



SMU

# Dedman College

## Majors

Anthropology  
Biochemistry  
Biological Sciences  
Chemistry  
Economics  
Economics with Finance  
Applications  
Economics with Systems  
Analysis  
English  
English with Creative  
Writing Specialization  
Environmental Chemistry  
Environmental Geology  
Environmental Science  
Ethnic Studies  
Foreign Languages  
and Literatures  
Geology  
Geophysics  
History  
Individualized Studies  
in the Liberal Arts  
for Honors Students  
International Studies  
Latin American Studies  
Markets & Cultures  
Mathematics  
Medieval Studies  
Philosophy  
Physics  
Political Science  
Psychology  
Public Policy  
Religious Studies  
Sociology  
Southwest Studies  
Statistical Science

*Opportunities are available for prelegal, premedical, and pre-dental studies, and physical therapy preparation.*

## Centers

Biostatistics Research Center  
Center on Aging  
Center for Statistical  
Consulting and Research  
William P. Clements Center  
for Southwest Studies  
Foreign Language  
Learning Center  
Inter-Community  
Experience Center  
Richard B. Johnson Center  
for Economic Studies  
The John Goodwin Tower  
Center for Political Studies

## New science building designed to support student and faculty research

Biology professors John Ubelaker and Venita Allison readily show their enthusiasm for the nearly completed Dedman Life Sciences Building. They have waited for a new science building at SMU since it was proposed in the mid-'60s. But their passion for the building's potential speaks volumes when they talk about its enhanced laboratories.

"Students can get inspired about a concept through lectures," Ubelaker says, "but in the lab, they get their hands wet. It's a relaxed way of learning, where the excitement of biological sciences takes place."

Space limitation in the Biological Sciences Department's current headquarters in Fondren Science Building has restricted student lab availability. Courses such as genetics have been offered without labs. But when the Dedman Life Sciences Building opens for the spring 2002 term, a new lab in immunobiology will be offered and planning is underway for genetics, developmental biology, and toxicology labs.

"Students who did not have labs knew they were missing something," says Professor Christine Buchanan, who teaches a microbiology lab as part of her teaching and research load. "Teaching a lab course is like hosting a dinner party for 25 people each week – it takes hours of preparation and clean up – but it's worth it."

In addition to four new teaching laboratories, the three-story building adjacent to Fondren Science will include a 100-seat lecture hall, named in honor of R.S. Lazenby Professor *Emeritus* of Chemistry Harold Jeskey, and 50-seat and 35-seat classrooms. It also will include two floors of faculty research laboratories and multiuse research laboratories.

Planning for the new building began in 1997 when funding was provided by Robert H. ('53) and Nancy ('50) Dedman and the Dedman Foundation of Dallas. The Dedmans earmarked \$12 million of their \$30 million gift to the Campaign for SMU for a new science building.

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The new Dedman Life Sciences Building (right) will be dedicated December 6, 2001, and will open for classes in spring 2002.

## Allison relishes challenges of teaching

Biological Sciences Associate Professor Venita Allison never intended to teach. Her work with SMU students changed her mind, however. "I love the interaction with young, vigorous thinkers," she says. "Research is a challenge; teaching is a greater one."

Allison was directing an electron microscopy laboratory at UT Southwestern in 1967 when SMU recruited her to establish its first electron microscopy lab and teach part time.

Allison taught histology, introductory biology, and the laboratory for cell biology. In addition, she taught one of the first developmental biology courses for science majors and edited textbooks and lab manuals.

Allison received tenure in 1973 and served as department chair in 1977-78 and 1984-85, becoming the first woman at SMU to receive tenure and serve as chair in the experimental basic sciences. As chair of the premedical committee from 1975 to 1986, she helped hundreds of students prepare for medical school. She has received numerous awards for her teaching.

"It was a privilege to have Professor Allison as a professor and mentor," says Dr. Deborah Fuller ('80), a Dallas obstetrician/gynecologist. "Without her guidance, I would not be a physician today."

Allison is now one of Fuller's patients. She relies on other former students for dental and other medical care.

She will retire December 31, 2001, and return to her childhood home in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in South Carolina.

