



# Forum in Focus

FALL 2005

## President's Letter

Dear Forum Members:

As the school year begins, so does the Southwest Foundation Forum's 36th year. I am humbled and excited as I take the helm of an organization deeply rooted in my family. I can remember, from an early age, hearing about the Forum and the Foundation from my aunt and uncle, Nancy and Jeff Moorman. Jeff's uncle, Tom Slick, started the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research to fulfill his lifelong vision – "a great center for human progress through scientific research." How fortunate I feel to lead such an incredible group of women who share in the desire to support his noble cause. It is the hard work and dedication of each of you that make our continuing support of the Foundation possible.

**Laura Moorman** and **Julie Whitaker** met in the heat of the summer to set the upcoming Forum budget. They projected Forum revenues and expenditures that reflect sound budgeting practice. We are lucky to have these capable women in charge.

**Heather Hunter** and **Jenifer Brown** have been hard at work over the summer compiling our yearbook. Their diligence and attention to detail promise an exceptionally updated, useful resource.

**Anne Johnston** and **Mary Beth Mosbacher** have spent their summer collecting, editing and printing this wonderful edition of *Forum in Focus*, which is chock full of Forum news. The task of newsletter chair is not an easy one and we all appreciate the fruits of their labor.

**Allison Zeller**, Membership Chair, jumped right into her job bringing to it her natural enthusiasm. She has done a thorough job and we are sure to grow in numbers as a result.

Chairs **Sandi Taylor** and **Nancy Barnes** have planned another "Fashionliscious" event with Julian Gold in a way only they can. The Forum will again receive a portion of the evening's sales. Our sincerest thanks to **James Glover** and **Julian Gold** for their generosity in hosting this fun, fall fashion kickoff. **Jodi Wood**, Public Relations Chair, has diligently kept the media abreast of this Forum event and will continue throughout the year with other events.



**Kathryn Dehlinger**

The Foundation Evening Tour is Wednesday, October 5th. **Catherine Comeaux** and **Lacey Neuhaus Dorn** are planning an informative and interesting tour of the facility. I encourage each of you to attend and see, firsthand, the amazing research in progress. It makes the work we all do so meaningful.

The Fall Lecture Luncheon, chaired by **Brooke Connolly** and Lecture Assistant, **Kristin Ernst**, will be Wednesday, November 16th at the Argyle. **Lorena Havill, Ph.D.**, a skeletal biologist and statistical geneticist, will discuss

her research on genetic links to osteoporosis. It is an extremely important topic and sure to be a sell-out. Don't hesitate to make your reservation today!

**Suzanne Marlar Dabbous, M.D.** and **Lynn Berryman** are beginning the Science Education Awards process. The program encourages area high schools to submit science project proposals in the hopes of being awarded grant dollars. The winning schools will be announced on March 22, 2006 at the Spring Lecture Luncheon.

Plans for the 2006 Gala are well underway thanks to Chairmen **Estee Kellogg** and **Caroline Schupbach** and Assistant **Lisa Clingman**. The theme, Run for the Roses, found its inspiration from the Kentucky Derby. The party is Saturday, May 6, 2006, as luck would have it, the same day as the 2006 Kentucky Derby. It's a good bet to reserve your table now. You don't want to finish last!

**Jane VandeBerg** and **Jean Mitchell** will chair the Foundation Student Tours this spring. These tours provide a unique opportunity for high school science students to see the concepts they are studying put into practice. I hope each of you will consider being a part of this incredible educational opportunity by hosting a tour.

**Terry Gouger**, Recording Secretary, will be working hard every month taking minutes while **Phyllis Viola**, Corresponding Secretary, will keep Forum correspondence up-to-date. **Cynthia Miller**, Parliamentarian, will make sure our meetings are never out of order. **Karen Heydenreich** and **Sharon Bray**,

# "A Medieval Knight" 2005

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Let it be known throughout the realm that the magical 35th Annual Gala commenced on Saturday, May 14th at the Argyle with over 500 guests enjoying a "Medieval Knight" benefiting the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research.



Karen Heydenreich and Phyllis Viola, Gala Chairs  
Jenny Gibson, Gala Assistant

The tale of the evening began on the outer edge of a fog-laden forest where guests were greeted by a real knight on a steed from **Knights of the Guild** who presented each lady with a fresh carnation. The entry through the enchanted forest was lined with hand painted shields. Special thanks to **Terry Gouger** and her committee on an outstanding job of creating over 40 unique shields that adorned every nook and cranny. Also, thanks are rendered to **Marmon Mok, LLP** for their generous donation of hand painting every sponsor's name on the shields.

