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BENCHMARKS

THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2009

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pearl Meister Greengard Prize awarded to three women scientists. The 2008 award goes to Elizabeth H. Blackburn of the University of California, San Francisco; Carol W. Greider of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; and Vicki Lundblad of the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. These three scientists have made major contributions to the understanding of telomeres — special DNA structures that cap and protect chromosome ends. The award, given annually to one or more women in the biomedical sciences, will be presented Thursday, March 26 in Caspary Auditorium. For information or to RSVP, contact Amanda Martinez at x7728 or martina@rockefeller.edu.

HR announces employee recognition events. Rockefeller's annual anniversary/retirement dinner will take place Thursday, April 16 at 6 p.m. The employee recognition reception will be Thursday, April 23 from 3 to 5 p.m. The employee art show will be on display in Weiss Lobby from April 13 to 24. And the children's art show will be up April 27 to May 8. For more information, contact Petra Spiegel at x8379 or pspiegel@rockefeller.edu.

EAPC offers new stress management workshop. The Employee Assistance Program Consortium, which offers free counseling services to employees of Rockefeller University, is offering a single-session group workshop on stress management on Wednesday, February 25, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Founder's Hall. Reservations are required. For information or to register, call 212-746-5890.

Bring your child to work. In celebration of national "Take Your Child to Work Day," Human Resources is hosting activities from 9:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 23. Children between the ages of 8 and 12 who are accompanied by an adult are welcome. The registration deadline is Friday, April 10. For information or to register, contact HR at x8300 or hr@rockefeller.edu.

Announcements for this page may be submitted to thenning@rockefeller.edu.

BENCHMARKS

Paul Nurse, President
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FROM PAUL NURSE

Financial crisis update

I am writing to the university community to give you an update on how the worldwide economic situation is affecting Rockefeller. As you know, the global financial situation remains serious and the markets continue to be unstable. I last wrote to you in December, and I presented some information and answered questions at the "town hall" meeting on February 4. In this letter, a copy of which was also sent to the community via e-mail last week, I will summarize where we stand now.

In the town hall meeting I outlined the basic principles that are guiding the university administration's reaction to the financial crisis:

First, we will put in place appropri-

ate responses to the situation, neither overreacting nor being complacent.

Second, given the volatility of the financial situation, we will defer making decisions that affect the long term until we have enough reliable information to be confident that we are taking the right course.

Third, we will engage the community, providing information as rapidly as we can and consulting and seeking the advice of the university community through the Academic Council and other groupings.

Sources of income. We have three main sources of revenue: fundraising or gifts from private individuals, trusts

and foundations; sponsored program income (external grants); and income from the endowment.

Fundraising is so far this year performing well. In the first seven months of the fiscal year we have raised nearly \$53 million in new gifts and pledges and are on track to exceed last year's total of \$58 million. This sum includes \$26 million which Development raises annually as a contribution to the base operating budget. It is clear that our Board and benefactors continue to be generous and have made Rockefeller a philanthropic priority. However, fundraising for next year and for the next several years will be challenging because of the deep recession and the

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FACULTY RECRUITMENT

Visual neuroscientist named to Rockefeller's faculty Winrich Freiwald uses imaging techniques to study visual processing

by ZACH VEILLEUX

With every glance, the human eye collects the equivalent of several hundred megapixels of data and passes it to the brain for processing. Understanding what happens next — how our brains organize this piecemeal information to let us perceive entire objects — is the life's work of Rockefeller University's newest faculty member, Winrich Freiwald. A cognitive neuroscientist who uses imaging techniques to study the parts of the brain responsible for visual processing, Dr. Freiwald has been named assistant professor and head of the Laboratory of Neural Systems. He will come to the university next winter following a short sabbatical at the California Institute of Technology.

"There's something striking about how we see the world. It's a three-dimensional space inhabited by objects of shape, color, motion, depth, all combined," says Dr. Freiwald. "We see things, not just stuff. But we can't really explain this with our current understanding of the visual brain as a set of feature maps."