For information about Allison's retirement party in early December call 214-768-2730. To make a contribution to the Dedman Life Sciences Building in honor of Allison's retirement call Jan Peterson at 214-768-4745.

## Biological Sciences on the move

By Larry Ruben, professor and chair of Biological Sciences



Larry Ruben

During the next six months, the Department of Biological Sciences will enter a new phase that will define its future at SMU and in higher education. As a result of The Campaign for SMU: A Time to Lead, the department will move into the new 68,000-square-foot Dedman Life Sciences Building under construction at Airline and Daniel (see article on page 1). With four cutting-edge teaching labs, three contemporary lecture halls, and a new computer facility, the building will support state-of-the-art instruction in biological sciences.

Along with the new facilities, the hiring of three lecturers and six tenure-track faculty over a three-year period will ensure that research and instruction within the biological sciences at SMU remains first rate in the years to come.

Biological Sciences is a Ph.D.-granting department with a strong emphasis on the latest biomedical research. During

the past five years, faculty within the department have received nearly \$7 million from the National Institutes of Health in support of their rigorous research programs. Our biology majors have a range of interests, but most seek careers in the allied health professions. Collectively, our students benefit from faculty who remain current in their fields, hands-on lab experience, and research opportunities. Not surprisingly, the acceptance rate of our students to professional schools is significantly above the national average.

Other opportunities for our majors also exist. The BRITE program (Biomedical Researchers In Training Experience) offers further research experience by allowing students an opportunity to enroll at SMU and simultaneously in the Ph.D. program at the UT Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Students also are exposed to biology-related coursework at the SMU-in-Copenhagen and SMU-in-London programs.

In recognition of the significant contributions that the natural sciences make to society, the curriculum has been updated to provide greater offerings in ecology, evolution, and botany. Field experiences are also available through the SMU-in-Taos program.

Building upon this solid foundation, the Department of Biological Sciences is about to become even stronger with its move to the Dedman Life Sciences Building. We invite you to help us celebrate the department's promising future at the dedication December 6, 2001.

## Dedicate and Celebrate!

A series of events will be held during the three-day dedication of the Dedman Life Sciences Building. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held at 11:15 a.m. December 6, followed by a barbecue luncheon. Other events will include building tours and faculty lab demonstrations.

An academic symposium on aging has been planned December 7 for the scientific community. Area high school teachers will be invited to a workshop promoting inquiry-based science in precollege settings on December 8.

As faculty and students prepare to move into the building for the spring 2002 term, funding opportunities remain for laboratory equipment, student scholarships, and endowed faculty chairs. "Contributions will make an impact on all future biological sciences students at SMU," says Larry Ruben, professor and chair of Biological Sciences.

For more information about the dedication or funding opportunities, call or e-mail Jan Peterson, executive director of giving programs for Dedman College, at 214-768-4745, [jpeterso@mail.smu.edu](mailto:jpeterso@mail.smu.edu), or Randy Phillips, associate dean for administration, at 214-768-2539, [rphillip@mail.smu.edu](mailto:rphillip@mail.smu.edu). Additional information also is available at the Web site, [giving.smu.edu](http://giving.smu.edu).

## New science building designed for student and faculty research

(continued from page 1)

“The new building is designed to be flexible,” says Larry Ruben, chair of Biological Sciences. “The size and dimensions of the spaces can change as the field changes – and the field will continue to change.”

Designing a building for research requires special considerations. Because tiny particles in the air and water can alter research results, the building-wide air handling system will filter and separate the air used in each lab. In addition, a system will purify water throughout the building to meet research requirements.

As construction continues, Ruben and others in the department are finalizing plans to recruit new faculty members. “The new building comes at just the right time,” Ruben says. “Just as biology is turning to the post-genome era, we are in a position to hire new faculty with interests in these areas.”

Students will be the ultimate beneficiaries of the expanded faculty research space, Ruben says. “We will have the kind of space to hire the caliber of faculty members who will present extraordinary opportunities to students.”

“This building is not just a shiny new version of what we already have, but a whole new way of approaching biology,” he adds.



Biological Sciences faculty members tour the new building.