Just beyond the forest, guests were greeted by a beautiful string quartet playing chamber music! Thanks to Alamo Heights senior **Bob Wilson** and his group of musicians for the lovely serenade.

After refreshments and appetizers, the evening began with the most creative and lively games we have ever had.



Thanks to **Kelley Frost** and **Andi Rodriguez** and their committee for an outstanding job! Between the games, guests lingered at the silent auction section

of the "Kingdom" headed up by **Kristin Ernst** and her committee who had a record-breaking year with \$10,000 in profits. They were also responsible for the fabulous attendance and raffle prizes.

Each couple enjoyed a complimentary portrait photo donated again this year by **Will Langmore of Langmore Photog-**

**raphy**. Thank you to **Elizabeth Snow** and her committee for coordinating the portraits against the fairytale setting backdrop beautifully created by **Lisa Wallace**.

At dusk, the ladies and gentlemen of the realm were invited to dinner headed up by reservation chairmen **Jodi Wood** and **Lisa Sechler**! Guests were treated to medieval décor in tents lined with a band of black key pattern trim that bordered the entire perimeter of the tent. Thanks to **Karen Harrison, Kate Marotta, Pam Cohen**, and their committee who also designed the table toppers. The silver chivari chairs and black table toppers were accented with unique square floral arrangements of roses and hydrangeas. In the

center of each arrangement was a two-foot knight. **Kris Bissmeyer, Brandi Hollingshead, and Francie Mannix** beautifully executed the arrangements and handmade napkin rings. This



year's favor committee, headed by **Laura Zachry**, presented each guest with a "knights helmet" (a.k.a. baseball cap) embroidered with our uniquely created Forum "coat of arms".

Guests were treated to a sumptuous menu planned by **Gail Smith** and **Walton Gregory**, which added to the overall success of the enchanted evening! **Carolyn Thornton** and her committee did an outstanding job of securing over 40 corporate tables and underwriters! **Joy Fuhrmann** and **Nancy Barnes** formed a separate committee for individual ticket and table sales, which added to a sell out event!

Never have we had such outstanding support from the volunteers. Out of 130 committee members, over 90 actually attended the gala. Also noted, a waiting list was created and offered. Each lady and gentleman on the list was accommodated. The mailing committee, organized by **Catherine Comeaux**, spent countless hours hand addressing and stuffing the beautiful invitations and programs! Speaking of invitations and programs, **Brooke Connolly** was responsible for coordinating the design and layout of all printed material! Many thanks to Brooke! As the fog subsided during dinner, the chairmen thanked all sponsors and guests, and announced fabulous attendance prize winners.

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# Medieval Knight 2005

— Continued from Page 2 —

**Heather Hunter** was invaluable from start to finish as our communications liaison. Finally, at the close of the evening, guests enjoyed “making merriment” with sounds from Big Time! Thanks to **Kathy Biedenharn** for bringing us this fabulous band! **Karen Mitchell, Lynn Thompson** and their committee created tales of the evening!

Accolades to **Kim Winton**, the Treasurer, who spent countless hours during and after the gala keeping accurate accounting records. Congratulations to the Forum and its president **Francie Calgaard** for raising over \$105,000 as seed money for the Foundation! Special, special thanks goes to **John and Kate Marotta** and the entire staff of the Argyle, for making it a truly “medieval,” magical evening.

Many thanks for the press coverage! Many thanks from the bottom of our hearts and “good knight”.



SEE  
OUR LIST  
OF  
GENEROUS  
DONORS  
ON  
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## President's Letter

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our Photographers, will capture highlights of the year in pictures. **Carrie Green**, Historian, will record the year's efforts in one of her “famous” scrapbooks. Our able Mailing and Phone Chairs, **Jenny Gibson** and **Karen Lee Zachry**, along with **Leigh Ann King** and **Melinda Young**, Volunteer Chairs, are sure to be busy as well assisting each committee as needed. With the help of **Reagan Guenther**, Website Liaison, we will continue to improve and update our website. Check us out at [www.swff.org](http://www.swff.org).

