



THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

THE MERRIMON LECTURE
Established by the Late Dr. Louise Merrimon Perry

C. THOMAS CASKEY, M.D.
DIRECTOR AND PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR GENETICS
HOWARD HUGHES INSTITUTE, BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

on

"MOLECULAR MEDICINE:
OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES"

Wednesday, November 6, 1991
8:00 PM
Berryhill Hall
Carolina Campus

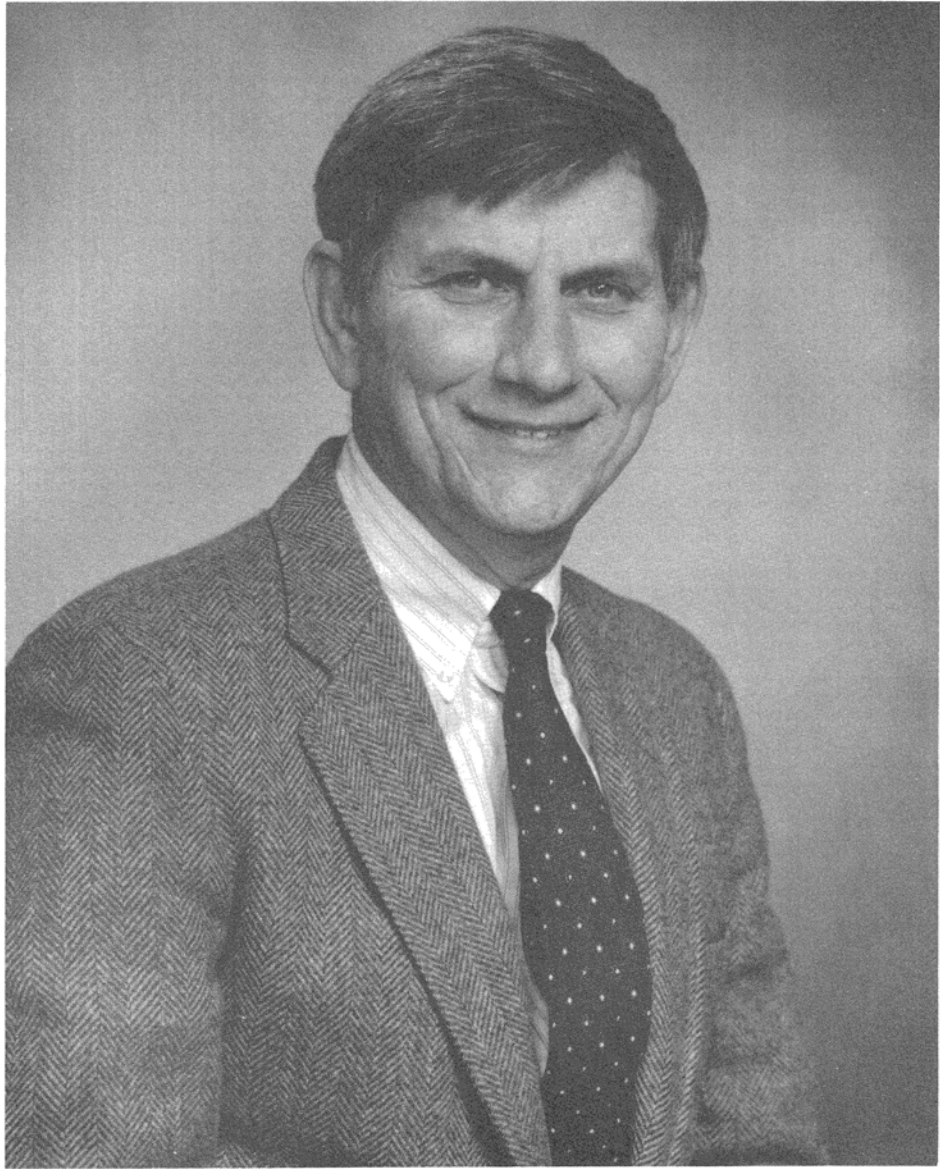
CHARLES THOMAS CASKEY was born in Lancaster, SC. in 1938. He attended the University of South Carolina, but transferred to Duke to complete his undergraduate education and obtain his M.D. degree (1963). After two more years at Duke on an internal medicine residency, he moved to the NIH as a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of the Nobel Laureate, Marshal Nirenberg. His outstanding qualities led to appointment successively as Senior Investigator (1967-70) and Head of the Section of Medical Genetics of the National Heart and Lung Institute (1970).

He moved to Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas in 1971 as Chief of the section of Medical Genetics and Professor of Medicine and Biochemistry where he remains today. At Baylor, Caskey operates a broad program in medical genetics which has attracted world-wide attention. The educational program involves medical students, graduate students, house officers, and postdoctoral fellows, both M.Ds. and Ph.Ds. Both service and research are emphasized and are of high quality. He seems to have all the genetics strings in his hands: Chief of the Section of Medical Genetics, Investigator of the Howard Hughes Institute, Director of the Kleberg Center for Human Genetics, Director of the Institute of Medical Genetics, and holder of the Meyer Chair in Molecular Genetics. It is a fair assumption that little goes on in genetics at Baylor medical school without his knowledge and advice.

Dr. Caskey's scientific contributions have been outstanding. He is author or co-author of 177 publications, 45 on Lesch-Nyhan syndrome (HPRT deficiency) and 13 on muscular dystrophy. He was elected to the Institute of Medicine in 1990 and is a member of numerous scientific advisory boards, review panels, and editorial boards. Probably his greatest contribution has been to show by example how to apply the methods of molecular biology to medical problems in diagnosis and patient care. He is now deeply involved in two important current genetic issues: sequencing the human genome and gene therapy.

As the above suggests, Dr. Caskey is a dynamic person and is reputed to get more mileage out of his juniors than it seems possible. It has been suggested that he may have discovered a secret of stretching space-time so that more can be accomplished under his aegis than is feasible for others. He is known to all as a warm and friendly human being interested in the affairs of others and always willing to listen and learn.

It is an honor for the University of North Carolina to add the name of Charles Thomas Caskey to the list of his distinguished predecessors as its 1991 Merrimon Lecturer.



THE MERRIMON LECTURESHIP IN MEDICINE

This Lectureship, which was established by the late Dr. Louise Merrimon Perry, was inaugurated in 1966. Dr. Perry's idea was that the lectures be open to all, but that they be concerned with "the Origins, Traditions and History of the Medical Profession and of that Ethical Philosophy which must dominate this Field of Human Endeavor." It was her intention that the Merrimon Lecturers be distinguished both for scientific or clinical skills and a notably humane attitude toward Medicine.

Previous Merrimon Lecturers

DR. NICHOLSON JOSEPH EASTMAN

DR. WILLIAM BOSWORTH CASTLE

DR. RENE JULES DUBOS

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