## Natural setting adds life to biology courses

Two years ago, then English major Heather Harper attended SMU-in-Taos to fulfill a science credit by taking Professor John Ubelaker’s plant biology class.

Harper, now a senior, says that experience was the impetus for her eventual switch to a biological sciences major with an emphasis in botany. “It was so fascinating the way

Professor Ubelaker could tell you about every organism and how it interacts with other organisms. He showed me the creative side to science.”

An expert in north central New Mexican plant life, Ubelaker teaches summer courses in the natural laboratory of SMU-in-Taos. Set in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and surrounded by the Carson National Forest, SMU-in-Taos at Fort Burgwin offers summer courses in the humanities, sciences, and studio and performing arts.

“The setting provides an opportunity for students to hear a lecture in context,” Ubelaker says. “In a discussion on ponderosa pine, I can ask students to smell the bark of the tree on the sunny and shady sides, and then relate that experience to the life cycle of the tree – a remarkable learning experience.”

Last May Harper participated in Ubelaker’s plant biology class for a second time – as a teaching assistant. She is assisting him again for the August class. “I want everyone to enjoy it as much as I did,” Harper says.



Biological Sciences Professor John Ubelaker uses the natural setting of SMU-in-Taos to explain the life-cycle of plants to students.

## Genetic counselor studies cancer at its origin

Twenty-five members of an African-American family in a small Louisiana town gather at their church to learn more about what one family member calls “the family curse.” For several generations in this family, women in their 30s and 40s have died from breast cancer.

Leading the meeting is Annette Patterson (’95), an SMU biological sciences graduate, who recently earned her Master’s degree in human genetics from Sarah Lawrence College in New York. She is a cancer genetic counselor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

“There are mutations in two genes that cause many breast cancers,” Patterson says. “If a woman has one of these mutations, she has up to an 85 percent chance of developing the disease.”

Using funds from the Komen Foundation designated for breast cancer prevention in African-American women, Patterson, a nurse educator, and a research assistant discussed genetic testing and breast cancer prevention with family members, who have a 50-50 chance of carrying the mutation, Patterson says.

According to the National Cancer Institute, African-American women are more likely to die from breast cancer than white women, possibly because their cancers are often diagnosed at later stages.

Patterson spends half her time counseling patients and the other conducting cancer research. She specialized in cancer genetics because of her interest in molecular biology.

“All cancer is due to problems at the genetic level,” she says. “Cancer is caused by one cell that has started to divide uncontrollably – I try to determine when a patient’s cancer is hereditary so it can be prevented or caught early and treated.”



Valerie Kalka ('01) and Carrye Rudolph (right) studied at SMU-in-Copenhagen.

## Students learn about medicine at SMU-in-Copenhagen

Through SMU-in-Copenhagen, premedical students experience the benefits of a study abroad program along with classes that provide medical experience and exposure to socialized medicine.

SMU students attending the University of Copenhagen can choose courses from its medical practice and policy track. "Health Care in Scandinavia" and "Human Health and Disease, a Clinical Approach" are offered at the National University Hospital.

Of the 18 SMU abroad programs, only the Copenhagen program offers courses designed specifically for pre-medical students.

"Students like the hands-on component," says Karen Westergaard, director of SMU's study abroad program. "We have had one or two biology or biochemistry students take part in the medical track every year since it was first offered in 1998."

In fall 1999, biological sciences graduate Carrye Rudolph ('01) joined 20 premed students from throughout the world to study the Danish approach to medicine. Physicians and medical students taught the courses using patient histories and took students on clinical rounds.

"We looked at the different systems in the body and learned practical things, like how to take a patient's blood pressure," Rudolph says. "It also was interesting to learn about socialized medicine."

## From organ transplants to childhood diseases: Student researchers advance knowledge

Senior biological sciences major Fiona McAlpine has spent the past two summers searching for the gene that causes Roberts Syndrome, a rare and severe developmental disorder. Babies born with the syndrome often have smaller-than-normal limbs, cleft lips and palates, nose and ear abnormalities, and severe mental and growth retardation. They rarely live beyond infancy.



Biological sciences majors Fiona McAlpine (left) and Anad Sitaram are summer researchers at UT Southwestern.