Dr. Freiwald, a native of Oldenburg, Germany, developed his interest in neuroscience during high school. He received his Ph.D. from Tübingen University in 1998. After completing his postdoc, at the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research, he joined the Brain Research Institute and the Center for Cognitive Sciences at the University of Bremen, as a research assistant. He also conducted research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston, and then returned to Germany, where he has been head of the macaque brain imaging group at the Centers for Advanced Imaging and Cognitive Sciences in Bremen since 2004.



PHOTO: ZACH VEILLEUX

By using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to detect activity changes in the brains of macaque monkeys, as well as electrophysiological techniques, Dr. Freiwald has identified several regions, called patches, in the brain's temporal lobes that are active during the processing of specific categories of objects. In particular, Dr. Freiwald is interested in the process by which the monkeys recognize faces, which is important for social reasons. His experiments have shown that neurons in one specific "face patch" respond whenever a monkey sees a face, while neurons in a second face patch respond only when it sees a certain face and neurons in a third face patch respond only when it sees a face in a certain orientation. Furthermore, Dr. Freiwald's research suggests that these face patches

are tightly connected to each other and form an entire face-processing network, with each patch devoted to a unique component of face processing.

"I think the face-processing system is just amazing, and presents us with a unique opportunity to study brain function. You can see it as a little biological machine that's better at face recognition than any technical system to date and you can ask why it is so good. You can see it as a model system for understanding object recognition in general. You can use it as a model system to understand how different brain regions interact. And you can see it as an important building block of the social brain," says Dr. Freiwald.

Dr. Freiwald is particularly interested in understanding how attention and other

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Financial crisis update (continued from page 1)

overall deterioration of the economy.

External grants contribute around one-third of our income and amount to about \$116 million each year, including Howard Hughes Medical Institute funding. The last three years have seen a reduction in government funding and an increase in private funding to the university. With the arrival of new faculty members, we hope to see an increase in grants once they become established and are in a position to apply for government support, but we are still forecasting a modest reduction in this type of income for the next two years, followed by a recovery around 2012.

The university relies on income from the endowment for approximately one-third of its total revenue. This is one of the special features of the university, but it also explains why we are so vulnerable to downturns in the markets. In this budget year ending in June the planned income from this source is \$104 million out of a total income of \$308 million.

The university's endowment lost approximately 21 percent of its value between July 1 and December 31, 2008. This has consequences for the annual income that we use to pay our running costs. The level of income received from the endowment each year is calculated by a formula based on endowment values over the previous 12 quarters. This system of taking into account fluctuations in the market is designed to smooth out short-term gains and losses and provide a relatively stable source of revenue. But the change in the value of the endowment in the first six months of this year has been dramatic, and we are anticipating that, by the end of this fiscal year in June, the value of the endowment may have dropped by 25 to 30 percent in total. The 12-quarter average formula means that the severe losses the endowment is suffering will have a serious effect on our income beginning in 2011.

While at present it is difficult to make a reliable prediction as to when the financial situation will improve, it appears unlikely that there will be an upturn this year. Our advisers suggest that it is more likely to be 2010 before the markets begin to show improvement. Once that happens, the value of the endowment should increase, enabling us eventually to restore income levels. But until that stabilization and improvement in the markets takes place, over several years we will have significant budget deficits.

The best we can do in this situation of great uncertainty is to use the information we have available now to make a plan and construct an appropriate budget for the university, neither over-reacting nor being under-responsive. At the same time, we will make contingency plans that will allow us to respond rapidly to either positive or negative developments in the future. For example, if next year sees a recovery, we can modify our plans accordingly, or if the markets continue to fall rather than leveling out as we anticipate, we will be prepared to respond to this as well. This means that the plans we make, including budgetary plans, must be flexible so that we can respond to changes in the overall financial situation.

The fall in the markets affects not just our endowment: Our income from other sources is also bound to be affected. As you know, our donors have continued to be extraordinarily generous, but their own finances will be under great pressure in the future, too. The election of a new president who is more science friendly has to be welcomed, but President Obama's scope for change will be limited, and we

should not rely on a dramatic increase in federal funding to solve our financial problems.

The Finance Department has constructed a number of models based on possible percentages of loss of endowment income this fiscal year ranging from 15 to 30 percent. The model we are using at the present time indicates a loss of endowment returns of 25 percent in 2009, a neutral position in 2010 and small growth in 2011 of around eight or nine percent. This model produces a deficit of \$15 million in 2011, and in subsequent years deficits of as much as \$30 million or more each year. Faced with deficits at this level, we need to make plans to modify our spending.

