



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS**  
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## **News Release**

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For Immediate Release

### **Speech and Language Pioneer Selected to Receive the Callier Prize**

UT Dallas Center rewards advances in communication disorders

DALLAS (February 24, 2010) – Dr. J. Bruce Tomblin, a pioneer in the field of speech and language disorders, has been selected to receive the Callier Prize in Communication Disorders, a biennial award from The University of Texas at Dallas’ Callier Center for Communication Disorders.

The Callier Prize recognizes individuals for their leadership in fostering scientific advances and significant developments in the diagnosis and treatment of communication disorders. The prize, which rotates among the fields of audiology and speech and language pathology, includes a \$10,000 award

Tomblin is the Spriestersbach Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Iowa, where he holds academic appointments as a Professor in the Departments of Communication Sciences and Disorders and Otolaryngology.

“The Callier Center is delighted to award the Callier Prize to Dr. Tomblin,” said Dr. Thomas Campbell, executive director of the Callier Center. “His influential research has had a significant impact on our understanding of the epidemiology and genetic causes of language disorders in children.”

The call for nominations ended in January and produced a diverse and accomplished group of 32 candidates from the U.S. and internationally.

Distinguished researchers and practitioners in the field of speech-language pathology carefully reviewed each nomination according to the award's criteria. Nominees had to have made significant contributions to improving the lives of people with communication disorders.

Tomblin's selection was based on his continuous, distinguished research, which has led to remarkable advances in the epidemiology, etiology, assessment and treatment of children's language disorders.

“Through his dedication, exceptional research vision and outstanding multidisciplinary leadership talents, Dr. Tomblin has changed what we know about children's language, speech and hearing disorders to an extraordinary degree,” remarked Dr. Anne van Kleeck, chair of the Callier Prize's selection committee. “As a primary example, in leading the first epidemiological study of the prevalence of language disorders in kindergarten children, Dr. Tomblin developed screening and evaluation tests that remain to this day the standard for identifying children with unexplained language difficulties.”

Tomblin will receive the award at a special one-day conference in his honor sponsored by the Foundation for the Callier Center at its Dallas location on March 5, 2011. Local, state, national and international leaders in speech-language pathology, in addition to philanthropic supporters, community leaders and university officials are expected to attend.

### **About the Callier Center**

The Callier Center, with locations in Dallas and on the UT Dallas campus in Richardson, is one of the nation's preeminent educational, research and treatment centers focusing on communication and communication disorders. The center is part of the university's School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences. In 2009, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked UT Dallas' audiology program fourth in the nation and its speech-language-pathology program 12<sup>th</sup>, resulting in both programs being ranked in the top 5

percent nationally in their respective disciplines. For additional information about the Callier Center, please visit the center's Web site at [www.utdallas.edu/calliercenter](http://www.utdallas.edu/calliercenter).

### **About UT Dallas**

The University of Texas at Dallas, located at the convergence of Richardson, Plano and Dallas in the heart of the complex of major multinational technology corporations known as the Telecom Corridor, enrolls more than 14,500 students. The school's freshman class traditionally stands at the forefront of Texas state universities in terms of average SAT scores. The University offers a broad assortment of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs. For additional information about UT Dallas, please visit the University's Web site at [www.utdallas.edu](http://www.utdallas.edu).

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