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BENCHMARKS

THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2014

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Registration to be required for bicycles. In an effort to encourage safe bicycle use and eliminate abandoned bikes, the university is implementing a bicycle registration program. Required permits will be issued at the security desk in Founder's Hall for no charge. Beginning February 3, any bike that has not been registered will be removed from the university's bicycle racks or other storage locations; the owner will have 30 days to pick it up before it is donated to charity. New bike racks with tool stations are being installed on campus, and the university is working with the NYPD to make it easier to register bikes with the city's anti-theft program.

Cholesterol and diabetes screening available through March. Occupational Health Services will sponsor its annual cholesterol and diabetes screening program this winter, beginning this week and running through the end of March. The screening, which is free, enables employees to learn their risks for developing heart disease and diabetes and to make appropriate proactive lifestyle changes in consultation with their physicians. To participate, schedule an appointment by e-mailing ohs@rockefeller.edu.

View photos from the Holiday Party. Pictures from the university's 2013 Holiday Party can be viewed and downloaded from <http://gallery.rockefeller.edu/holiday-party/Other/HolidayParty2013>.

Music and Medicine concert to be held in March. The Tri-Institutional Music and Medicine Program, which provides physician and scientist musicians with opportunities to practice and perform their craft, is sponsoring two performances this winter. In January, Richard Kogan, psychiatrist and concert pianist, performed works of Rachmaninoff. And on March 18, several members of the program will perform works of Weber, Tchaikovsky, Brahms and others. The event is at 7 p.m. in Caspary Auditorium.

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

CAMPUS NEWS

'River Building' is approved by community board

by ZACH VEILLEUX

The university's formal application for city zoning approval to build a 160,000 square foot laboratory building over the FDR Drive has been approved by Community Board 8, a key step in the city's multi-agency review of the project.

The "River Building" proposal grew out of the university's recent master planning process and has been under development for over a year. Several city agencies with a stake in the project have already signed off on it, and the university's application was formally certified on November 4 by the Department of City Planning, beginning a process that ultimately takes it before the city council. The January 8 vote of Community Board 8, which serves as an advisory body to other city agencies and represents a large swath of the Upper East Side, was 25 to 3, suggesting that the proposal has strong neighborhood support.

"We are gratified that the community has recognized the value this building has for the university's continued success and for the vibrancy



Roof with a view. An architect's rendering shows how the new building's green roof would extend over the FDR, but not cover a refurbished East River Esplanade.

of the Upper East Side," says Marc Tessier-Lavigne, the university's president. "In addition to providing future Rockefeller scientists with superb modern lab space, the project will also deliver new amenities for the community, most notably a repaired and improved esplanade

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APPOINTMENT

Tim O'Connor named VP and chief of staff

by ZACH VEILLEUX

When Timothy P. O'Connor left his faculty position in the department of genetic medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College in 2009, it was for an opportunity he couldn't pass up — to be associate provost for science and technology at Yale University. He would be a key part of the leadership team in charge of tackling tough questions about how best to allocate resources to support scientists. But it also meant leaving the city he had come to love as his adopted hometown.

After four years in New Haven, however, he has made his way back to New York, landing just a block away from the institution he called home for seven years. The role he has accepted at Rockefeller is not unlike the one he had at Yale, but Rockefeller's lean administration and exclusive scientific focus, along with its ambitious new strategic plan, means he will have the opportunity to focus on both the big picture issues and day-to-day operations involved in running the institution.

The search for a vice president to oversee strategy and manage the research support and administrative departments began over a year ago, when President Marc Tessier-Lavigne completed the university's nine-year strategic plan and began the work of implementing its elements. Dr. Tessier-Lavigne's need for additional support in the president's office coincided with the retirement of John Tooze (see "John Tooze, VP of scientific and facility operations, retires," page 2), who



PHOTO: ZACH VEILLEUX

had overseen many of the same functions under the Paul Nurse administration.

After a national search led by the same executive recruiting firm the university used in the search for a president in 2011, several candidates were identified. But Dr. O'Connor quickly emerged as the finalist.

"I knew as soon as I met him that Tim was a perfect fit for Rockefeller," says Dr. Tessier-Lavigne. "His background in bioscience, his executive experience at Cornell and Yale and his thoughtful, supportive management style would allow him to be both an effective leader and an adviser. He was exactly the person I was looking for to not only take over for John, but to play a key role in running the president's office as my chief of staff."

Dr. O'Connor was named vice president for university strategy and research opera-

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FACULTY RECRUITMENT

New faculty member studies ribosome structure

by ZACH VEILLEUX

Sebastian Klinge, named to Rockefeller's faculty in June as its newest tenure-track member, is a biochemist and structural biologist interested in understanding the ribosome, the cell's protein factory. Dr. Klinge's laboratory, the Laboratory of Protein and Nucleic Acid Chemistry, opened on September 15.

Dr. Klinge is the first junior faculty member to be recruited under the university's nine-year strategic plan approved in 2012, and the first faculty member of any rank to join the university since Vanessa Ruta opened her laboratory in 2011.

Ribosomes serve as a cell's primary manufacturing facility for proteins, linking amino acids together into complex structures according to instructions encoded in the cell's messenger RNAs. It's a process that is at the heart of the central dogma of biology — that DNA makes RNA and RNA makes proteins — and is repeated millions of times a day in every cell.

The ribosome's workings have been the subject of intensive study, at Rockefeller and elsewhere, ever since it was first identified. But relatively little attention has been paid to the ribosome's atomic structure, and the process by which it is assembled from some 80 components by approximately 200 other proteins.

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BENCHMARKS

Marc Tessier-Lavigne, President
Timothy O'Connor, Vice President and Chief of Staff

Zach Veilleux, Executive Editor
Leslie Church, Assistant Editor

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River Building (continued from page 1)

along the East River waterfront.” Over the past eight months, representatives from the university have met informally with the community board several times to solicit feedback and answer questions, but the January 8 meeting was the first time the project was voted on.

The new facility would be constructed along the length of the university’s FDR frontage, beginning north of the Rockefeller Research Building and ending at 68th Street. The main section housing the laboratories would consist of two stories to be located just above the roadway, and a green roof slightly above the existing grade that would extend toward the esplanade, providing landscaped space and room for new amenities including a cafeteria and outdoor amphitheater. At the north end, it would contain a one-story, 3,300 square foot conference facility to host meetings of between 100 and 200 people. A related project, a one-story fitness center to replace the facility currently housed in Founder’s Hall, is also included in the proposal.

The projects have been designed by Raphael Viñoly Architects, the firm that originally developed the master plan for the university and proposed the site.

The River Building would address a need for new high-quality lab space that is expected to arise over the coming decade as limitations in existing laboratory buildings on the south campus make it increasingly difficult to accommodate modern research in bioscience. Even if retrofitted, many spaces are hampered by low floor-to-floor heights and narrow floor widths that do not meet current standards for flexible, open-plan laboratories.