July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

While we do not know when the situation will improve, we need to make decisions for the financial year from July 1, 2009 based on the information available now. The Executive Officers Group (EOG) met in December to discuss the impact of the change in financial climate on our future planning, in particular on the budget for 2009–10, and made the following decisions with respect to the year 2009–10:

- The budget will be based on zero percent growth in the university administration and overhead costs. Usually, an allowance is made for inflation, which in 2008 was 3.9 percent, but this year the budget will make no allowance for inflation. This means that we will need to cut back on spending from the level of the current year in these areas.

- With respect to laboratory funding, we have decided to maintain the formula at its current level for the year beginning July, 2009. We feel we can maintain support at this level for one more year. Protecting our ability to conduct research at the present standard is a priority for the university. Preserving the current formula is therefore extremely important, and we will do this for as long as it is possible.

The unprecedented seriousness of the shortfalls forecast for the future, however, is such that we might not be able to sustain core laboratory funding at the current level beyond next year. If the financial situation does not significantly improve, we will need to modify the formula in subsequent years. For this reason all heads of laboratory should start now to look at ways to increase their financial reserves in anticipation of such changes. They should aim not to spend all their allocation this year, keeping some in reserve. With respect to staff planning, the assumption should be that changes to formula are likely to be required in future years; therefore, now is the time to think ahead about staff. Heads of laboratory are advised not to increase lab size in these circumstances. In addition, the supplementary bridging funding that has been given to some labs that faced difficulties due to grant delays and failures will be given extremely sparingly, if at all, in the future.

- We decided that for the coming year the funds available for salary increases throughout the university will be reduced from the usual four percent of the salaries budget to two percent. Where in

2008 a pay rise of four percent might have been awarded, from July this will be capped at two percent. Some other institutions will have no pay increases at all next year whilst some such as our immediate neighbors are giving more. The administration, supported by the Board of Trustees, takes the view that it is important to help staff as far as possible to live in this expensive city; we are also mindful of the inflation rate for 2008 of 3.9 percent. However, in reducing the raise from the more usual figure close to inflation we are recognizing the seriousness of the challenges facing us. In future years it may not be possible to award a pay increase, and this situation may persist for some time. Much depends on the way the financial world changes in the future.

To help achieve reductions in spending, the following specific actions have been approved for the next financial year:

- The administrative staff review, introduced recently to assess whether vacant positions need to be filled, anticipates saving a minimum of \$1 million for 2009–10 through “freezing” positions not considered essential in the short term to the operations of the university.

- The small number of “bridging” funding arrangements that were put in place to assist heads of laboratory to address temporary shortfalls in external funding will be curtailed and any bridging arrangements made in the future will be very limited. This will save around \$1 million per year.

- With effect from 2010, deferred maintenance, the allowance made for upgrading equipment and renovations, will be reduced from \$8 million to \$5 million per year. Equipment replacement and renovations will be undertaken with less frequency.

- Resource center charge-backs will be revised, including the charges made for animal accommodation.

- With respect to energy costs, the administration is exploring the use of forward contracts to lock in the current favorable rates. About \$1.25 million per year will be saved through this.

- A laboratory managers' group is to be established with the brief of devising cost-saving schemes and disseminating cost-saving information.

- Plans to recruit additional specialist staff to the library have been suspended for the present time.

- The facility of paying rent for university housing using a credit card is to be removed, saving the university credit card charges amounting to approximately \$145,000.

- Modifications will be made to the fee structure for the Child and Family Center, taking into account family income.

- Ways of modifying overtime

arrangements to save costs will be explored.

Future years. Unfortunately, at the present time the picture we have of subsequent years does not look promising. If the global financial situation does not improve within the next year, it is possible that we will need to make more extensive reductions in spending, perhaps over a number of years, starting from July 2010. This may require some reduction in staff positions. Whenever practical, any reductions needed will be achieved through normal turnover of staff. The university community should be aware, though, that this might not be enough and that other measures such as retirement and voluntary separation packages may need to be explored. If this approach, in turn, is found to be insufficient, managers will be requested to make proposals and recommendations for involuntary separations.

