

Rockefeller University

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The Rockefeller University Associates

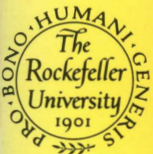
Campus Publications

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About the cover:

Fat cells removed from Professor Jules Hirsch, one of the nation's leading experts on obesity. Cells of this type make fat, store it, and release it into the body to provide energy.

Professor Hirsch, a senior physician at the University's research hospital, recently chaired the much-publicized National Institutes of Health panel on obesity. He is pictured on the back cover.



Supporting basic research today...

Located on York Avenue in New York City, The Rockefeller University has been the site of many of the 20th century's most important discoveries in the biomedical sciences.

...for better health tomorrow.

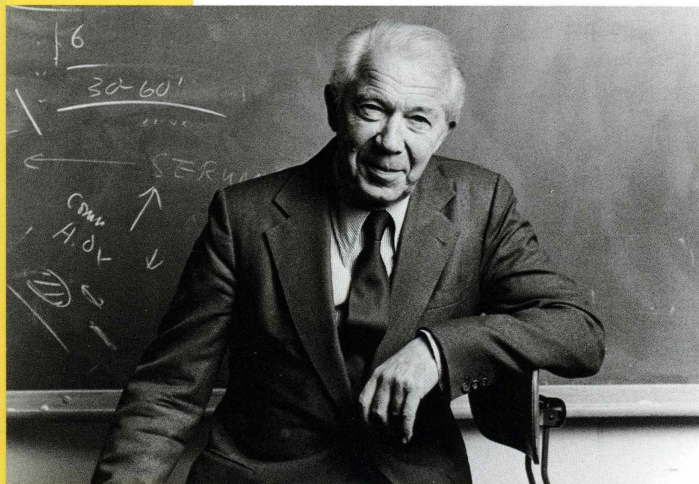
Few people have the opportunity to affect the well-being of others as profoundly as those who provide vital support for biomedical research which is essential to advances in medicine and health care. The Rockefeller University Associates—individuals who provide annual unrestricted gifts—have such an opportunity. They help ensure that The Rockefeller University remains a major force in the struggle against the diseases that undermine the health and welfare of individuals throughout the world.

Gifts from University Associates are the bedrock of the scientific enterprise at Rockefeller. These unrestricted funds enable Rockefeller to follow the unanticipated leads that have always been milestones in the quest for scientific discovery. University Associates are also partners in the Rockefeller educational programs, which seek to provide the finest training for tomorrow's scientific leaders.

The University needs approximately \$3 million annually in unrestricted private support to maintain these and other programs. From facilities and research equipment to the library and computer services, this support affects every facet of the University's wide-ranging scientific effort.

Interested friends can accomplish something significant by helping the University to push back the frontiers of scientific knowledge.

Through their gifts, University Associates...



Christian de Duve and two other Rockefeller scientists shared a Nobel Prize in 1974 for their "discoveries concerning the structural and functional organization of the cell." Dr. de Duve is currently applying his basic research in cell biology to what he calls "everyday medicine." As Dr. de Duve explains, "Today, basic research offers our best hope of finding solutions to the major medical problems of the world. . . . To fight disease efficiently and cheaply, we must take the basic research approach and apply it."

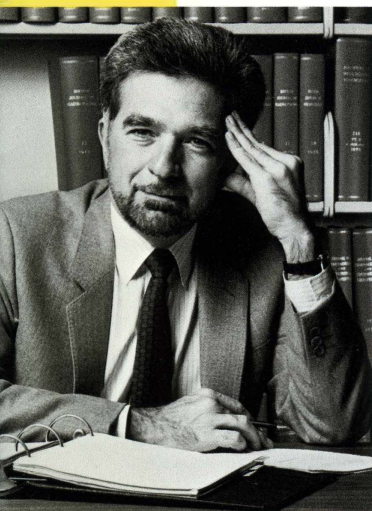
...enable Rockefeller scientists to concentrate on basic biomedical research

With the support of unrestricted gifts, scientists at Rockefeller are able to devote themselves to basic biomedical research—research that goes deeper than the study of any one disease to reveal fundamental biological principles. The emphasis placed on basic research at Rockefeller has long helped the University attract many of the world's most outstanding scientists.

