DONATIONS FROM SCRIPPS CLINIC RESEARCH COUNCIL REACH $5 MILLION

LA JOLLA, CA Aug. 28, 1990 -- Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation has announced that donations to its Research Institute from members of the Research Council have surpassed the $5 million mark.

Established in 1983 to provide a perpetual source of unrestricted gift income for the Research Institute of Scripps Clinic, the Research Council has received the $5 million from more than 37,000 donors over the seven year period.

"These gifts for research allow the Research Institute to pursue promising and often unanticipated research efforts which may lead to a better understanding and treatment of disease," said Darlene Shiley, who serves on the Scripps Clinic Board of Trustees and has been volunteer chairperson of the Research Council since its inception. "This is especially significant because the federal government provides little support for research ideas that have not yet been tested."

"And, with federal cutbacks in grant support in general, private donations are more important than ever before to the Research Institute," she added.
Membership in the Research Council is granted to individuals who contribute $150 or more to Scripps Clinic in a given year. Many donors go on to make larger donations.

In recognition of their support, Research Council members are invited to special scientific briefings and receptions throughout the year in which they have the opportunity to learn about the vital work that their contributions support. Presentations are made by Scripps Clinic physicians and scientists who discuss important advances in the study and treatment of disease.

"The Research Council has been instrumental in helping support the work of our investigators," said Richard A. Lerner, M.D., director of the Research Institute. "With these funds we are able to pursue promising new initiatives in the study of cancer, heart disease and stroke, brain disorders, alcoholism and chemical dependency, autoimmune diseases, kidney dysfunctions, and many other life-threatening diseases."

The Research Institute of Scripps Clinic is the largest, private unaffiliated biomedical research facility in the world. Its staff includes more than 160 faculty investigators, 440 postdoctoral fellows and 650 technicians. Its annual budget of nearly $80 million consists largely of competitively awarded grants from the National Institutes of Health.

The Research Institute has for many years been one of the nation's leading postdoctoral training centers for individuals who have their M.D. or Ph.D. degrees and seek additional training before beginning careers in academia or industry. To date, more than 1,000 postdoctoral fellows and technicians have received their training at Scripps Clinic.

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