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**Nationally Renowned Science Education Researcher Richard A. Duschl Named Executive Director of Southern Methodist University's Caruth Institute for Engineering Education**

DALLAS (SMU) – Dr. Richard A. Duschl, a leader known for his continuing contributions to science education through research, has joined the [Caruth Institute for Engineering Education](#) (CIEE) at the SMU Lyle School of Engineering. He will serve as the Executive Director and TI Distinguished Chair in Engineering Education.

In this role, Duschl will oversee the Institute's mission to become a national center of excellence in researching, developing, delivering, and evaluating new and innovative K-16 science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education programs. The institute plays a key role in engineering education policy research, educating and informing the public on viable solutions to issues associated with engineering education and STEM initiatives.

As an expert in STEM education, Duschl's research focuses on establishing and understanding science learning environments and the roles of teachers and students during inquiry and argumentation processes. Duschl was honored with the National Association for Research in Science Education (NARST) Distinguished Career in Research Award in 2015 and has twice received the *Journal of Research in Science Teaching* (JRST) award for best article in 2003 and 1989 respectively.

"Richard is an incredibly accomplished individual who brings a wealth of knowledge to this role," said Marc P. Christensen, dean of the Lyle School of Engineering. "His focus on integrating STEM into the classroom at an early age and his objective to make young students 'engineering ready' align with the mission of the Caruth Institute for Engineering Education. We are excited to have him join the university and lead the institute in this important area of education."

Duschl's multifaceted career is defined by numerous collaborations and scholarly interactions. He previously served as president of NARST; as Director, Division for Research on Learning at the National Science Foundation (NSF); and chaired the National Research Council (NRC) research synthesis report *Taking Science to School: Learning and Teaching Science in Grades K-8* (National Academies Press, 2007). Past academic positions include the Kenneth B. Waterbury Chair at Penn State's College of Education; Professor of Science Education, Graduate School of Education, Rutgers University; Chair of Science Education at King's College London; as well as other positions at Vanderbilt University, University of Pittsburgh, Hunter College-City University New York (CUNY) and the University of Houston. Early in his career, Duschl taught high school earth science in Charles County, Maryland, and middle school science and math in East Lansing, Michigan.

For 10 years, Duschl served as the editor of *Science Education*, an international journal of research and scholarship and was the editor of the Teachers College Press book series "Ways of Knowing in Science." Duschl's authorship on the subject of science education includes nine books and reports, five handbook chapters, 27 chapters in edited volumes, 46 journal articles and 26 keynotes and invited speaking engagements. Duschl has received more than \$15.6 million in research studying various topics related to science education.

Duschl's involvement in informal science education has included roles as a co-principle investigator of the NSF Center for Informal Learning and Schools, serving on the advisory boards of the New Jersey Liberty Science Center and the Cumberland Science Center, Nashville, Tennessee, and as curator for science exhibits at the Children's Museum of Houston.

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### **About SMU**

*SMU is the nationally ranked global research university in the dynamic city of Dallas. SMU's alumni, faculty and nearly 12,000 students in seven degree-granting schools demonstrate an entrepreneurial spirit as they lead change in their professions, community and the world.*

### **About the Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering**

*SMU's Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering, founded in 1925, is one of the oldest engineering schools in the Southwest. The school offers eight undergraduate and 29 graduate programs, including master's and doctoral degrees, through the departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Computer Science and Engineering; Electrical Engineering; Engineering Management, Information, and Systems; and Mechanical Engineering. Lyle students participate in programs in the unique Deason Innovation Gym, providing the tools and space to work on immersion design projects and competitions to accelerate leadership development and the framework for innovation; the Hart Center for Engineering Leadership, helping students develop nontechnical skills to prepare them for leadership in diverse technical fields; the Caruth Institute for Engineering Education, developing new methodologies for incorporating engineering education into K-12 schools; and the Hunter and Stephanie Hunt Institute for Engineering and Humanity, combining technological innovation with business expertise to address global poverty.*