“The River Building we are proposing does not represent an expansion of the university’s size or mission, but rather an attempt to replace aging laboratories with new research space that will enable us to maintain our high standards of science and education,” says Dr. Tessier-Lavigne. “By shifting labs into the newer spaces, we not only provide them with the infrastructure they need to conduct their best work, but also free up space that can be repurposed to consolidate administrative functions that are currently dispersed or located in temporary offices.”

“This project is going to revitalize the university’s landscape in both a literal and figurative sense,” says Russ Carson, chair of the university’s Board of Trustees. “The cutting-edge labs and inspiring rooftop amenities will serve the university for decades and set the stage for the world’s next great advances in bioscience.”

If it receives approval and goes forward, the building would be the most ambitious development on the university’s campus since the creation of the promenade and the Dan Kiley landscaping of the 1950s. The new facility would accommodate as many as 26 labs and 440 scientists on floor plates that extend nearly three-and-a-half city blocks. It would feature a landscaped green roof and two one-story glass pavilions, one for offices and a second that would house a cafeteria to replace the aging Weiss Café. Viewed from the west, the building would conform to the existing contours of the campus and would

be invisible from the rest of the neighborhood.

The conference facility, accessible via the President’s House driveway, would host retreats, colloquiums and fundraising events, and would feature an adjacent landscaped area for outdoor functions. “The idea is that it would be accessible and at the same time secluded from the rest of the campus, and would host events that cannot be accommodated in the President’s House, where there is limited space,” says Dr. Tessier-Lavigne.

Although a separate building, the fitness center has been included in the city application in order to consolidate the review process and avoid the need to seek new permits separately. It is envisioned as a one-story building to be located on the northwest corner of the campus, replacing both the 68th street parking lot and the esplanade above. It would contain approximately 16,000 square feet of space, combining the university’s fitness facilities in a modern and central location. The existing tennis court would be relocated to its roof.



Lightweight and flexible. The building’s exterior (seen from Roosevelt Island, top) would emphasize horizontal lines and minimize impact on the skyline. Inside (bottom), benches would be easy to configure for labs of any size.

In conjunction with these projects, Rockefeller would also make repairs to a dilapidated seawall that supports the East River Esplanade and FDR Drive and would refurbish the public esplanade, creating a wider space for pedestrians, a designated bike path and amenities such as drinking fountains, benches and irrigation that would permit improved landscaping. A 930-foot-long, five-foot-tall noise barrier would be constructed between the esplanade and the highway. The university would also provide lighting for the newly covered section of the FDR Drive.

The River Building project would make use of air rights over the FDR that the university acquired in 1973, but because of its location and complexity, the project requires approval from a host of city agencies, including the City Planning Commission, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Parks and Recreation. Many of those agencies have already been involved in shaping and refining the design.

“The review process we have had with various city agencies as we have worked to develop this plan has been enormously helpful in making sure that the building serves not only the university’s needs, but also respects the needs of the community,” says George Candler, associate vice president for planning and construction. “The building design is improved because of this process.”

A draft environmental impact statement produced by the university’s environmental consultant, AKRF, notes that the new facilities will not block existing neighborhood

views or restrict pedestrian access to the waterfront, and they will not increase traffic or contribute to congestion on the busy York Avenue corridor.

The initial construction, which could begin in 2015, would take place from atop barges docked in the East River. After excavation and the installation of support columns along both sides of the highway, prefabricated trusses would be hoisted by a marine crane over the highway and bolted into place. Once secure, they would be joined together and the two floors would be built out, one on top of the joists and the second hanging below it. Then, with the structure completed, fitting and finishing work would be conducted from the campus side. Mechanical rooms would be built below ground near Welch Hall, and interior and exterior connections to existing buildings and the university grounds would be created at several points.

“This is the same basic construction approach that has been used for other structures built over the highway in recent years, including the Rockefeller Research Building and projects at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and the Hospital for Special Surgery,” says Mr. Candler. “It’s the best way to minimize the disruption on campus and the impact on traffic.” Work requiring lane closures on the FDR would take place only at night.

The city’s process for evaluating projects of this scope, the Uniform Land Usage Review Procedure (ULURP), is expected to take until June of 2014, and will culminate

in reviews by the city council and mayor. While the application works its way through this process, Viñoly Architects will simultaneously begin work on schematic designs, incorporating changes that have been made thus far and fleshing out details.

“This next stage of design work will allow us to further refine our cost estimates for the project, so that by this summer we should be in a position to know if the building is both feasible and affordable, as we hope it will be,” says Dr. Tessier-Lavigne.

RETIREMENT

John Tooze, VP of scientific and facility operations, retires

by LESLIE CHURCH

John Tooze, known as much for his wry British wit as for the immense role he’s had in shaping the university’s scientific infrastructure over the last eight years, retired from his position as vice president of scientific and facility operations in May 2013.

Dr. Tooze leaves a lasting mark on the university, having directed the construction of the Collaborative Research Center, the expansion and modernization of the animal research facility and the restoration of Welch Hall, among other projects.

“One of John’s great talents is his ability to communicate with people from all walks of life,” says Marc Tessier-Lavigne, Rockefeller’s president. “His insightful and direct nature has enabled him to engage effectively with architects and designers, construction crews, faculty members and administrators, trustees and his own staff. We have enjoyed his superb sense of humor. He has been a wonderful colleague.”

Dr. Tooze began his time at Rockefeller

in 2004 as a consultant to President Paul Nurse, who had known him for more than 20 years. He advised Dr. Nurse to establish a scientific advisory committee for the university’s resource centers and proposed a merger of the gene array and genotyping resource centers into a single Genomics Resource Center. In 2005, Dr. Tooze joined the administration full-time, overseeing the majority of the university’s support departments — Information Technology, Planning and Construction, Security, Plant Operations, the Rockefeller University Press and the Comparative Bioscience Center, among others. It was a portfolio with over 460 staff.

“John is a man of great intellect, wide interests and boundless energy who always manages to get things done properly, on time and on budget,” says Dr. Nurse. “The transformation of the Rockefeller north campus was due to his efforts and will be a lasting tribute to his time here. It was

both a huge pleasure and a humor to work with him.”

Among the employees he managed and the faculty he supported, his signature style of handling requests garnered respect.

“When requesting help from John, I learned that patience was key,” says Sohail Tavazoie, Leon Hess Assistant Professor and head of the Elizabeth and Vincent Meyer Laboratory of Systems Cancer Biology, who spoke at Dr. Tooze’s retirement farewell in June. “He was quick to reject requests, but within 10 minutes, he would figure out an alternative and more frugal solution.”

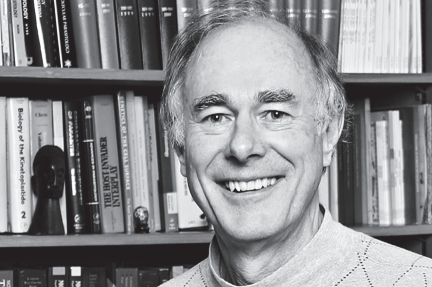
Dr. Tooze’s prolific career path prepared him well for the many projects he undertook at Rockefeller. After receiving his Ph.D. in biophysics from the University of London in 1965, he spent two years as a postdoc in Jim Watson’s laboratory at Harvard University. Branching out into scientific publishing, Dr. Tooze worked for *Nature* for several years in the late 1960s.