A heartfelt thanks to **Francie Calgaard**, outgoing President and Nominating Chair, for the work she has done and for what she has yet to do. Her legacy will be felt for years to come. We are each grateful. A debt of gratitude to our Forum Liaison extraordinaire, **Ann**

**Lakey Reeks**, for her tireless efforts and invaluable dedication. And, to **Julie Collins**, Director of Communications at the Foundation, we all appreciate her approachability and willingness to help in anyway. Thank you to our longtime Honorary Trustees **Ruth Bates, Graciela Cigarroa** and **Dr. Harriet Romo**. And, to **Marilyn Ledford** who leaves us this year. Marilyn's smiling face and cheerful disposition brightened every meeting. We will miss her. We welcome two new Honorary Trustees, **Tally Infante** and **Marietta LoVerde** and look forward to working with them. Finally, thank you to my advisors, **Barbara Dreeben, Harriett Raney, Lisa Sechler** and my aunt, **Nancy Moorman**. I am here because of each of you.

San Antonio is privileged to be home to the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, one of the leading independent biomedical

research institutions in the United States. As members of the Southwest Foundation Forum, we have an opportunity to support this research in a unique way. It is my hope that you will find an area of interest in our organization and get involved! We need you! With vision and hard work, our impact is immeasurable. I thank you for this privilege and look forward to working with each of you.

*Kathryn*

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Southwest Foundation Forum is always looking for new volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Leigh Ann King** at 210-826-6459 or **Melinda Young** at 210-826-7408.

## 2nd ANNUAL "FASHIONLISCIOUS" SHOPPING EVENT



Join us for a "Girls Night Out" on Thursday, September 22nd at Julian Gold. Come see this year's fall fashion "must-haves" in the newly remodeled Julian Gold. The fun is from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm so don't miss this fashion

trend!!! Enjoy an evening of food, friends and fund-raising – 10% of the evening's sales benefit the Forum.

Our thanks to **James Glover** and **Julian Gold** for their incredible generosity and support of the Forum.

### *Southwest Foundation Evening Tour Returns to the Fall*

The Southwest Foundation Forum will host a tour and reception on Wednesday, October 5, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. This event is held once a year for Forum members and major donors of the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research. We are excited to return the tour from the Spring to the Fall this year. It is complimentary for members, donors, and a spouse or guest. Additional guests are welcome for \$15.00 each.

The evening begins with a cocktail buffet and remarks by **Dr. Anthony J. Infante, M.D., Ph.D.** and Forum president **Kathryn Dehlinger**. Guests will then tour the facility and visit with three scientists specializing in different research areas.

Invitations for this amazing event will be mailed soon. RSVP's are required for security. For more information, please call **Catherine Comeaux** at 210-828-5925 or **Lacey Neuhaus Dorn** at 210-821-5674. We hope to see you there!

## RUN FOR THE ROSES 2006 GALA

**Sound of the trumpet  
Roar of the crowds  
Thunder of hooves  
Cheering out loud**

**Knowing your colors  
To read the race  
In the sport of champions  
You set the pace!**

**Calling all to Post!**

The 2006 Gala Co-chairs are hard at work planning another magnificent evening to benefit the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research. We would love for everyone to be a part of the committee. Your input, ideas and help are crucial to our success!

Co-Chairs **Estee Kellogg** and **Caroline Schupbach** and Gala Assistant **Lisa Clingman** have been busy planning for the 36th annual gala, "RUN FOR THE ROSES." The Kentucky Derby themed evening will be May 6, 2006 at the Argyle. Mark your calendars now.

For more information about how you can be a part of the Forum's 36th annual Gala, please contact:

**Estee Kellogg** at [estee\\_kellogg@hotmail.com](mailto:estee_kellogg@hotmail.com) or 210-822-7574; **Caroline Schupbach** at [ckds@satx.rr.com](mailto:ckds@satx.rr.com) or 210-826-8331.

**So pick your lucky favorite,  
handicap your horse,  
join us for the ride  
to get the 2006 Gala  
on course!**

## • GRANTS •

The Southwest Foundation Forum, in conjunction with the V.H. McNutt Foundation, announced the winners of the 2005 Science Education Awards at the annual Spring Lecture Luncheon on May 18th at the Argyle.

A total of \$14,000 was awarded this year with \$9000 awarded to **Samuel Clemens High School** for winning both first and second prizes. This was **Ronnie Kerchhoff's** second year in a row to win first place. **Alamo Heights High School** won \$2500 for third place. **TMI and Brackenridge High School** tied for fourth place, receiving \$1250 each.

We look forward to the 2006 Science Education Award applications.

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## Log on today! swff.org...