Like the founders and subsequent leaders of the University, these scientists believe that a more basic understanding of life processes provides the surest, most reliable foundation for the practical, or clinical, applications of science. As a survey of major breakthroughs in biomedical research concluded, "Basic research. . . pays off in terms of key discoveries almost twice as handsomely as other types of research and development combined."

...allow scientists to pursue unanticipated leads

Basic research is often full of surprises. As an Albert Lasker Award winner on the faculty has explained, "Often a discovery is not the one you were looking for in the first place, but an unsuspected by-product that turns up while



you are investigating something else.” Recently, for example, Professor Anthony Cerami was studying the malnutrition and weight loss associated with parasitic infection and chronic disease when he discovered a protein produced by large white cells in the immune system. This discovery turned out to have important implications for cancer therapy when Dr. Cerami and his colleagues learned that the protein is identical to TNF, or tumor necrosis factor, a highly publicized anti-cancer drug. The use of TNF is now being reevaluated in light of Dr. Cerami’s research on the possible toxic effects of this substance.

...make possible ground-breaking research

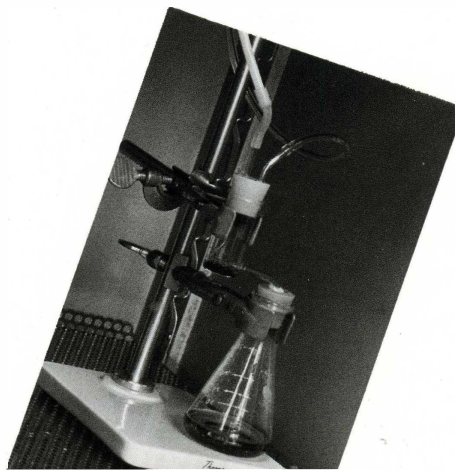
For more than eight decades, Rockefeller scientists have pioneered research in many areas largely neglected by other scientists and

by governmental funding sources. Much of the support for this work comes from unrestricted funding.

Some 30 years ago, these funds made it possible for Rockefeller scientists to initiate research on cholesterol metabolism, when virtually no one was interested in the subject and little project funding was available. At the University’s hospital, scientists provided definitive proof that the kind of fats we eat can alter the level of cholesterol in our blood. They also developed tests widely used by physicians and scientists to measure the rate at which the body manufactures cholesterol and to determine the effectiveness of drug, surgical, and dietary treatments for elevated levels of cholesterol.

Unrestricted support also provides funding for research that does not yield immediate

A Rockefeller alumnus and dean of the University’s graduate and postdoctoral programs, Professor Anthony Cerami has advanced scientific understanding of diabetes, aging, parasitic infection, and the wasting associated with cancer and other chronic diseases.





In 1986, Professor Zanvil Cohn launched a unique and highly promising investigation of AIDS. This research is aimed at learning which immune system cells are invaded by the AIDS virus and how their functions are disrupted. An internationally renowned immunologist, Dr. Cohn recently discovered a new cell in the immune system.

results but that, in the long run, proves to be invaluable. In 1944, for example, a team of Rockefeller scientists studying pneumonia made the startling discovery that DNA is the basic genetic material, serving as the blueprint for the creation of offspring and the proteins needed to sustain life. At the time, many scientists were skeptical of this finding, and the genetic revolution did not really begin until the double helix structure of DNA was deciphered nearly 10 years later. Genetic engineering did not become a reality for another 20 years. Several more years may pass before genetic therapies for human disease are available, but when they are, they will be the direct, practical result of research conducted at Rockefeller.

...launch major new research initiatives

Since the 1970s, revolutionary opportunities have been emerging in the biomedical sciences at a rate unparalleled in history. To contribute to and keep pace with these developments, the University has launched a program of research initiatives, opening eight new laboratories since 1980. Research in these laboratories is devoted to such problems as heart disease, cancer, food supply, mental illness, genetic abnormalities, and disorders caused by agents ranging from viruses and parasites to cellular aging.