He then went on to hold a number of scientific administrative positions, including at the European Molecular Biology Organization in Heidelberg, Germany, where he helped establish and became executive editor of *The EMBO Journal*. Dr. Tooze eventually became director of support services at Cancer Research UK, formerly the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, where he worked with Dr. Nurse.

Throughout his career, Dr. Tooze continued to write, authoring a number of textbooks, including *DNA Tumour Viruses*; *Recombinant DNA: A Short Course*, with Dr. Watson; *Introduction to Protein Structure*; and *The DNA Story*, on the history of gene cloning, also with Dr. Watson. In 1986 he was honored with the EMBO Gold Medal for his role in promoting molecular biology in Europe, and in 1994 he was elected as a fellow of the Royal Society of London, a rare distinction for a science administrator.

Events celebrate longtime employee service at Rockefeller

Several ceremonies were held last year to commemorate years of service to the university by Rockefeller employees. In November, 33 members of the university were celebrated for 10 years of service. And in May, an Employee Recognition Reception was held to honor 31 employees who have worked at Rockefeller for 20 and 25 years, followed by an anniversary dinner honoring 20 retirees and 17 employees with 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years of service. Honorees at that dinner are pictured below. To see more photos from the three events, visit www.rockefeller.edu/employeeRecognition.



"Apart from the oft-cited excellence of our students and postdocs, and the collegiality of the faculty, I especially value the enthusiasm, responsiveness and great competence of the leaders of our scientific resource centers and our non-scientific staff in Human Resources, Information Technology, Purchasing, Security, Maintenance and several smaller departments, who all make Rockefeller run so smoothly."

◀ George Cross, Retiree and 30 years



"Doing science is a privilege, so I can't claim 'years of service,' but Rockefeller was and is a fantastic place to explore one's research questions. There are few academic obligations, a community of familiar faces whose usual attitude is to help, not to say it isn't possible, and thoughtful and knowledgeable colleagues who provide advice, criticism and friendship."

◀ Marjoie Russel, 35 years



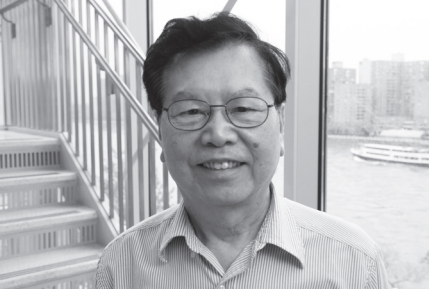
"Rockefeller is special to me in many ways. It has given me the opportunity to grow and to get to know so many nice people. Now that I'm older, it has also become a connection to my childhood. I grew up in the neighborhood, planted vegetables in the children's garden, sleighed down the hill, played in the 'Sand Park,' which is now CBC, and would sneak onto the grounds at night where the guards would chase us out."

◀ Douglas Many, 35 years



"On the very first day I arrived at The Rockefeller University I sensed it to be a special place primarily because of the people who work here, but also because of the beautiful campus. I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to be part of this community for so many years."

Erika Mueller, 50 years ▶



PHOTOS: ZACH VELLEUX

O'Connor (continued from page 1)

tions, as well as chief of staff in the president's office, in April. He started in June. Originally from Los Angeles, Dr. O'Connor majored in biology at the University of California, Berkeley, and went to the University of Michigan for his Ph.D. and to UCLA for his postdoc, where he worked in Jared Diamond's laboratory. He moved to New York the first time in 1998, and set up a lab at City College of New York. Although he enjoyed the opportunity to train and mentor the diverse student body at CCNY in science, when the opportunity arose to join a translational research team at Weill Cornell, he took it. He began as an administrator and director of facility operations in the department of genetic medicine, and ended up as associate research professor and vice chair. "The positions I held at Weill Cornell over seven years were fantastic, because my work there was really a combination of hands-on science and administration, where I had the opportunity to not only do my own work but to help support the work of my colleagues," says Dr. O'Connor. He moved to Yale in 2009 to become associate provost for science and technology, helping to administer financial resources and scientific support services not just for the biosciences, but for chemistry, physics, engineering, astronomy, computer sciences and other disciplines. It was an opportunity to learn a lot about diverse fields of science, and a challenge to ensure that shared resources in the various disciplines — sequencing runs, telescope time, etc. — were allocated strategically. As a biologist at heart, however, the opportunity to come to Rockefeller was one he couldn't ignore. So last June, he and his wife Julie Boyer, also a biologist, returned to New York City with their Weimaraner, Steeler (Julie is a football fan originally from Pittsburgh). "There were really three things that ulti-

mately convinced me to come to Rockefeller," Dr. O'Connor says. "The opportunity to be a part of this unique, incredible institution, the chance to return to New York City, and the ability to work closely with Marc, who I immediately clicked with and who has a strong and smart vision for the university." Dr. O'Connor's position is actually a combination of two positions. In his role as vice president, he is responsible for several important functions on campus, including Research Support, Technology Transfer, Information Technology, Communications and Public Affairs, Plant Operations and Housing, Planning and Construction, The Rockefeller University Press and Security. As chief of staff, he provides high-level support and advice to the president, and assists in developing and implementing strategy. He aims to be a resource for Dr. Tessier-Lavigne as well as one for the community, where he can provide guidance on issues that require input from the president's office but not necessarily a direct response from the president. "The two roles are closely related, so in many ways it's logical to have one person doing both," says Dr. O'Connor. "Although it might not be possible at a larger institution, it makes sense for Rockefeller. The expertise and talent of the department heads who report to me also makes it feasible, and they are a big reason why so many things can be accomplished smoothly and efficiently." "As we move forward with implementing our strategic plan, including a complex building project and several new scientific initiatives, it's going to be critical that we have a capable leader keeping everyone on the same page," says Dr. Tessier-Lavigne. "Since the moment he arrived, Tim has hit the ground running, quickly getting up to speed on both the big-picture projects and the day-to-day operations of the university. As those who have been working with him for the past several months can attest, he has already made himself indispensable."