McAlpine studied RNA samples in the research laboratory of Dr. Roger Schultz, assistant professor of genetics and development at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. "Finding the gene is a trial-and-error process," she says. "The first summer we fully sequenced a gene, and then learned that it was not the gene that causes the syndrome."

**"It's hands-on experience. BRITE allows students to see the tremendous potential and excitement of the field, and at the same time, the hard work required to advance our knowledge."**

**— Dr. Octavio Ramilo, associate professor of pediatrics and microbiology at UT Southwestern.**

McAlpine continued the search during her second summer in the lab. Dr. Schultz's lab recently announced it has mapped a gene with an associated defect.

One of the first students admitted to the Biomedical Researchers in Training Experience (BRITE) program sponsored by SMU and UT Southwestern, McAlpine participated in a unique opportunity for undergraduates. Students interested in pursuing research careers are jointly admitted to SMU and the

Ph.D. program at UT Southwestern's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences as high school seniors or early in their first year at SMU.

"It's hands-on experience," says Dr. Octavio Ramilo, associate professor of pediatrics and microbiology at UT Southwestern. "It allows students to see the tremendous potential and excitement of the field and, at the same time, the hard work required to advance our knowledge."

BRITE students spend their summers working in SMU or UT Southwestern research labs that reflect their interests. "I chose Dr. Schultz's lab because I am really interested in molecular biology," McAlpine says.

Junior Kristin Long chose a lab with clinical emphasis. She tested the effectiveness of drug dosages and combinations on the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in Dr. Ramilo's lab. RSV diseases – common in young children – cause many of their respiratory infections. In most cases RSV results in a cold-like infection, which can be fatal in premature babies less than six months old and in those with weakened immune systems. Researchers also think the tissue damage from RSV may lead to asthma.

"In my research I could see which drugs worked and which didn't," Long says. "It was easy to see the study's impact and purpose."

"We watched Kristin start from scratch and learn to perform the experiments by herself and, more importantly, learn to understand

the experiments and see where to go next," Dr. Ramilo says. "That is one of the best outcomes for all of us in the lab."

Sophomores Anad Sitaram and Rebecca Oppedal are spending their first summers as researchers. "It wasn't until I heard about the BRITE program that I decided that I might be interested in a biomedical research career," Sitaram says. "I hope this research job confirms that is what I want to do."

## Managing malaria: Researcher leads fight against deadly disease

SMU alumna Yimin Wu ('93) plays a significant role in the international fight to eradicate malaria. As a research and collection scientist at the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), a nonprofit, global biological resource center, she manages the Malaria Research and Reference Reagent Resource Center. The program provides standardized malaria research materials such as parasites, clones, and even mosquitoes at no cost to researchers worldwide.

She also conducts her own malaria research and coordinates efforts to share technology and scientific information with the international malaria research community.

Forty years ago, researchers believed they were on the verge of eradicating malaria, but the parasite responsible for the most deaths – *Plasmodium falciparum* – has become 90 percent resistant to chloroquine, the longtime first-line treatment against the disease.

“Of single organisms, malaria is now the number one killer in the world,” Wu says.

The most serious form of malaria is particularly deadly to children under age five. In Africa more than 3,000 children die from malaria each day.

Because tropical diseases such as malaria do not affect developed countries in the Western Hemisphere, funding for research has been scarce, Wu says.

The malaria resource center was created in response to an outcry from the developing world at a scientific conference in 1997, she says. In 1998 the National Institutes of Health awarded a \$9 million contract to ATCC in Virginia and the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta to support the malaria research repository, now directed by Wu and Raymond Cypress.

“The program is too young to measure its impact,” Wu says. “But a lot of scientists have benefited. Our goal is to help develop new drugs or a vaccine against malaria.”