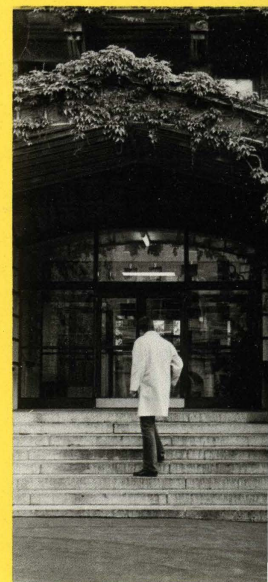
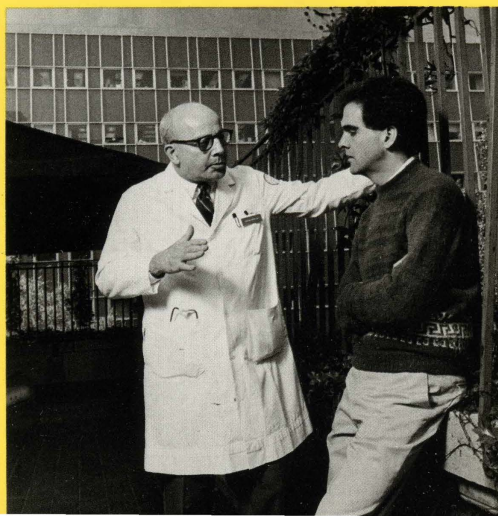
...help train the scientific leaders of tomorrow

Internationally recognized as a leading center for graduate education in the biomedical and

related physical sciences, Rockefeller University offers a highly selective Ph.D. program that admits only 25 of the 400 or so exceptional young men and women who apply for admission each year.

The success of this graduate program is one of the University's most impressive achievements. In a survey of 128 institutions, Rockefeller alumni were rated first in the nation on the basis of their productivity and the quality of their research in the biomedical sciences.

The University directs substantial resources to the graduate program. The annual cost of operating this program is \$3.6 million. More than half that amount is allocated from unrestricted gifts made by the University's benefactors.

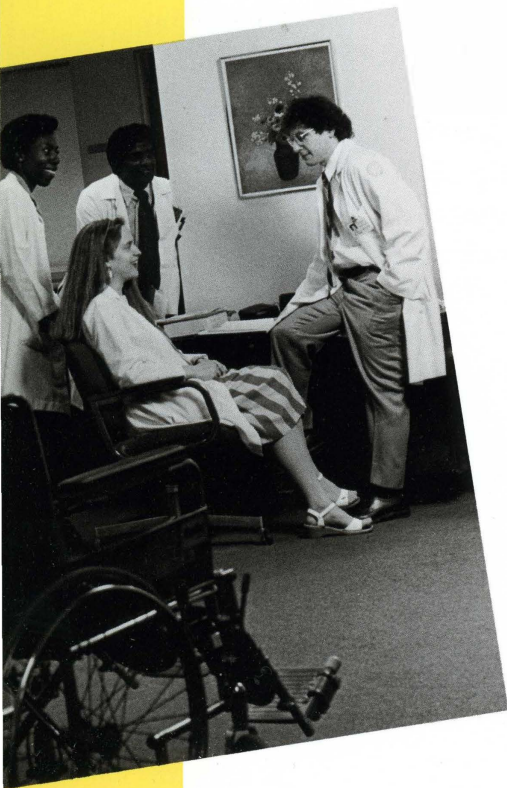


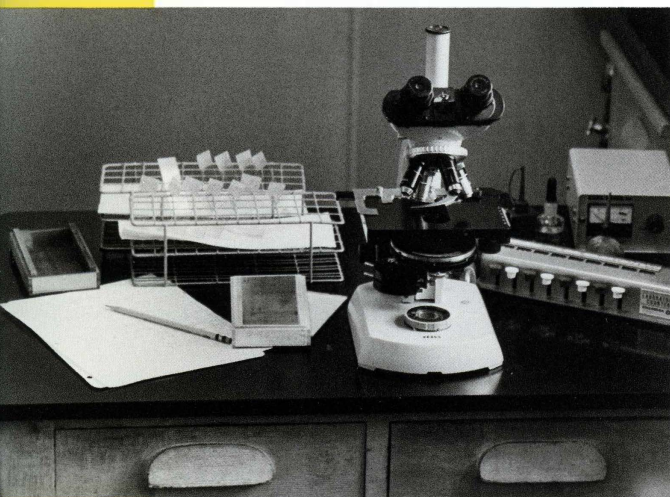
By providing this important support, University Associates play a vital role in enabling the University to fulfill what may be its most important mission: meeting the special educational needs of the nation's most outstanding young scientists—helping develop their talents and preparing them to take their places as the leaders of the scientific community.