Klinge (continued from page 1)

"Despite all the study the ribosome has been subjected to, we do not know a great deal about the process by which it is assembled from dozens of molecular subunits," Dr. Klinge says. "My laboratory will focus on understanding how the synthesis of the eukaryotic ribosome is achieved at an atomic level." A native of Hanover, Germany, Dr. Klinge was drawn to biochemistry in his teenage years. He attended both undergraduate and graduate school at the University of Cambridge, receiving a B.A. in biochemistry in 2005 and a Ph.D., also in biochemistry, in 2009. He has since been a postdoc at ETH Zurich in Switzerland. "You can think of the ribosome as a car," says Dr. Klinge. "We have a pretty good understanding of how the car works and what the various pieces are for, but until you've gone inside the factory and examined the assembly line, you won't understand how it is put together. What you need to do is study the raw materials, the robots doing the welding and the tools being used." The robots, in the case of ribosomes, are giant macromolecular assemblies made up of strings of amino acids. Because of their size and complexity, and their dynamic nature, macromolecular assemblies are notoriously difficult to study. What's more, it's something of a chicken-and-egg problem. "You need the machinery to be in place in order to manufacture proteins, but the machinery itself is made of proteins that must be manufactured," Dr. Klinge says. This will not be Dr. Klinge's first encounter with large molecular components. As a graduate student, he studied a macromolecular assembly involved in the copying of DNA, the DNA polymerase alpha/primase complex, which helps initiate DNA replication by creating a "primer" molecule made of both RNA and DNA.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEBASTIAN KLINGE

And after moving to the ETH Zurich he shifted his focus to protein synthesis, determining the crystal structure of the large ribosomal subunit of the ribosome, the 60S subunit. Dr. Klinge aims to elucidate not only the structural anatomy of ribosomal subcomponents, but also the biochemistry of the assembly process itself. Because the ribosome plays such a critical role in life, understanding how ribosomes "mature" has the potential to unlock biological secrets that are relevant to studies of genetics and gene regulation. "We are delighted to welcome Sebastian to Rockefeller, where he will join a long tradition of research on the structure and workings of cells," says Marc Tessier-Lavigne, the university's president. "Sebastian's research on ribosomal assembly sets out to answer important fundamental questions about the basic processes of life, and his record as a student and postdoc suggests he will take a rigorous and tenacious approach to his work. We look forward to seeing great things from him as he establishes his own laboratory."

New university Board members have backgrounds in medicine and finance

by LESLIE CHURCH

The university’s Board of Trustees elected three new members in 2013: Anna Chapman, a psychiatrist in private practice in New York; Elizabeth Rivers Curry, founder and managing director of Eagle Capital Management, an investment firm; and Jonathan M. Nelson, chief executive officer and founder of Providence Equity Partners LLC, based in Rhode Island. Dr. Chapman and Mr. Nelson were elected at the March 13 board meeting, and Ms. Curry at the June 5 meeting.

Dr. Chapman, in addition to her private practice, serves on the adjunct faculty of NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital at both the Cornell and Columbia campuses, where she does clinical supervision with residents and lectures on the neurobiology of mental processes. She is the president of the Neuropsychanalysis Foundation, an organization focused on bridging the gap between psychoanalysis and neuroscience. Dr. Chapman also supervises a group of mental health providers who use psychodynamic psychotherapy to treat patients with focal brain injuries. She is currently launching the Domestic Violence Initiative, a collaboration between Columbia University’s department of psychiatry and New York City’s Family Justice Center that aims to create a comprehensive mental health program for adult and child victims of domestic violence. The initiative will also research the effects of trauma on the brain and methods for preventing intergenerational transmission of trauma.

Dr. Chapman received her bachelor’s degree in English literature from Harvard University and her medical degree from Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons.

“I did my psychiatry residency training right next door to Rockefeller at Weill Cornell. It’s clear to me now, since my re-introduction to Rockefeller as a board member, that what I saw back then of the astounding talent, dedication and innovative efficiency of this place was truly just the tip of the iceberg,” says Dr. Chapman. “I’m looking forward to what I will learn in the coming years about cutting-edge life science research, especially with regard to brain function, and I hope my clinical expertise and interest in the mind-brain interface will provide a useful perspective to the basic research.”

Ms. Curry founded Eagle Capital Management in 1988 with her husband, Ravenel Curry. The firm focuses on trading and research in the health care and retailing sectors. Her investment career began at Summit Trust Company. Ms. Curry

and her husband have been members of The Rockefeller University Council since 2008, and she is an active participant in the University’s *Women & Science* Initiative. A



Anna Chapman, Elizabeth Rivers Curry and Jonathan M. Nelson.

member and secretary of the board of trustees of Queens University of Charlotte, she is also on the boards of The Hyde and Watson Foundation in New Jersey, Weill Cornell Medical College and Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. She has also been supportive of schools and parks in Newark, New Jersey, for many years. Ms. Curry received her

bachelor’s degree and M.B.A. from Queens University of Charlotte in North Carolina.

“I hope that my experience in investment management and finance will be

useful as a board member,” she says. “My favorite part of stock research is looking for companies that have outstanding management, have compelling products and have unlimited upside. And Rockefeller fits my model of the perfect stock. It is such a privilege to be a member of this dedicated board as it plans for the future of this

most-important research university.”

Mr. Nelson founded Providence Equity Partners in 1989, and it has since grown to manage \$28 billion of committed capital, specializing in equity investments in media, communications and information companies in North America, Europe and Asia. Mr. Nelson has been investing in private equity transactions for 30 years, and previously was a managing director of Narragansett Capital, Inc. He serves on the board of directors of the Chernin Group, MLS Media, Television Broadcasts Limited, Univision Communications and Yankees Entertainment and Sports Network. Mr. Nelson has also served as a director of AT&T Canada, Brooks Fiber (now Verizon), Warner Music Group and others. He received his bachelor’s degree from Brown University in 1977 and his M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School in 1983. He is a trustee of Brown University and also serves on the board of Newport Festivals Foundation.

James Simons honored with Life Trusteeship Pat Rosenwald voted Emeritus Trustee

by LESLIE CHURCH

The Rockefeller Board of Trustees has conferred its highest honor — one that has been given only twice previously — on James Simons, the philanthropist, mathematician and investment manager who has served on the university’s Board since 2000. For his exceptional service to Rockefeller, Dr. Simons was elected a life trustee, a position shared with David Rockefeller, who was elected in 1995. Brooke Astor, the only other Board member to be named a life trustee, held the position from 1983 until her death in 2007.

The Board also named Patricia Rosenwald an emeritus trustee in honor of her contributions to the university.

“Life trusteeship is a significant honor that Jim richly deserves,” says Russell Carson, chair of the Board. “He has served with great distinction on the Board and has made transformative gifts to Rockefeller, responding with extraordinary generosity to many institutional needs that arose over the course of his Trusteeship.”

Dr. Simons served as vice chair of the investment committee of the Board from 2005 to 2012, helping to guide the management of the university’s endowment. He and his wife, Marilyn, who heads the Simons Foundation, are among the most active and supportive members of the university’s philanthropic community in its history. Last year, they were each awarded an honorary degree at the university’s annual Convocation ceremony — the first couple to be recognized in this way.

Dr. Simons’s success in finance, as founder and former CEO of the investment company Renaissance Technologies, has its roots in his academic past. He earned a bachelor of science

degree in math from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and at age 23 graduated with a Ph.D. in math from the University of California, Berkeley. He went on to teach math at MIT and Harvard University, and later worked with a U.S. Department of Defense think tank at Princeton University as a cryptanalyst during the Vietnam War. At the State University of New York at Stony Brook, Dr. Simons was chair of the mathematics department and a leader in the field of differential geometry. Renaissance Technologies, founded in 1982, was the first investment firm to use quantitative analysis to make investment decisions, propelling the company to the top of the industry.