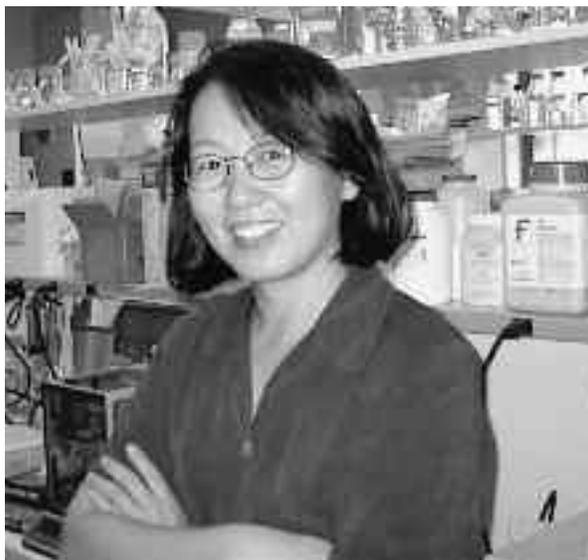
Wu became interested in parasites such as malaria when she worked on her Ph.D. in biological sciences at Dedman College with Larry Ruben, a leading researcher in parasitology and Wu's Ph.D. adviser.

“Yimin is vivacious and energetic,” says Ruben, professor and chair of Biological Sciences. “The center she directs is globally recognized for helping to create a unified effort against malaria.”

A native of China, Wu received the Bachelor of Medicine in 1983 from the Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine and served as a junior faculty member. She studied malaria during her postdoctoral work at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, where she was honored for groundbreaking research in developing methods for transforming malaria with foreign DNA.

Wu left the NIH in 1996 to become a research fellow at Oxford University in England, where she studied protein transport in malaria parasite cells. If understood, this mechanism could provide insight on how to disrupt the process and develop new ways to fight the disease, Wu says. She recently received an NIH grant to continue her study.

Although Wu has worked with malaria researchers throughout the world, she is quick to credit Ruben with her success. “I see him as my mentor,” she says. “In the Chinese culture, a mentor is more respected than one's parents.”



While attending a conference in Texas, malaria researcher and alumna Yimin Wu visited the Biological Sciences Department.



Dallas obstetrician/gynecologist Deborah Fuller holds one of her “labors of love.”

## Alumna delivers labor of love

As Dr. Deborah Fuller ('80) checks by phone on two patients in the labor rooms at Baylor University Medical Center, another patient in labor arrives at her office and is sent to Baylor to join the others.

“This is supposed to be my day off,” the Dallas obstetrician/gynecologist says and smiles. “It's been one of those weeks.”

As the mother of three girls and a physician with a busy medical practice, Fuller does not always find time to do the things she advises her patients to do – such as exercise and get plenty of rest. But in spite of a hectic schedule, Fuller makes time to return to SMU regularly to speak to premedical students and has hosted an undergraduate biological sciences student as an intern in her office.

“I try to give students a glimpse of what life as a physician is really like,” she says.

Because of the influence of managed care and shifting demographic patterns, Fuller advises students to take business courses and to learn a second language – Spanish – for those who plan to practice in Texas. She warns them that after medical school, for certain specialties such as obstetrics, “the hours don't always get better.”

Fuller candidly talks with students about the challenges of being a physician, wife, and mother. “It's hard to juggle all the balls I have in the air,” she says. “But there are wonderful rewards.”

## Grants support faculty research

Supported by more than \$7 million in research grants in the last five years, Biological Sciences faculty study topics ranging from tropical diseases to the aging process. Following are profiles of three SMU researchers.

### **Richard Jones** *associate professor*

Using a combination of molecular, biochemical, and genetic approaches, Jones studies a gene silencing mechanism. Failure of this gene silencing mechanism results in physical abnormalities and death. Jones' research is supported by \$640,000 in grants in the last five years from the National Institutes of Health and the American Federation for Aging Research.

### **William Orr** *professor*

Through \$1.1 million in grants in the last five years from the National Institute of Aging and the American Federation for Aging Research, Orr examines the mechanisms of aging. Using the hypothesis that oxygen and its reactive products may account for the changes associated with aging, Orr studies methods for preventing oxidative damage.

### **Steven Vik** *professor*

Vik conducts research on the way cells make adenosine triphosphate (ATP), a chemical produced in the cell's mitochondria that provides energy. Every cell function, from the building of bones to the contraction of muscles to the transmission of nerve impulses, relies on ATP. The National Institutes of Health funds his research with \$1.6 million in grants.

