



MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 26, 2009

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First Sumner Endowed Chair Awarded to SIU Vascular Surgeon

SPRINGFIELD, IL -- Dr. Kim Hodgson, professor and chair of the vascular division, has been named recipient of the David S. Sumner, M.D. Endowed Chair in Vascular and Endovascular Surgery at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

St. John's Hospital, through support from Friends of St. John's Hospital Foundation and Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, established the endowment to honor Sumner's 23-year career in Springfield and his numerous contributions to the care of patients in our community and the advancement of the field of vascular surgery. Interest earned from the endowment will be used to further research and education in the area of vascular disease.

"An endowed chair is the highest honor that a university can bestow on a faculty member who has had a distinguished career in a particular field of study," said Dr. Gary Dunnington, professor and chair of the department of surgery. "Dr. Sumner has meant so much to not only the medical students, fellows and faculty, but also to his patients and this community. He has raised the bar in vascular surgery both nationally and internationally."

"St. John's is honored to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Sumner through our support of this endowed chair. We are proud to partner with SIU School of Medicine to continue Dr. Sumner's legacy of serving the community as an exceptional clinician, researcher and teacher for generations to come," said Bob Ritz, President and CEO, St. John's Hospital.

For 23 years, Sumner was chair of the vascular surgery division and directed the fellowship program, both of which he founded at the SIU School of Medicine. He joined the faculty in July 1975 and stepped down from the chairmanship in June 1998. He helped train more than 20 clinical vascular fellows, 4 research fellows, 41 general surgical residents and countless medical students.

Hodgson is currently the director of SIU's non-invasive vascular laboratory, endovascular therapy program and vascular surgery fellowship program. Prior to joining the SIU faculty, Hodgson completed a fellowship in peripheral vascular surgery at SIU School of Medicine (1987). Upon completion, he joined the vascular surgery division as an assistant professor. He completed his five-year general surgery residency training in Albany, New York (1986), including a year of study in Great Britain where he participated in research using non-invasive vascular laboratory diagnostic equipment. He earned his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in Philadelphia (1981) and bachelor's in biochemistry from Rutgers University (1977).

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Hodgson is board certified in general surgery by the American Board of Surgery. He currently serves on the Vascular Surgery Board of the American Board of Surgery which establishes requirements for board certification in vascular surgery and develops and administers the examinations required to attain board certification in vascular surgery. He has published more than 100 articles in medical journals, as well as more than 35 book chapters on vascular surgery topics.

The endowment fund is housed within the Friends of St. John's Hospital, where gifts may be directed to further support the fund in Dr. Sumner's honor. Gifts can be sent to: Friends of St. John's Hospital, 800 E. Carpenter St., Springfield, IL 62769 or arranged by calling 217-757-6555.