Science and math education and research play a central role in Dr. Simons’s many philanthropic endeavors, including his creation of the Math for America program, which aims to improve such education in public schools. Through the Simons Foundation, he has been a champion for autism research in Rockefeller labs and elsewhere. He also serves on the boards of the Institute for Advanced Study, MIT and Brookhaven National Laboratory.

Both Dr. Simons and Ms. Rosenwald were elected to their new titles at the Board’s June 5, 2013 meeting. Ms. Rosenwald, who has been a trustee since 2007, was cited for her generous service to the Hospital and Educational Affairs Committees and the many gifts she has made personally or generated for the university from friends and foundations. “Pat has been in every way an outstanding and committed ambassador for Rockefeller,” says Mr. Carson.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Psychologist and author Kay Redfield Jamison awarded 2012 Lewis Thomas Prize

by LESLIE CHURCH

There has always been a fine line between madness and genius. As a clinical psychologist, Kay Redfield Jamison has been able to examine that line from a scientific perspective; and as a writer, she has shared both her scientific and personal findings on mental illness with the public. For her work, Dr. Jamison was presented with the 2012 Lewis Thomas Prize for Writing about Science at a ceremony in Caspary Auditorium last June. The award recognized Dr. Jamison’s 1993 book *Touched with Fire: Manic-Depressive Illness and the Artistic Temperament*, which examines the relationship between artistic creativity and mood disorders.

Named for its first recipient — writer, educator and physician-scientist Lewis Thomas — the prize was established in 1993 by the university’s Board of Trustees and honors writers who bridge the worlds of science and humanities, shedding light on the philosophical and aesthetic aspects of science, and giving readers a greater appreciation for the subject. Past recipients of the award include Oliver Sacks, Jared Diamond and E.O. Wilson.

Dr. Jamison, the Dalio Family Professor in Mood Disorders and professor of psychiatry at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, has made extensive contributions to the field of psychology and is considered one

of the country’s foremost authorities on manic-depressive bipolar illness. She is co-author of the standard medical text on the illness, which was chosen as the most outstanding book in the biomedical sciences by the American Association of Publishers, and she has written numerous scientific articles on mood disorders, lithium treatment, suicide and creativity.

Dr. Jamison is also a pioneer in the movement to destigmatize mental illness. Her 1995 memoir, *An Unquiet Mind*, chronicles her own experience with bipolar disorder, and was cited by several major publications as one of the best books of the year. *Night Falls Fast: Understanding Suicide* was a national bestseller and selected by *The New York Times* as a Notable Book of 1999. Throughout

her career she has received numerous awards, including a MacArthur Fellowship.

“Kay encompasses the idea behind the Lewis Thomas Prize, which is to recognize someone who inspires others to think differently about a scientific issue,” says Marc Tessier-Lavigne, the university’s president. “Kay uses an empirical approach to address the relationship between artistic creativity and mental illness. Her work gives us a new, insightful perspective on mental illness.”

Dr. Jamison completed her undergraduate and doctoral studies at the University of California, Los Angeles, where she was a National Science Foundation Research Fellow and UCLA Graduate Woman of the Year, among other honors. She also studied zoology and neurophysiology at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Formerly the director of the UCLA Affective Disorders Clinic, Dr. Jamison joined the faculty of the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1987.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAY REDFIELD JAMISON

MILESTONES

(continued from page 6)

Maria Fenner, research assistant, Casanova Lab.

Sol Fereres-Rapoport, visiting student, Steller Lab.

Benjamin-Maximillian Fiebiger, postdoctoral associate, Ravetch Lab.

Bianca Field, research assistant, Friedman Lab.

Jennifer Fong, research assistant, Shaham Lab.

Catherine Freije, research assistant, Rosenberg Lab.

Julia Fremerey, visiting student, Tuschl Lab.

Shin-Ichi Fukuoka, visiting professor, McEwen Lab.

Emily Gantman, postdoctoral associate, R. Darnell Lab.

Anna-Maria Georgoudaki, visiting student, Ravetch Lab.

Mohammed Gheith, laboratory helper, Fuchs Lab.

Piya Ghose, postdoctoral associate, Shaham Lab.

Jason Gilpin, animal attendant, Comparative Bioscience Center.

Melissa Giorgio, campus security officer, Security.

Steven Goldman, member of the adjunct faculty, Brivanlou Lab.

Daria Graf Esterhazy von Galantha, postdoctoral fellow, Mucida Lab.

Christopher Green, animal attendant, Comparative Bioscience Center.

Andrew Gregg, visiting student, Tessier-Lavigne Lab.

Eunwoo Ha, analyst, Investments.

Sacha Hacker, animal technician, Fuchs Lab.

Caryn Hale, postdoctoral associate, R. Darnell Lab.

Erin Hand, teacher, Child and Family Center.

Robert Hansen, unit clerk, Hospital Nursing Outpatient.

Maisah Hargett, administrative assistant, E.G.D. Cohen Lab.

Thomas Heineman, visiting medical student, Smogorzewska Lab.

Miriam Herschman, visiting medical student, Krueger Lab.

Nicholas Hertz, postdoctoral associate, Tessier-Lavigne Lab.

Judith Hoagland, nursing assistant, Hospital Nursing Outpatient.

Mayla Hsu, science writer, Rice Lab.

Aniek Ivens, postdoctoral fellow, Kronauer Lab.

Carolyn Jackson, visiting fellow, Casanova Lab.

Agata Jaskulska, foreign research intern, Konarska Lab.

Irene Kalbian, research assistant, Vosshall Lab.

Keith Kallas, research assistant, Greengard Lab.

Ibrahim Kass Gergi, visiting student, Friedman Lab.

Thomas Kassel, research assistant, Greengard Lab.

Jennifer Kennedy, genetic counselor, Smogorzewska Lab.

Saakshi Khattri, research associate, Krueger Lab.

Murat Kilinc, foreign research intern, Pfaff Lab.

Jaehwan Kim, instructor in clinical investigation, Krueger Lab.

Seung-Nam Kim, postdoctoral fellow, Pfaff Lab.

Christoph Kirst, fellow in physics and biology, Center for Theoretical Studies.

Sebastian Klinge, assistant professor and head of laboratory, Klinge Lab.

Margarete Knudsen, research assistant, Greengard Lab.

Jessica Kohn, research assistant, Nottebohm Lab.

Ha Eun Kong, research assistant, Allis Lab.

Cassandra Koole, postdoctoral fellow, Sakmar Lab.

Benjamin Krause, visiting student, Sakmar Lab.

Oleh Krupa, research assistant, Greengard Lab.

Alison Lam, research assistant, Greengard Lab.

Connie Lee, visiting fellow, Tavazoie Lab.

Avi Levin, instructor in clinical investigation, Steller Lab.

Harry Levy, member of the adjunct faculty, McEwen Lab.

Ang Li, postdoctoral fellow, Fuchs Lab.