Have you visited [www.swff.org](http://www.swff.org) lately? If not, log on today and learn more about the rich history of our biomedical jewel, the latest news, the many departments, ways to support SFBR and so much more!

You can also make donations online. Whether you are interested in making a memorial or honor donation, joining the Golden Circle or considering planned giving, it can now be done with the "click of a mouse."

So log on today, click away and show your support of SFBR!

## Uncovering the roots of type II diabetes in children

**Dr. Ravi Duggirala**, a scientist in the SFBR Department of Genetics, is overseeing the development of one of the department's newest research areas, the genetics of type II diabetes. These efforts have been significantly bolstered with the recent award of a \$2.3 million grant to Dr. Duggirala to begin studying risk factors for type 2 diabetes in Mexican American children.

Both obesity and type II diabetes are dramatically increasing in prevalence in the United States, particularly in minority populations. While type II diabetes has traditionally been considered a disease of adulthood, we now are beginning to see high rates of type II diabetes and its common correlate of obesity in young children.

Although there has been extensive research on risk factors leading to type II diabetes in adults, scientists do not know whether the risk factors that lead to the development of type II diabetes in children are the same as those for adults. If they can understand the risk factors that predispose children to develop type II diabetes, then they can develop more effective mechanisms for preventing this important disease in young people.

With this in mind, Dr. Duggirala is beginning to study the genetic components that put children at

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## Grant Winner Havill to Address Forum's Fall Luncheon

In acute cases, osteoporosis – sometimes referred to as "fragile bone disease" – can mean



that an elderly person breaks ribs with merely a cough or a sneeze. Age-related decreases in bone mass change the way a bone is arranged microscopically and can hunch a patient's back to such a degree that internal organs compress, making it difficult to breathe or eat properly.

**Lorena Havill, Ph.D.**, a skeletal biologist and statistical geneticist at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, was awarded a grant from the Southwest Foundation Forum for her study of genetic factors in osteoporosis. She hopes that identification of these genes could offer physicians better screening tools to determine which patients are more susceptible to osteoporosis and also lead to improved pharmaceuticals for preventing and treating this often debilitating disorder.

Dr. Havill will discuss her findings as the featured speaker for the Southwest Foundation Forum's annual Fall Lecture Luncheon, planned for Wednesday, November 16, 2005, at the Argyle. Her talk will begin at 11:00 a.m., immediately following the general membership meeting. Individual seats are \$40 each and a table of eight, \$320. Seating is limited. Please contact **Brooke Connolly**, [brooke@connollycompany.com](mailto:brooke@connollycompany.com) or 210-828-4600, for more information.

# SFBR enters new era of leadership: Dr. Anthony Infante begins his tenure as president

The Forum extends a heartfelt welcome to **Anthony J. Infante, M.D., Ph.D.**, who took the helm of Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research as its new president on June 1. His tenure follows the well-deserved retirement of **Frank F. Ledford Jr., M.D.**, who served as SFBR president for 13 years, during which time the Foundation enjoyed a period of unprecedented growth and achievement.

When announcing Dr. Infante's appointment, SFBR Chairman **John Kerr** described an impressive career that makes the Foundation's new president ideally suited to lead the organization to an even higher level of excellence.

Dr. Infante has come to SFBR after more than 20 successful years at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, where he most recently served as associate dean for research at the UTHSCSA Medical School and as a professor in the university's Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. He previously was interim director of the Children's Cancer Research Center. Meanwhile, he maintains his post as director of the Children's Immunology Clinic at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital.

Dr. Infante's extensive research experience includes current work on immune reconstitution in children with immune deficiency disorders. His recent research grants include several from the National Institutes of Health for the study of myasthenia gravis, an autoimmune disease in which a person's antibodies attack healthy muscle tissue. He also has been heavily involved in National Cancer Institute studies of minority children in NCI-approved clinical trials.

Scientific journals such as the *Journal of Immunology*, *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, and the *Journal of Pediatrics* have been publishing Dr. Infante's work since 1974.

"Dr. Infante is a major asset to the healthcare and biomedical research community in San Antonio, and we're thrilled to have him take on this important role at the Foundation," Mr. Kerr said. "He is a world-class scientist with a body of research work spanning 30 years and a long track record of successful organizational leadership. His background both in research and clinical medicine uniquely qualify him to lead the Foundation."

Dr. Infante received both a Ph.D. in biological chemistry and an M.D. from Indiana University, where his interest in research began. He completed his residency in pediatrics at the

Mayo Clinic and a post-doctoral fellowship in immunology at the Mayo Foundation. He then served as a post-doctoral fellow in medicine/immunology at Stanford University Medical Center before joining the U.T. Health Science Center in 1983.



