



## **Office of Communications**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### TEXAS WESLEYAN RECEIVES \$250,000 GIFT FROM ALCON FOR SCIENCE BUILDING

Texas Wesleyan University will receive \$250,000 from The Alcon Foundation, Inc., for the construction of a Science Technology Center, a 7000 square foot building featuring state-of-the-art “smart” classrooms, videoconferencing capabilities, seminar rooms and faculty offices.

“Alcon and its Foundation have long supported Texas Wesleyan in many ways, including the employment of our graduates,” said Vice President for Advancement Gary Cumbie. “This wonderful gift will strengthen our science program, through better facilities and equipment, so that our graduates will be even more ready for careers in research, medicine, and teaching.”

The Alcon funds will be paid over five years. The Center is expected to cost a total of \$1.8 million, with \$969,000 coming from a grant from the Department of Energy. The new building will be located between the Oneal-Sells Administration Building and the Ella C. McFadden Science Center. Construction will begin in 2006.

“As a company committed to scientific research, we hope this contribution will provide momentum for the University’s continued growth in this important field,” said Winona Edwards, president of The Alcon Foundation, Inc.

“The generous gift from Alcon will make it possible for Texas Wesleyan through our new Science Informatics facility to better educate future scientists and science educators,” said Provost and Senior Vice President Allen Henderson. “Moreover, many middle school and high school students from Tarrant County who participate in the our youth science programs will benefit. All of our science programs are designed to motivate and inspire young people to pursue science as a field of study. We know that the Fort Worth/Tarrant County community will ultimately benefit by having highly educated scientists and individuals who understand the importance of science education.”