Lishi Li, postdoctoral associate, Fuchs Lab.

Yan Li, postdoctoral fellow, Chua Lab.

Yupu Liang, bioinformaticist, Hospital Informatics.

Hye Kyung Lim, visiting student, Casanova Lab.

Irene Lim-Beutel, visiting fellow, Simon Lab.

Atila Lima, research assistant, Fischetti Lab.

Cassie Liu, research assistant, Nussenzweig Lab.

Kai Liu, postdoctoral associate, Steller Lab.

Peng Liu, visiting student, Rice Lab.

Qiang Liu, research associate, Bargmann Lab.

Xuhang Liu, postdoctoral associate, Tavazoie Lab.

Jessica Livoti, teacher, Child and Family Center.

Chao Lu, postdoctoral associate, Allis Lab.

John Maciejowski, postdoctoral associate, de Lange Lab.

Kathryn Macina, research assistant, Tessier-Lavigne Lab.

Debra Mandli, laboratory administrator, R. Darnell Lab.

Karl Mansson, visiting student, Pfaff Lab.

Christina Marney, postdoctoral associate, R. Darnell Lab.

Carol McDonald, laboratory manager, Allis Lab.

David McGee, research assistant, Breslow Lab.

Kelly McGuire, research assistant, Heintz Lab.

Luis Medrano Mendia, porter, Housing Faculty House.

Geneva Miller, research assistant, Hang Lab.

Linda Miller, editor-in-chief, Rockefeller University Press.

Harry Mobley, telecommunications technician, Information Technology.

Joshua Modell, postdoctoral associate, Marraffini Lab.

Danielle Morelli, research assistant, White and Levy Center for Mind Brain and Behavior.

Kari Mosleh, research assistant, Darst Lab.

Diego Mourao-Sa, postdoctoral associate, Tarakhovsky Lab.

Lynda Mules, IRB specialist, Hospital Institutional Review Board.

Paul Muller, visiting student, Mucida Lab.

Jennifer Murphy, visiting fellow, Simon Lab.

Shruti Naik, postdoctoral associate, Fuchs Lab.

Melissa Nashat, postdoctoral associate, Comparative Bioscience Center.

Joyce Ng, grants management specialist, Sponsored Research and Program Development.

Natalie Norstedt, visiting student, Pfaff Lab.

Timothy O'Connor, vice president for university strategy and research operations and chief of staff, President's Office.

Katarzyna Ossowska, foreign research intern, Konarska Lab.

Qiang Pan-Hammarstrom, visiting professor, Casanova Lab.

Tanya Panchenko, postdoctoral associate, Allis Lab.

Eunyong Park, postdoctoral fellow, MacKinnon Lab.

Eda-Margaret Paulsen, research assistant, Blobel Lab.

Francesco Piccolo, postdoctoral associate, Heintz Lab.

Matthew Piper, visiting fellow, Vosshall Lab.

Melissa Popowski, postdoctoral fellow, Brivanlou Lab.

Jessica Posada, visiting medical student, Tavazoie Lab.

T. Cricket Powell, administrative assistant, Wiesel Lab.

Maria Pulina, research associate, Greengard Lab.

Sage Rahm, research assistant, Kreek Lab.

Srinivasan Ramakrishnan, postdoctoral associate, Hang Lab.

Mariel Rios, research assistant, McEwen Lab.

Kevin Rogers, HVAC helper, Plant Operations HVAC Shop.

Alberto Roman, helpdesk and computer support specialist, Information Technology.

Stephanie Rose, animal attendant, Comparative Bioscience Center.

Meredith Roy, research assistant, Gilbert Lab.

Mariya Rozenblit, visiting medical student, Krueger Lab.

Juan Ruano Ruiz, visiting fellow, Krueger Lab.

Maximilian Rutyna, administrative assistant, Brivanlou Lab.

Hanna Salm, research assistant, Brivanlou Lab.

Dean Sampson, animal attendant, Comparative Bioscience Center.

Varda Sandweiss, member of the adjunct faculty, Collier Lab.

Markus Sauer, foreign research intern, Tuschl Lab.

Grant Schauer, postdoctoral associate, O'Donnell Lab.

Fabian Scheid, postdoctoral associate, Nussenzweig Lab.

Riyad Seervai, research assistant, Smogorzewska Lab.

Jun Sung Seo, postdoctoral fellow, Chua Lab.

Kunal Shah, instrumentation engineer, Center for Sensory Neuroscience.

Geoffrey Shearer, web communications assistant, Communications and Public Affairs.

Wei Shen, postdoctoral associate, Friedman Lab.

Dan Simon, postdoctoral associate, Rout Lab.

Derek Simon, postdoctoral fellow, Kreek Lab.

Anjana Sinha, senior research associate, Greengard Lab.

Jennifer Smith-Garvin, scientific editor, Rockefeller University Press.

Aleksandra Sobolewska, foreign research intern, Konarska Lab.

Alexey Soshnev, postdoctoral associate, Allis Lab.

Francesca Maria Spagnoli, member of the adjunct faculty, Brivanlou Lab.

Sunandini Sridhar, postdoctoral associate, Smogorzewska Lab.

Catherine Stoeckle, research assistant, Greengard Lab.

Kingsley Storer, member of the adjunct faculty, Reeke Lab.

Hai-Xi Sun, postdoctoral fellow, Chua Lab.

Weilin Sun, research associate, Greengard Lab.

Sarah Szwed, research assistant, Nottebohm Lab.

Iris Taylor, administrator, Occupational Health Services.

Marta Valenza, postdoctoral fellow, Kreek Lab.

Timo van Kerkoerle, postdoctoral associate, Gilbert Lab.

Luz Vargas, nursing assistant, Hospital Nursing Inpatient.

Dante Varotsis, research assistant, Greengard Lab.

Amrita Venkateswaran, research assistant, Blobel Lab.

Corstiaen Versteegh, postdoctoral associate, Hudspeth Lab.

Patrik Vieweg, visiting student, Friedman Lab.

Marija Vucelja, fellow in physics and biology, Feigenbaum Lab.

Tyrone Wade, campus security officer, Security.

Shu Wang, research assistant, Fischetti Lab.

Julie White, research associate, Comparative Bioscience Center.

Jing Xiao, research assistant, Rice Lab.

Hui Xu, research specialist, Krueger Lab.

Xiao Xu, postdoctoral associate, Heintz Lab.

Yuya Yamagishi, postdoctoral fellow, Tessier-Lavigne Lab.

Xuehong Yu, postdoctoral associate, Blobel Lab.

Danielle Zelli, research assistant, McEwen Lab.

Yong Zhang, postdoctoral fellow, Fischetti Lab.

Xiaonan Zhao, postdoctoral associate, Hang Lab.

Promoted (academic appointments):

Victor Bustos Mendez, to senior research associate, Greengard Lab.

Thalia Farazi, to assistant professor of clinical investigation, Tuschl Lab.

Qiang Liu, to research assistant professor, Bargmann Lab.

Michelle Lowes, to associate professor of clinical investigation, Krueger Lab.