"I am both honored and humbled in accepting the position as president of Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research," said Dr. Infante. "The Foundation is a leading organization in San Antonio's thriving biomedical industry, with an outstanding reputation both locally and nationally. Under Dr. Ledford's leadership, it has seen tremendous growth and scientific progress,

and now I believe it is poised to make an even greater impact on human health through biomedical discovery. I am honored that I – along with the Board of Trustees and the scientific staff – have been entrusted with leading the Foundation to its next level of achievement."

Dr. Infante said he feels as though his entire career has been preparing him for this position, as he first entered a degree program that combined medical and scientific training, then embarked on a research career, and gradually assumed more administrative roles at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

"Now I look forward to using my particular skills and expertise to advance the mission of SFBR as it strives for scientific progress toward better health, and I am happy that my efforts will continue to benefit the community of San Antonio, which I have adopted as my hometown in the 20-plus years that I have lived here," he said. "I would also hope that my long affiliation with the Health Science Center and my new role at SFBR will complement each other, and that I can help build upon the positive, collaborative relationship already shared not only by these two great institutions, but between the Foundation and other research institutions in San Antonio and across the country."

Mr. Kerr added, "As we express our gratitude to Dr. Ledford for his extraordinary leadership and legacy, we welcome aboard Dr. Infante with great anticipation for the future. These are exciting times for all of us at the Foundation."

The Southwest Foundation Forum shares in this excitement and looks forward to working with Dr. Infante in support of the Foundation's vital mission. We also welcome his lovely wife, **Taline**, as an honorary trustee on the Forum Board. We appreciate her commitment to our efforts as she continues to serve as an associate professor in the Department of Dental Hygiene at the U.T. Health Science Center.

# Looking to Texas plants for new cancer drugs

Could a great new cancer drug be hiding in your own backyard? If so, **Susan Mooberry, Ph.D.**, wants to find it.

Dr. Mooberry directs a cancer drug discovery program at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, where she studies numerous types of plant and marine life in the search for new compounds to provide more effective, less toxic ways to fight cancer.

Over the past few years, she has found promising results with compounds derived from such exotic sources as the tropical Bat Flower plant and a marine sponge known as the chocolate sponge or mushroom sponge.

Now she has set her sights on the plants of Texas, thinking that the properties that give Texas plants their hardiness might also be useful in fighting cancer.



“We’re looking at things that are tough, plants that are drought resistant, deer resistant, resistant to mildew and other fungi,” she said. “These are some hints we’re taking from nature. For example, why don’t deer eat certain plants? Well, they probably taste bad. Why do they taste bad? It must be something in their chemistry. Maybe something about that

chemistry could be useful in fighting cancer, and that is what we’re trying to find out.”

A grant from the Southwest Foundation Forum helped Dr. Mooberry initiate this novel research project last spring, when she and fellow researcher **Evelyn Jackson** set about the task of collecting approximately 100 plant samples, mostly from their own backyards.



This past spring, they were able to expand their search even further with additional grants from other charitable organizations and a collaboration with the San Antonio Botanical Garden, a facility of the San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department. With the Botanical Garden’s extensive collection of Texas plants, Dr. Mooberry and her team have been able to collect an additional 200 plant samples and examine their efficacy in killing cancer cells.

They have been busy analyzing extracts from lantana, many of the state’s beautiful wildflowers, Nandina, Turk’s cap, Texas sage, and even troublesome weeds, among many other varieties of plants that thrive in the harsh Texas environment.

Early results are encouraging, as more than 20 of the crude extracts have shown to be highly potent in killing cancer cells without causing harm to normal cells. This furthers Dr. Mooberry’s hope that Texas plants might be more than pleasing to the eye.

## We Thank our Generous Donors from the Medieval Knight 2005 Gala

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### Attendance Prizes

Cingular “Razr” cell phone courtesy of SBC

Dinner for eight courtesy of the Plaza Club

Crystal Nailhead vase courtesy of Tiffany & Co.