## Student's work with young survivors inspires career decision

Carrye Rudolph ('01) has received nearly every student award SMU offers – the “M” Award, President's Scholar, Homecoming queen, Mustang Corral leader, and *summa cum laude* honors as a biological sciences graduate. But a defining moment in her life occurred last summer while she served as a counselor at a camp for children with sickle cell anemia.

At Camp Jubilee, a weeklong camp for children treated for sickle cell anemia at Children's Medical Center in Dallas, Rudolph was responsible for 14-year-old Orlanda, whose health restricts her to a wheelchair. But Camp John Mark near Hillsboro, Texas, which serves as headquarters for Camp Jubilee, is designed for children with medical

conditions. Rudolph helped Orlanda take part in daily swims, horseback riding, cooking, and crafts. At the end of the week, Rudolph concluded that she wanted to pursue a medical career.

Rudolph volunteered at Camp Jubilee as a summer research intern at the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Children's Medical Center. She worked with center director Dr. George Buchanan studying sickle cell anemia. Her assignment was to validate or refute a recently published study suggesting that certain symptoms present at diagnosis of sickle cell anemia could predict the severity of the disease. Much of her summer was spent reviewing medical records of Dallas sickle cell patients.

**“I gained so much at camp. When I saw children who have so much to complain about, yet they never complained, I gained strength from them.” — Carrye Rudolph**

“Carrye completed a detailed critical review of medical charts that followed patients for 10 to 16 years to see if we could validate the results in the Dallas patients,” Buchanan says. “She needed about one more month to complete the study, but her preliminary results did not find the same results as the published study.

“She learned a valuable lesson about science,” he adds. “You can't just do an experiment once, you have to check and recheck the data. Hopefully her study will be completed by our researchers and eventually published. When it is published, her name definitely will be on it.”

In addition to her research and camp experience, Rudolph joined Buchanan on patient rounds and in the clinics for pediatric sickle cell and cancer patients.

The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders has sponsored an undergraduate intern for nearly 10 years, Buchanan says. “We do this to expose premedical students to academic medicine. They see the scholarly and carefully controlled way that new treatments and medications are developed.”

In the fall Rudolph will move to Atlanta to attend Emory University's medical school. But first she participated in an event that benefits some of the cancer patients who inspired her with their courage. As a member of Team in Training, Rudolph raised funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society when she competed in its marathon in San Diego in June.



**At Camp Jubilee, Carrye Rudolph served as counselor to 14-year-old Orlanda, who has been diagnosed with sickle cell anemia.**

## Professor devotes research to neglected disease

In sub-Saharan Africa, a handful of tsetse flies hovering in the savanna or near a pool of water has the potential to wipe out an entire village. In fact, the voracious bite of the tsetse fly and ensuing invasion of the blood stream by the trypanosome parasite cause a disease that has affected development of the African continent for centuries, says Larry Ruben, professor and chair of Biological Sciences in Dedman College.

For 19 years Ruben has studied trypanosomes, parasites that lead to sleeping sickness in humans and livestock. The parasite travels through the bloodstream until it enters the central nervous system, where it crosses the blood-brain barrier and causes extreme lethargy, disrupted sleep patterns, psychotic episodes, and death.

"The parasite survives by tricking the immune system," Ruben says. "The single-cell organism is very different from viruses or bacteria. It shares a lot of biochemistry with humans, making it difficult to find a drug that works against it that is not toxic to humans."

Sleeping sickness, confined to sub-Saharan Africa, has prevented explorers and invaders from penetrating the continent's heart. The Muslim influence that is prevalent along the African coast is absent from the interior of sub-Saharan Africa.

"When Muslim tribes from what is now Chad and Libya invaded Central Africa, their camels died right out from under them from sleeping sickness," Ruben says. "A few tsetse flies can wipe out a livestock herd in 10 days. As a result,

Central Africa has developed in the absence of large livestock for draught animals and as a source for transportation or food."

Today, the World Health Organization estimates that 300,000 people are infected with sleeping sickness each year. In parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the disease kills as many people as AIDS.