Eric Schmidt, to research assistant professor, Heintz Lab.

Peter Stavropoulos, to senior research associate, Papavasiliou Lab.

Taia Wang, to instructor in clinical investigation, Ravetch Lab.

Promoted (staff):

Marlon Almonte, to computer support specialist, Information Technology.

Christy Barrow, to development assistant II, Development.

Jeanne Belliveau, to organizational development manager, Comparative Bioscience Center.

Jill Benz, to associate director, academic programs, Office of Academic Affairs.

Dion Brown, to assistant director of budgeting, Finance Accounting Services.

Paula Calle, to laboratory manager, Brady Lab.

Graciela Cardenas-Castro, to senior cellular support specialist, Information Technology.

Emmeline Cardozo, to development officer, Development.

James Carozza, to senior AV support and engineering specialist, Information Technology.

Brianna Caszatt, to assistant production editor, *JEM*, *JGP*, Rockefeller University Press.

Sophia Chai, to senior research specialist, Fuchs Lab.

Emily Conrad, to assistant director, Development.

Benjamin DiMatteo, to development assistant II, Development.

Paola Emhardt, to research support assistant, Transgenic Services.

Jeanne Garbarino, to director of science outreach, Dean's Office.

Jennifer Jackson, to office administrator, Sponsored Research and Program Development.

Fred Kamintzky, to campus security sergeant, Security.

Bernard Langs, to director, Development.

Wei Li, to laboratory manager, Kapoor Lab.

Canhua Luo, to business applications developer, Information Technology.

Inbal Maniv, to laboratory manager, Marraffini Lab.

Eduardo Martinez, to mechanic I, Plant Operations Power House.

Petri Marttinen, to assistant director of grants administration, Finance Accounting Services.

Aldo Mele, to research specialist, R. Darnell Lab.

Javier Ocasio, to mechanic II, Plant Operations Power House.

Daniel Oristian, to senior research specialist, Fuchs Lab.

Paul Parke, to mechanic I, Plant Operations Power House.

Kristine Parks, to CBC group leader, Comparative Bioscience Center.

Michael Phillips, to systems administrator, Information Technology.

Angela Plowden-Wardlaw, to associate director, Development.

Lisa Polak, to laboratory manager, Fuchs Lab.

Katherine Ross, to manager, outreach and training, Sponsored Research and Program Development.

Colleen Smith, to business development specialist, Rockefeller University Press.

Marguerite Spellman, to senior copy editor, Rockefeller University Press.

Emma Stevens, to development assistant II, Development.

Rita Sullivan King, to communications manager, Rockefeller University Press.

Kaye Thomas, to assistant director, Bio-Imaging Resource Center.

Jillian Tintle, to development assistant II, Development.

Steven Tittley, to CBC group leader, Comparative Bioscience Center.

Mary Vasquez, to production specialist, Rockefeller University Press.

Spandana Vootukuri, to laboratory manager, Collier Lab.

Laura Votey, to development officer, Development.

Leah Yanachek, to head teacher, Child and Family Center.

Bevan Yeates, to lead telecommunications technician, Information Technology.

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

MILESTONES

PROMOTIONS, AWARDS AND PERSONNEL NEWS

Awarded:

Titia de Lange, the 2013 Jill Rose award from the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, in recognition of her fundamental contributions to research on telomeres and their relationship to aging and cancer. The award was presented at the foundation’s annual symposium and awards luncheon in New York in October. Dr. de Lange is Leon Hess Professor and head of the Laboratory of Cell Biology and Genetics.

Jonathan Fisher, the Blavatnik Award for Young Scientists, which is given to researchers under the age of 42 who demonstrate impactful accomplishments in the life sciences, physical sciences, mathematics and engineering. Dr. Fisher was one of two postdoctoral winners of the 2013 prize. Given to faculty and postdocs in the tri-state area, it comes with a \$30,000 award for postdocs. Dr. Fisher, a postdoctoral fellow in James Hudspeth’s Laboratory of Sensory Neuroscience, studies the biophysics and neurophysiology of the auditory system, and is interested in the development of new neuroimaging techniques in biomedical optics and auditory processing.

Bruce S. McEwen, the 26th Gregory Pincus Memorial Award, from the Worcester Foundation for Biomedical Research, in recognition of his studies on steroid hormone action in the brain, including recent work on the effects of stress, which has led to paradigm shifts in the field. The award is named for the cofounder of the Worcester Foundation and a pioneer in reproductive biology and endocrinology. It was presented in October at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Dr. McEwen is Alfred E. Mirsky Professor and head of the Harold and Margaret Milliken Hatch Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology.

Paul Nurse, the Albert Einstein World Award of Science, from the World Cultural Council, for his long-term work as a scientific leader committed to excellence in learning, research, health and education. The award includes a \$10,000 prize, and was presented in October at the organization’s 30th award ceremony at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. Dr. Nurse is president emeritus and head of the Laboratory of Yeast Genetics and Cell Biology.

Charles M. Rice, the 2014 Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award from the American Liver Foundation, which recognizes scientists that have contributed significantly to liver research during their careers. Dr. Rice investigates mechanisms of hepatitis C virus infection and replication. The award was presented at the foundation’s awards ceremony in Washington, DC, in November. Dr. Rice is Maurice R. and Corinne P. Greenberg Professor in Virology and head of the Laboratory of Virology and Infectious Disease.

Vanessa Ruta, an NIH Director’s New Innovator Award, which provides nearly \$2.5 million over five years to researchers who have exceptionally innovative ideas early in their careers but may lack the preliminary data required for more traditional NIH grants. Dr. Ruta studies neural circuits and how they are modified with learning and experience. She is Gabrielle H. Reem and Herbert J. Kayden Assistant Professor and head of the Laboratory of Neurophysiology and Behavior.

Michael W. Young, the 2013 Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine, in recognition of his work on the molecular biology of circadian rhythms. Dr. Young shares the honor and \$1 million prize with two scientists from Brandeis University, Michael Rosbash and Jeffrey C. Hall. Dr. Young is Richard and Jeanne Fisher Professor and head of the Laboratory of Genetics.

Named:

Jean-Laurent Casanova, an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the nonprofit medical research organization that gives its members stable financial support in order to move their research in creative new directions. Dr. Casanova researches the genetic basis of pediatric infectious diseases. One of 27 new investigators chosen in 2013, Dr. Casanova began his appointment in September. Dr. Casanova is senior attending physician at The Rockefeller University Hospital

and head of the St. Giles Laboratory of Human Genetics of Infectious Diseases.

Winrich Freiwald, a Robertson Investigator, by the New York Stem Cell Foundation, which provides a grant of \$1.5 million over the next five years to expand his Laboratory of Neural Systems. The grants are given to scientists engaged in cutting-edge translational research as they transition from postdoctoral work to the establishment of their own laboratories. Dr. Freiwald, an assistant professor, researches the neural processes that allow the brain to recognize objects and maintain attention.

