Cancer Center staff. The gift was orchestrated by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Red River Region, which is Sewell Subaru's philanthropic partner organization.

Simmons Cancer Center is one of only 54 National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the nation and the only one serving North Texas.



Sewell Subaru General Manager Baden Rowland, fifth from left, stands with team members from the Dallas dealership and UT Southwestern representatives Assistant Director of Development Amanda Tostrud, fourth from left, and Simmons Cancer Center Assistant Director of Support Services Alex Huffman, third from right.

UT Southwestern
Medical Center

Office of Development and Alumni Relations
5323 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, TX 75390-9009