This week the Executive Officers Group will meet again to consider options for making cost reductions beyond those I have described from the year starting July, 2010. After decisions are made as to which options to pursue, heads of laboratory and managers will be informed in detail and advised on the parameters for their future budgetary planning.

We will not be curtailing faculty recruitment. The priority for this institution, supported by the Board of Trustees, is to sustain our research. We have funds raised for this purpose and in the present climate, when many of our sister institutions have imposed a hiring freeze, we are in a good position to attract excellent new faculty. The faculty are the lifeblood of Rockefeller and strengthening the university through recruitment remains of paramount importance. Recruiting new lab heads will also put us in a stronger position financially when the economic recovery eventually takes effect as, by that time, these faculty will be sufficiently established at the university to start applying for grant support — which should by then be more plentiful than at present.

Nor are we going to stop the building program we have embarked on. Phase one of the Collaborative Research Center (CRC), Smith Hall and the bridging building, is funded, progressing well and is on track. Completing the CRC remains a priority and the state-of-the-art laboratory space that this building will provide will be a strong attraction for new faculty, as well as accommodating current faculty in better space. In the light of the financial situation, we will not begin the Welch Hall renovation project beyond making the outside of the building safe and watertight, work for which funds are available.

The challenges we face are considerable, but this is a strong institution and we can best weather this storm by working together to find solutions to our problems. Compared with many others, we are in the fortunate position of having a substantial endowment in relation to the size of the university. We have an enthusiastically supportive, committed body of trustees and chairman. We will keep the pressure on fundraising and I will be requesting the approval of the Board to operate in budget deficit to help us through these challenges in the coming years.

As the financial situation changes I intend to keep you informed of developments primarily through *BenchMarks*, but I will also hold town hall meetings, the next one in June. I encourage you to check this newsletter regularly for updates on the situation.

Genetic epidemiologist named visiting professor

by ZACH VEILLEUX

Laurent Abel, a geneticist interested in infectious diseases, has been appointed a visiting professor and member of Jean-Laurent Casanova's Laboratory of Human Genetics of Infectious Disease. Though he will continue to be based in France — his existing laboratory is at the Necker School of Medicine and University Paris Descartes — he will spend several weeks each year at Rockefeller University.

Dr. Abel, who has an M.D. from the Paris West Medical School and University Paris Descartes, and a Ph.D. from University Paris South, has spent the last 12 years working in partnership with Dr. Casanova in Paris. Together, the two scientists have explored the genetics of human predisposition to infectious diseases. Their research has helped scientists understand why some people get sick during the course of infection while others exposed to the same pathogen do not get sick.

Though their goals are similar, Dr. Abel and Dr. Casanova use different approaches. Dr. Casanova uses classical Mendelian genetic techniques to link single, rare mutations to specific severe infections, while Dr. Abel is focused on using genetic data from populations to search for polymorphisms associated with increased susceptibility to common infections.

"Merging our two research programs has allowed us to make use of a wide variety of genetic techniques and to study the full spectrum of infectious diseases, and has permitted us to get a broader picture of the ways in which genes are linked to infections," says Dr. Abel. "A good example is tuberculosis. By working collaboratively, we know that there are both single genes that have a strong effect on susceptibility and polymorphisms with weaker effects. It's a major advantage to investigate all these aspects together."

Though a physician by training, Dr.



PHOTO: ZACH VEILLEUX

Abel has spent his career in the laboratory, first at France's National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM) and, since 1999, at the University Paris Descartes. His laboratory there, which he cofounded with Dr. Casanova in 1999, is devoted to identifying genes associated with infectious diseases and to developing statistical methods for use in genetic epidemiology.

His work in the last decade has led to the identification of several genes associated with susceptibility to leprosy, tuberculosis and several oncogenic viruses, which are believed to contribute to the development of cancer. With the advent of high throughput genotyping, his research has broadened in recent years to make use of powerful genome-wide association studies, which look at common variations in a person's entire genome and test their role in specific diseases.

Although now separated by an ocean,

Dr. Abel and Dr. Casanova continue to maintain a close scientific relationship; in addition to spending several weeks each year at Rockefeller, Dr. Abel will host Dr. Casanova several weeks each year in Paris, where Dr. Casanova holds a similar visiting position.