Elected:

James E. Darnell Jr., to the American Philosophical Society, an honorary society founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743 that recognizes individuals who have shown extraordinary accomplishments in their fields. Dr. Darnell was elected for his work, spanning more than 50 years, investigating RNA synthesis, processing and transcriptional regulation. Dr. Darnell is Vincent Astor Professor Emeritus.

Jeffrey Friedman and **Marc Tessier-Lavigne**, to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, which was founded in 1780 to provide a forum for leaders to work together on behalf of the democratic interests of the nation. Dr. Friedman, Marilyn M. Simpson Professor and head of the Laboratory of Molecular Genetics, studies the molecular mechanisms that regulate food intake and body weight. Dr. Tessier-Lavigne, Rockefeller’s president and Carson Family Professor and head of the Laboratory of Brain Development and Repair, investigates nerve circuit formation and regeneration and the mechanisms underlying nerve cell death. The scientists were inducted at a ceremony in October at the Academy’s headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Hired:

- Edna Acosta**, nursing assistant, Hospital Nursing Inpatient.
- Carolina Adura Alcaino**, research support specialist, High Throughput Screening Resource Center.
- Sandra Aedo**, postdoctoral associate, Tomasz Lab.
- Tani Agarwal**, postdoctoral associate, O’Donnell Lab.
- Akira Akabayashi**, senior research associate, Leibowitz Lab.
- Hans Alcindor**, human resources assistant, Human Resources.
- Jose Aleman**, instructor in clinical investigation, Breslow Lab.
- Joshua Altschuler**, research assistant, Kreek Lab.
- Hector Alvarez**, teacher, Child and Family Center.
- Johana Alvarez**, research assistant, Heintz Lab.
- Pablo Ariel**, research support specialist, Bio-Imaging Resource Center.
- Jennifer Ashlock**, integrated production specialist, Communications and Public Affairs.
- Pinar Ayata**, visiting fellow, Heintz Lab.
- Aakash Basu**, postdoctoral associate, Hudspeth Lab.
- William Beazer**, campus security officer, Security.
- Geoffrey Bennett**, research assistant, Tuschl Lab.
- Elisa Bergamin**, postdoctoral associate, Blobel Lab.
- Lynn Biderman**, postdoctoral associate, Kapoor Lab.
- John Kipchirchir Bitok**, visiting fellow, Brady Lab.
- John Borghi**, science informationist, Library.
- Nicole Bowles**, postdoctoral associate, McEwen Lab.
- Hilary Briggs**, laboratory administrator, Kreek Lab.
- Kai Cao**, visiting student, Chua Lab.
- John Carucci**, member of the adjunct faculty, Krueger Lab.
- Betty Jo Casey**, member of the adjunct faculty, McEwen Lab.
- Pierre Casimir**, visiting student, Casanova Lab.
- Spencer Chen**, research assistant, Rosenberg Lab.

OBITUARIES

Grant Martin



Grant Martin, a research assistant in Paul Greengard’s lab, died unexpectedly at age 26 on July 26. Mr. Martin joined the Greengard lab in 2010 and worked under the supervision of Yong Kim, where he managed the lab’s microscopy facilities. His research interests were in Alzheimer’s disease and drug addiction and he performed dendritic spine analysis, immunocytochemistry and statistical analysis. Originally from Ross, California, Mr. Martin earned a bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College, where he double-majored in neuroscience and biology and was honored with the Faculty Award for Academic Excellence. As passionate about music as he was about science, Mr. Martin formed a Brooklyn-based rock-country band called Icewater, for which he sang, composed and played guitar. The band toured, playing at South by Southwest, and was in the process of recording an album. Mr. Martin is survived by his parents and brother Matty. “Grant was well-liked and respected by everyone in the lab, and was known for his reliability and excellent work,” says Dr. Kim, research assistant professor. “He is missed.”

Vernette Owens



Vernetta Owens, Institutional Review Board administrator in the hospital, died of cancer on June 2 at the age of 62. Ms. Owens joined the IRB staff in 2005 with more than 20 years of experience at New York University Langone Medical Center’s IRB. Born in Louisville, Kentucky, Ms. Owens lived with her grandmother until her early teens, when she moved to Queens to be with her parents. As an adult, Ms. Owens devoted much of her free time to serving as a deacon at Highland Church

in Jamaica, Queens. “She had a strong work ethic,” says Marta Torruella, associate director of sponsored research and program development, who first met Ms. Owens while they were both at NYU. “She was very giving, very sweet — always with her hands out to help someone. She was the kind of person who always had a twinkle in her eye.”

Mary Walkey



Mary Walkey, an electrician in the Plant Operations Maintenance Shop, passed away in August at the age of 62. Ms. Walkey joined the Rockefeller staff in 2007 after working as chief electrician at Memorial Hospital and as a trade school teacher. She was also trained as a classical musician. “Mary was responsible for the electrical work involved in the lab moves into the new North Campus buildings and was a great source of training for our apprentices,” says Jim Schaefer, Maintenance Shop manager. Ms. Walkey, originally from Wisconsin, lived in Valley Stream, NY, and enjoyed gardening and caring for her two dogs.

Horane Roy Watt



Horane Roy Watt, known as Roy to his coworkers and friends, began working at Rockefeller in 1989 and was a porter in the housing department. He died on June 8 at the age of 59. Survived by his wife, Cheverlyn, and four children, Mr. Watt was buried in his hometown of Manchester, Jamaica. Mr. Watt was a passionate Yankees fan and loved reggae music. “He was loved by coworkers and tenants alike,” says John Ulmer, assistant director of housing operations. “He was always greeting tenants with a big smile and a laugh.”

- Steven Chen**, research assistant, Hang Lab.
- Jacqueline Cheng**, medical staff services coordinator, Hospital Regulatory Affairs.
- William Cordero**, mailroom clerk, Mailroom.
- Lauren Corregano**, recruitment specialist, Hospital Clinical Research Office.
- Rony Dahan**, postdoctoral associate, Ravetch Lab.
- Tal Danino**, visiting fellow, Rice Lab.
- Shawn Davis**, coordinator, outreach programming and events, Development.
- Alessia Deglincerti**, postdoctoral associate, Brivanlou Lab.
- Eduardo Miguel Dias Ferreira**, postdoctoral associate, Maimon Lab.
- Leslie L. Diaz**, assistant director and research associate, Comparative Bioscience Center.

- Meghan DiLillo**, grants manager, Ravetch Lab.
- Zhenghong Dong**, research assistant, Greengard Lab.
- Stephen Doyle**, campus security officer, Security.
- Nicholas Economos**, research assistant, Papavasiliou Lab.
- Alex Edwards**, research assistant, Hatten Lab.
- Eileen Elliott**, administrator, Investments.
- Hitokazu Esaki**, postdoctoral fellow, Krueger Lab.
- Fred Etoc**, postdoctoral fellow, Brivanlou Lab.
- David Ewald**, visiting student, Krueger Lab.
- Sokana Fathima**, animal attendant, Comparative Bioscience Center.
- Ali Fedder**, assistant director, Development.

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