

# Aneshansley and Rother Named to SWOSU Distinguished Hall of Fame

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Mike Aneshansley of Tulsa and Dr. Russell Rother of Oklahoma City are being inducted into Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame during 2012 graduation ceremonies on the Weatherford campus.

Aneshansley is one of two founders of ENERCON and Rother is executive vice president and chief operating officer of Selexys Pharmaceuticals in Oklahoma City and formerly chief scientific officer of Alexion Pharmaceuticals in Cheshire (CT).

Both Aneshansley and Rother will be honored by SWOSU President Randy Beutler at the May 12 SWOSU Convocation on the Weatherford campus and will be the featured speakers. The ceremony begins at 10 a.m. at Milam Stadium on the SWOSU campus.

**Mike Aneshansley** graduated from SWOSU in 1969 with degrees in physics and mathematics after graduating from Clinton High School in 1965. He joined the U.S. Navy to attend the Naval Nuclear Power School, which he completed in 1970. He had various assignments in the U.S. Navy before being hired by Entergy, Inc., in 1977 to be training manager at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station in Port Gibson (MS). He became operations manager in 1979.

Aneshansley was then hired by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission as an inspector for nuclear power stations in the United States and, in 1981, he joined Quadrex, a management consulting firm that provided services to nuclear power plants across the United States.

It was in 1983 that he co-founded ENERCON to provide consulting services for the startup and operation of commercial nuclear power plants. From three people and four clients, the company quickly grew to a diversified, multi-disciplined company with many clients. In 1989, the company expanded its portfolio of services to include environmental and industrial services. In 2005, the founders sold the remaining stock and retired from active management of the company. Aneshansley remains a director and consultant to the management team.

Aneshansley has been married to Vicki (Roniger) Aneshansley, a 1969 SWOSU graduate, for 44 years. They have two grown children and three grandchildren.

**Dr. Russell Rother** is a 1986 biology graduate of SWOSU who has been with Selexys Pharmaceuticals since 2010 where he manages the clinical trials for a therapeutic designed to treat sickle cell disease. He is also the liaison with the Food and Drug Administration and oversees research activities at the company.

Before joining Selexys, Rother was senior vice president and chief scientific officer at Alexion Pharmaceuticals in Cheshire (CT) from 1992-2010 where he was one of the original scientists at the company. He played a critical role in the engineering and development of Alexion's antibody therapeutics and led discovery efforts in the identification of new indications and novel drug targets.

Rother was instrumental in strategic decisions for Alexion to initiate the paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH) program, playing a major role in the development of

Soliris (eculizumab), the first therapy approved for the treatment of PNH. This drug alone has provided Alexion with an \$800 million revenue stream and \$15 billion market cap to date.

Before leaving Alexion, he was managing the Departments of Research, Scientific Communications, Medical Information, Bioanalytical Development and Biometrics.

Rother, who is a graduate of Watonga High School, earned his doctorate in 1991 from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Yale School of Medicine in 1991-92.

Rother serves as a board member for Variety Care Foundation and Docvia. He holds 32 issued patents/patent applications and has had numerous articles in a variety of publications.