"The arrangement with Rockefeller allows us to continue working as a pair, but with the resources that Rockefeller can provide — especially postdoctoral fellows, strong technological platforms and extraordinary faculty in basic biomedical research," says Dr. Abel. "It's very exciting to become a member of this unique community."

"Laurent's innovative work on the genetics of infectious disease perfectly complements Jean-Laurent Casanova's," says Paul Nurse, the university's president. "I am glad it has been possible to enable this important collaboration to continue."

Visual neuroscientist named to faculty

(continued from page 1)

cognitive and emotional capacities modify visual processing. "Our work doesn't stop with the visual aspects of faces," says Dr. Freiwald. "Just a few synapses down the road you have areas that are critical to emotional, social and mnemonic aspects of brain function. Results in one area will inform new studies in other, connected areas." The research, he hopes, could ultimately be useful in understanding diseases such as prosopagnosia — "face blindness" — and autism, a disorder characterized by impaired social interactions and face-recognition skills.

Rockefeller has a strong history of pioneering research on the mechanisms of visual perception. Torsten N. Wiesel, who is Vincent and Brooke Astor Professor Emeritus and a former president of the university, won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1981 for his studies of how visual information is transmitted to and processed in the visual cortex of the brain. Charles D. Gilbert, who is Arthur and Janet Ross Professor and head of the Laboratory of Neurobiology, focuses his ongoing research on understanding the specific role of the brain's primary visual cortex in analyzing visual images and retaining visual memories.

"I'm delighted that Winrich will be coming to Rockefeller," says Paul Nurse, the university's president. "His work on visual processes is of great interest to scientists working to understand how our brains process information. His arrival at Rockefeller has also provided a good opportunity for the university to establish new imaging facilities that will be available to the entire university."

Dr. Freiwald will conduct his studies at Rockefeller in collaboration with colleagues at the Citigroup Biomedical Imaging Center at Weill Cornell Medical College, which hosts the MRI machine on which Dr. Freiwald will conduct some of his work.

IT to unveil new mail-processing software

by TALLEY HENNING BROWN

There was a time, not so long ago, when people got their e-mail at their desks, on their computers. Before the influence of Blackberries and iPhones, e-mail messaging was a reasonably simple affair, with a couple of servers and some simple software running the whole operation.

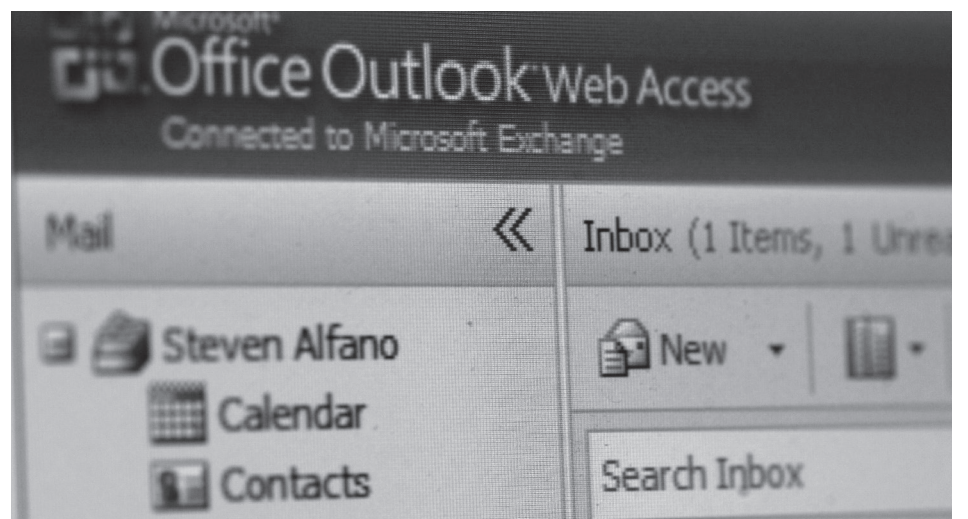
This spring will be the dawn of a new era, at least from the perspective of those in Information Technology who manage the university's e-mail infrastructure. In response to the growing use of mobile devices and a need to streamline the university's e-mail and calendar applications, this spring IT will launch a new behind-the-scenes software solution, an upgrade that will replace the systems in use for the last several years and allow for improved integration with smartphones and other mobile devices.

