



Launch of UT Southwestern Pinnacle Awards

March 12, 2025

To the UT Southwestern Community:

UT Southwestern's strength is rooted in its people – individuals who embody our core values of excellence, innovation, teamwork, and compassion and make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Last fall, I shared with you that we were establishing a new campuswide recognition event to honor exceptional contributions by staff across all areas of UT Southwestern's mission – education, research, and clinical care. It brings me great pleasure to now announce the launch of the inaugural **UT Southwestern Pinnacle Awards**, developed in response to valuable feedback from engagement surveys and our Employee Advisory Council.

The awards will be presented in six categories:

- **UT Southwestern Distinguished Service Award**
- **Spirit of UT Southwestern Award**
- **Pinnacle Award for Excellence**
- **Pinnacle Award for Innovation**
- **Pinnacle Award for Teamwork**
- **Pinnacle Award for Compassion**

I encourage you to explore the awards in greater detail by visiting the [UT Southwestern Pinnacle Awards](#) website, where you can [submit nominations](#) through April 8.

Please also save the date of June 17, when I hope you will join me at the Tom and Lula Gooch Auditorium for our awards ceremony, followed by a reception on Seldin Plaza. June is also when we celebrate milestone employee anniversaries. This year, we will begin inducting faculty, alongside staff, into our Quarter Century Club for 25 years of service at UT Southwestern, which will be a great addition to our Employee Recognition Program.

A special thanks goes to Holly Crawford, M.B.A., Executive Vice President for Business Affairs, and Jeremy Falke, M.B.A., Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, for leading the planning of this important new initiative to celebrate our outstanding employees.

I encourage you to submit Pinnacle Award nominations for those who have gone above and beyond in their roles, and I look forward to celebrating their achievements with you in June.

Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.
President
UT Southwestern Medical Center