Supported by a five-year, \$967,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health, Ruben studies calcium signal pathways in trypanosome cells. Calcium ions are responsible for rapid changes in cellular behavior, and the disruption of these signal pathways is lethal to a wide range of cell types. "We hope to find a pathway linked to a vital activity of the cell that can be controlled by a drug," he says.

Ruben was the first researcher to look at calcium signal pathways in trypanosomes and at the role of calcium-binding proteins in the parasite. "The proteins appear to be part of the parasite's motility system that propels it through the bloodstream," he says.

In addition, his studies have described the parasite's molecular and biochemical properties. Ruben's recent work examines cell death genes that appear to be over-expressed at times when trypanosomes are dying. By artificially regulating these genes, he may be able to induce death in trypanosomes during the course of infection.

Ruben earned his Bachelor's in zoology from the University of California at Berkeley and his Ph.D. in cell biology from the University of Minnesota. He studied trypanosomes as a postdoctoral fellow at Yale University's Department of Epidemiology and Public Health. The NIH honored Ruben with its young investigator award, and he now reviews grant applications for NIH and the National Science Foundation. He joined SMU in 1986 and became chair of the Biological Sciences Department this year.

"Sleeping sickness is one of the great neglected diseases," Ruben says. "The World Health Organization ranks it among the top 10 in the world. Future economic development of Africa will depend upon eradicating the threat of sleeping sickness."



Parasitologist Larry Ruben reviews X-ray films of trypanosome copy DNA fragments in his lab at SMU.

## Dedman College Calendar of Events

### Collegium da Vinci

The Pierce and Allie Beth Allman Public Lecture of the Collegium da Vinci Lecture Series will feature Nobel Prize-winning physicist Leon Lederman at 7:30 p.m. September 16 in the Bob and Jean Smith Auditorium at the Meadows Museum. The lecture is free, but reservations are required. Call 214-768-2103 or check the Web site, [smu.edu/collegium](http://smu.edu/collegium).

### Godbey Lecture Series

The fall program begins with a series of lectures, "Dallas Becomes a Global City: The New Immigration, Rights, and Incorporation in a Suburban Metropolis," led by history, anthropology, and political science professors. Other fall lectures include "A Russia Update," "Queens and Mistresses of the Loire Valley," and a theatre trip to New York City. For more information, call 214-768-2532, e-mail [gl@mail.smu.edu](mailto:gl@mail.smu.edu), or visit [www.smu.edu/~godbey/](http://www.smu.edu/~godbey/).

### Homecoming

Alumni will gather on campus October 25-28 for Homecoming 2001. Events include the Distinguished Alumni Award celebration, the Homecoming luncheon featuring faculty members, an admission information session for legacies, and the parade on Saturday morning. Festivities on The Boulevard precede the kickoff of the football game against University of Texas-El Paso at Gerald J. Ford Stadium. Gatherings also are planned for reunion classes. For more information, call Alumni Relations at 214-768-2586 or 1-888-327-3755 or check its Web site, [www2.smu.edu/alumni](http://www2.smu.edu/alumni).

## Anthropology professor elected to National Academy of Sciences

Lewis R. Binford, University Distinguished Professor of Archaeology, was one of 72 scientists elected in May to the National Academy of Sciences.

Membership in the National Academy of Sciences is considered one of the highest honors that a scientist or engineer can receive. The more than 1,800 academy members elect their peers in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research.

Binford joined the SMU faculty in 1991 after teaching for 23 years at the University of New Mexico. Often referred to as “The Father of Modern Archaeology,” Binford’s ideas changed the way archaeologists study prehistoric societies. He first gained notoriety in 1962 when he wrote a controversial article in *American Antiquity* proposing that archaeologists abandon their emphasis on cataloging artifacts and instead study what the artifacts revealed about the societies that produced them. The proposition launched what is now known as “New Archaeology.”

Binford’s legacy of research and analysis is summarized in *Constructing Frames of Reference: an Analytical Method for Archaeological Theory Building Using Hunter-Gatherer and Environmental Data Sets*, a 600-page book published by Princeton University Press.

Binford is the second SMU anthropology professor elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Fred Wendorf, an archaeologist who has led research expeditions to northern Africa for more than 38 years, was elected to the academy in 1987.



Lewis Binford

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