...sustain Rockefeller's tradition of scientific achievement

Today, while faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students probe the

mysteries of science, a network of computer specialists, laboratory safety experts, electricians, librarians, and administrators provides essential support services. Last year, expenditures for these services exceeded \$5.6 million. Private funds are needed to ensure an operating budget sufficient to cover these and other costs. Unrestricted contributions are most helpful because they allow the University to use funds where the need is greatest.





Unrestricted gifts also offer vital support for all the services and technologies that science depends on, from sterilizing test tubes and controlling the temperature in laboratories to providing computer and library resources.

Interested individuals may participate in the following groups within the overall University Associates program:

Benefactors: \$5,000 and above

Patrons: \$1,000–\$4,999

Sponsors: \$100–\$999

Gifts from University Associates make it possible for Rockefeller scientists to advance scientific knowledge, train the world's most promising young investigators, and carry on the Rockefeller tradition of incomparably high standards and unparalleled achievement in biomedical research and education.

Each unrestricted gift has a direct impact on the entire research effort. As a partner in the University's journey toward discovery, you can make an extraordinary contribution for the benefit of humankind. . . *pro bono humani generis*.

Gifts may be directed to:

The Rockefeller University
Office of Development
1230 York Avenue
New York, NY 10021

For further information, please call:
212/570-8682

The Rockefeller University

Motto

Pro bono humani generis.
For the benefit of humankind.

Major Discoveries

Rockefeller scientists were the first to:

Preserve whole blood and make blood banks possible

Eliminate the danger of mismatches in blood transfusions

Isolate and successfully test natural antibiotics

Learn that cancer can be caused by a virus

Discover the biological importance of DNA, the basic material of heredity

Demonstrate the connection between cholesterol and heart disease

Use methadone to manage heroin addiction

Decipher the chemical structure of antibodies, the key molecules in the body's immune defense system

Keep a malaria parasite alive in a test tube, an important first step toward developing a vaccine

Faculty Honors

19 Rockefeller scientists have won the Nobel Prize.

7 Nobel laureates currently hold faculty appointments.

Half the senior scientists on the faculty have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

7 have won the highest science award given in the United States.

Alumni

Approximately 500.

More than 90 percent are involved in scientific research, including:

130 full professors

30 who head departments or programs at leading institutions all over the world

7 members of the National Academy of Sciences

2 Nobel laureates

University Community

200 faculty members

400 research associates and postdoctoral investigators

125 graduate students

975 support staff

Scientific Fields of Study

Genetics, molecular and cell biology, biochemistry and biophysics, neurobiology, immunology, virology, endocrinology, parasitology, plant biology, physics, mathematics, chemistry, and behavioral sciences.

Clinical Conditions Under Investigation

Heart disease, cancer, aging, obesity, alcoholism, arthritis, Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, rheumatic fever, and malaria, as well as neurological, dermatological, genetic, metabolic, and growth disorders.

Annual Budget

\$89 million.

Sources include:

Federal support for research projects, 43 percent

Income from endowment, 29 percent

Private gifts and grants, 17 percent

Auxiliary enterprises and other sources, 11 percent

Sources of Private Gifts

Individuals, 42 percent

Independent foundations, 37 percent

Corporations, 21 percent

Chronology

1901

Founding of The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

1910

The Institute opens the first hospital devoted exclusively to patient-oriented research.

1954

Ph.D. program introduced at the Institute.

1965

Name changed to The Rockefeller University.

1972

The University launches joint M.D./Ph.D. program with the Cornell University Medical College.

November 1986

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