Although e-mail continues to be a primary means of communication on campus — IT estimates their servers deliver about 100,000 non-spam messages a day to the university's almost 2,000 e-mail users — how people get their e-mail has shifted dramatically in recent years. While the growing population of mobile device users can access both e-mail and Oracle calendar accounts, the interfaces involved lack the user-friendliness and full functionality of desktop versions. And some services, like a centralized address book, are simply not available with the university's current stand-alone solutions. "Streamlining com-

munication and scheduling functionality will eliminate these issues as well as the need for users to log into separate systems, duplicate information and make changes across multiple systems," says Jerry Latter, associate vice president for information technology.

Rockefeller University's existing mail-processing software, called Sendmail, will become obsolete this year when the university's vendors discontinue support of the application. Though IT has been aware of this eventuality and looking to integrate services for several years, until recently the market offered no single solution that was both affordable and feasible for Rockefeller's multi-platform environment: about 60 percent Macintosh and 40 percent Windows machines.

Microsoft Exchange, one of the world's most widely used messaging and scheduling platforms, was always one of the top choices. Numerous institutions, including Weill Cornell Medical College, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, are already using or are in the process of implementing it. "Many people on campus who used Exchange in their last workplace have also requested it here," says Mr. Latter. Having established the system at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, where he last worked, Mr. Latter started running an experimental Exchange server at Rockefeller in 2002, testing it for potential problems.



Last year IT administration narrowed the choice down to five systems. Comparison of features, functionality, scalability and vendor business solidity led to the choice of MS Exchange; the IT advisory committee agreed to the decision last spring and it was discussed with Academic Council last summer.

In addition to synchronization with major mobile devices, Exchange offers the ability to delegate account access, built-in direct push e-mail technology (helpful for full e-mail functionality on smartphones) for many devices, a user-friendly Web interface and advanced iPhone support. It is also compatible with the university's Avaya telecommunications system, which will

eventually permit what is known as unified messaging — voice access to data files and electronic access to voicemail.

IT will begin enlisting members of the campus community for a test run of the new program in the spring, and the rollout will happen over the course of 2009, first the e-mail and address book functions and later the calendar module, as IT migrates one lab/office at a time. Full use of the system's calendar and address book will require some on campus to switch from their previous e-mail clients to Outlook (PC) or Entourage (Mac). IT will host information sessions in late spring to give department and lab administrators training on advanced features.

MILESTONES

PROMOTIONS, AWARDS AND PERSONNEL NEWS

Awarded:

Jesse H. Ausubel, an honorary doctoral degree from Dalhousie University in Canada. Mr. Ausubel, who is senior research associate and director of the Program for the Human Environment, will be presented with the degree at a ceremony on May 20.

Cori Bargmann, the 2009 Richard Lounsbery Award from the National Academy of Sciences, for her inventive and successful use



of molecular and classical genetics to probe the individual nerve cell basis of behavior in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. Dr. Bargmann, who is Torsten N. Wiesel Professor, head of the Laboratory of Neural Circuits and Behavior and associate director of the Shelby White and Leon Levy Center for Mind, Brain and Behavior, studies how *C. elegans*'s neural circuits develop, identifies the genes and neural pathways for its actions and investigates how sensory inputs regulate those circuits. The Lounsbery Award, established in 1979 to encourage reciprocal scientific exchanges

between the United States and France, comes with a \$50,000 prize.

Named:

Knut Wittkowski, president-elect of the Association of General Clinical Research Centers (GCRC) and Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Statisticians. The association, whose name is currently in transition, exists to enhance the design, implementation and analysis of clinical and translational studies, to foster the establishment of appropriate methodological standards and to advise the GCRC and CTSA programs. Dr. Wittkowski's two-year presidency, which begins this August, will involve liaising with the National Institutes of Health and organizing the agenda for the association's annual meeting. Dr. Wittkowski is director of the Center for Clinical and Translational Science's Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design Core.