### Attendance Prizes (continued)

Dolce & Gabbana handbag courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue

Dinner for four courtesy of Silo Restaurant & Bar

Gold-link necklace courtesy of James Avery Craftsman

\$500 gift certificate courtesy of Kirkwood Photography

\$500 gift certificate courtesy of C. Aaron Penalzo Jewelry

One night stay at the Marriott Rivercenter and dinner for

two at Boudro’s on the river

Use of a BMW for a weekend, courtesy of BMW Center

of San Antonio

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# Outgoing Presidents' Letter

Dear Forum Members,

The Forum had an outstanding year thanks to our enthusiastic members, our hard working board and many successful events. We are so fortunate to continue to educate our membership about the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research (SFBR).

We started our year off with the student tours of the SFBR, coordinated by **Caroline Schupbach** and **Jane Vandenberg**. This is a program the Forum offers to advanced science students from area high schools. They are able to see one of the world's leading independent biomedical research facilities and have the opportunity to visit with scientists about careers in bioscience. Many thanks to our Forum volunteer hostesses, the Foundation staff members and the scientists who all contributed their time and effort to support this program.

March was a very busy month for the Forum! On March 9th, we hosted the SFBR Evening Tour chaired by **Anne Johnston** and **Melinda Young**. Members and their guests enjoyed a welcome from SFBR President Dr. Frank F. Ledford, Jr., a delicious cocktail buffet catered by Sally Helland of Gourmet Grub and informative tours through the laboratories. One of the highlights of the evening was the tour through the Bio Safety Level 4 Laboratory! In addition, Foundation scientists intrigued us with highlights of their current research projects. A very special thank you to **Ann Lakey Reeks**, our chairs and the scientists for making this evening such a success!

Then on March 23rd, the Forum hosted our Spring Lecture Luncheon at The Argyle. Another record crowd gathered to hear Madeleine Reichert, D.M.H. speak on "Can you Be 'Saintly' and Still Be Sane?" Dr. Reichert's tips on how to simplify our lives was wonderful and very much appreciated! We are so grateful to President-Elect **Kathryn**

**Dehlinger** and her assistant **Nancy Barnes** for bringing us this informative lecture and delicious luncheon!

Our annual Science Education Awards were announced at our Spring Lecture Luncheon. Area high schools competed for grants from the Forum and the V. H. McNutt Foundation. Congratulations **Ronnie Kerchhoff**, a teacher at Samuel Clemens High School, who received first place, **Robin Williams**, a teacher at Samuel Clemens high School, receiving second place, **Norm Collins** from Alamo Heights High School, receiving third place, and a tie for fourth place was awarded to **Mary Kennedy**, from TMI and **Jennifer Bessonnett** from Brackenridge High School.

In addition, each school that entered received a special monetary award from the L.D. Ormsby Foundation. Thank you to **Valerie Guenther**, of the V.H. McNutt Foundation and to the Foundation scientists who judged our awards. We extend a special thank you to **Suzanne Marlara** and **Joy Fuhrmann** for organizing the awards process.

The Forum Gala held on Saturday, May 14th was absolutely amazing! Chaired by **Karen Heydenreich**, **Phyllis Viola** and **Jenny Gibson** "A Medieval Knight" was an event not to be missed! The very dedicated Gala committee worked endless hours and it was an incredible evening! Thank you to everyone who helped with and supported the Forum on this fabulous night!

The Forum is so fortunate to have such a loyal membership. Your attendance and support of our events helps to further our mission while supporting our scientists and improving our world. Thank you for continuing to support the Southwest Foundation Forum!

Warm Regards,

*Janice*

## SWFF Calendar

**Thursday, September 22, 2005**  
**2nd Annual "Fashionliscious" Shopping Event**  
5:00pm – 7:00pm  
Julian Gold

**Wednesday, October 5, 2005**  
**Foundation Evening Tour**  
6:30pm-8:30pm  
The Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research

**Wednesday, November 16, 2005**  
**General Meeting**  
10:30am  
**Fall Lecture Luncheon**  
11:00am  
The Argyle

**Wednesday, March 22, 2006**  
**General Meeting**  
10:30am  
**Spring Lecture Luncheon**  
11:00am  
The Argyle

**Saturday, May 6, 2006**  
**Southwest Foundation Forum Gala**  
6:30pm  
The Argyle

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## Uncovering the roots of type II diabetes in children

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risk for type II diabetes. His research will involve 750 children from Mexican American families in San Antonio who participate in this study.

By assessing the associations between specific genes in the children and their measures of health, Dr. Duggirala will be able to determine which individual genes confer a high risk of developing type II diabetes. Knowing the genes involved will eventually allow physicians to target dietary- and exercise-prevention programs to those children at highest risk of developing the disease, and it will allow researchers to identify new pathways to target in drug development efforts.