

SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

POST OFFICE BOX 30365
DALLAS, TEXAS 75230

(214) ADAMS 1-1471

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ROYSTON C. CLOWES -- STUDENT OF FLEMING -- HEADS CENTER'S BIOLOGY DIVISION

(With photo)

DALLAS --

Prof. Royston C. Clowes, who began his post-doctoral research under the eye of penicillin's co-developer, Sir Alexander Fleming, has been appointed head of the Biology Division at the Southwest Center for Advanced Studies.

His appointment was announced today by SCAS President Gifford K. Johnson, for the Board of Governors.

Professor Clowes joined the Center's biology faculty in 1965, as the division was formed. He had come to the United States earlier as a visiting professor in microbiology at the University of California, Berkeley.

Prior to that, he was a member of the Medical Research Council's Unit of Microbial Genetics at London's Hammersmith hospital. His research field, begun under Fleming, is in the buildup of resistance to antibiotics by successive generations of bacteria.

Much-published in scientific journals, and an editor of both journals and textbooks, Professor Clowes is the author of "The Structure of Life," published in both England and the United States last year as a paperback reference book in molecular biology.

Professor Clowes is a graduate of the University of Birmingham, where he completed undergraduate study in chemistry in 1942 and earned the Ph.D. in 1948. Five years of service in the British army interrupted his studies.

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BRESCH, PLASS TO HEAD UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS

Professor Clowes succeeds Prof. Carsten Bresch as head of the SCAS Biology Division, which has a faculty of 18 and a post-doctoral research group of 16. Total of division personnel is 75.

Professor Bresch will leave in mid-July to head the Genetics department at the University of Frieburg, West Germany.

Appointment of Prof. Gilbert N. Plass, Atmospheric and Space Sciences Division, as head of Texas A&M University's Physics department, was also announced.

Professor Plass is the second faculty member from the SCAS space sciences division to become a university department chairman in the southwest. Prof. Alexander J. Dessler, who heads space sciences at Rice University, is a former member of the Center's faculty.

Professor Plass will succeed Dr. Charles Squire, effective Sept. 1.

Dr. Ronald Kantowski of the Center's Mathematics and Mathematical Physics Division will also join a regional faculty in September. Completing his post-doctoral research at SCAS, he will teach in the Physics department of the University of Oklahoma, at Norman.

One of the Southwest Center's charter purposes is to provide assistance to universities in building their science faculties; programs in post-doctoral research, often compared to medical residency training, are offered to recently-graduated Ph.D.'s to attract them to the five-state region (Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico). Twenty-seven post-doctorals have been at the SCAS during the calendar year.