Published:

"Learning Science in Informal Environments: People, Places and Pursuits," a report from the National Research Council coauthored by Director of Scientific Outreach **Bonnie Kaiser**. The report details evidence of the effectiveness of informal educational experiences — e.g., trips to museums and zoos, television and other media programs, civic engagement projects — at promoting long-term interest in science among students. The report, released in January, is available from the National Academies Press at www.nap.edu.

Promoted (academic appointments):

Myriam Heiman, to senior research associate,

Greengard Lab.

Jeong Hyeon Park, to research associate, Roeder Lab.

Yan Zhou, to research associate professor, Kreek Lab.

Hired:

Sourabh Banerjee, postdoctoral associate, Sakmar Lab.

Bertrand Boisson, postdoctoral associate, Casanova Lab.

Jack Brown, security guard, Security.

Paula Calle, research assistant, Brady Lab.

Sophia Chai, research specialist, Fuchs Lab.

Francis Corson, postdoctoral associate, Siggia Lab.

Melissa Del Giorno, teacher, Child and Family Center.

Qian Feng, foreign research intern, Rice Lab.

Stephanie Fernandez, postdoctoral associate, Strickland Lab.

Winrich Freiwald, assistant professor and head of laboratory, Freiwald Lab.

Shawn Galdeen, research support specialist, Bio-Imaging Resource Center.

Rebecca Garcia, administrative assistant, Gadsby Lab.

Matthew Hill, postdoctoral fellow, McEwen Lab.

Natsuko Kinoshita, postdoctoral fellow, Chua Lab.

Erin Kirk, research assistant, Casanova Lab.

Tatiana Kochetkov, research specialist, Casanova Lab.

Wladimir Labeikovsky, postdoctoral associate, Gadsby Lab.

Collene Lawhorn, postdoctoral fellow, Kreek Lab.

Yoav Litvin, postdoctoral associate, Pfaff Lab.

Pei-ju Lu, postdoctoral associate, Fuchs Lab.

Chen Luxenburg, postdoctoral fellow, Fuchs Lab.

Cameron MacPherson, visiting student, Chua Lab.

Alice Min, research assistant, Greengard Lab.

Shamim Mollah, bioinformaticist, Hospital Medical Science.

Emily Muller, development assistant, Development.

Kyung-Min Noh, postdoctoral associate, Allis Lab.

Suzanne Ouyang, recruitment assistant, Hospital Medical Science.

Irena Parvanova, research assistant, Hatten Lab.

Kresti Pecani, research assistant, Fred Cross Lab.

Johnny Ramroop, laboratory technician, McEwen Lab.

Aakanksha Singhvi, postdoctoral fellow, Sham Lab.

Wanwan Tang, visiting student, Ott Lab.

Sohail Tavazoie, assistant professor and head of laboratory, Tavazoie Lab.

Morten Veno, foreign research intern, Greengard Lab.

Nilay Yapici, postdoctoral associate, VossHall Lab.

This publication lists new hires, awards and promotions. Staff promotions are listed yearly; academic promotions and appointments are listed monthly.

Laureates on exhibit



Last fall, Caspary Hall was witness to a unique gathering. Ten of Rockefeller University's current faculty members who are winners of the Albert Lasker Medical Research Award and/or the Nobel Prize came together to view the new exhibit in the lobby of Caspary Auditorium that gives a historical timeline of Rockefeller's current and past Lasker and Nobel laureates. The scientists, whose awards stretch from 1974 to 2007, were recognized for wide-ranging achievements, from discoveries about how cells are organized to elucidation of how electrical signals are relayed in the nervous system to vaccine development for prevention of bacterial disease. The winners are (clockwise from top left):

Ralph M. Steinman, M.D.

2007 Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award

Emil C. Gotschlich, M.D.

1978 Albert Lasker Clinical Medical Research Award

James E. Darnell Jr., M.D.

2002 Albert Lasker Award for Special Achievement in Medical Science

Günter Blobel, M.D., Ph.D.

1993 Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award
1999 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

Torsten N. Wiesel, M.D.

1981 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

Paul Greengard, Ph.D.

2000 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

Robert G. Roeder, Ph.D.

2003 Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award

Roderick MacKinnon, M.D.

1999 Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award
2003 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

Paul Nurse, Ph.D.

1998 Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award
2001 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

Christian de Duve, M.D.

1974 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine