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News and Notes 2000

The Rockefeller University News and Notes

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## **NEWS AND NOTES 2000, VOL.10, NO.15**

The Rockefeller University

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## Kreek laboratory receives NIH grant to study molecular genetics of heroin addiction

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded a five-year grant to the Laboratory of Addictive Diseases at Rockefeller University. The \$5.35 million grant will help fund a study of the molecular genetics of heroin addiction.

By looking at the "physiogenomics"—a term coined by Professor Mary Jeanne Kreek, who heads the laboratory—of the addiction the lab hopes to shed light on what makes an individual more or less likely to become addicted to heroin and/or experience a relapse. This investigation is fueled by earlier research conducted by the Kreek lab in collaboration with Lei Yu's lab at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. In 1998 they identified five single-nucleotide polymorphisms, variations in the DNA sequence, of the mu opioid receptor, the major molecular site of action for heroin. The mu opioid receptor system plays a key role in the body, including managing pain and regulating the stress response, normal gastrointestinal function and the immune system.

In the new NIH-funded study, the Kreek lab will conduct clinical and genetic analyses of recovering addicts currently in methadone maintenance, non-addicts and family members of both groups. By sequencing the DNA of participants, the lab will assess differences in individual opioid receptor and other genes, looking for frequent and also unknown polymor-

phisms in genes that might influence addiction. The lab will collaborate with the university's Starr Center for Human Genetics, directed by Professor Jeffrey Friedman, an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and a former postdoc in the Kreek lab.

The clinical portion of the study will be conducted at the Rockefeller University Hospital (RUH) and also at the Cornell and Bellevue medical centers. Subjects will be rigorously profiled. Information will be collected about drug use, medical history, family history of addictive disease and psychiatric and psychological backgrounds. This classification system will be useful in studying how other addictions, such as alcoholism and cocaine addiction, and psychological comorbidities might influence heroin addiction.

The findings of the study could have an enormous impact in both the prevention and treatment of heroin addic-



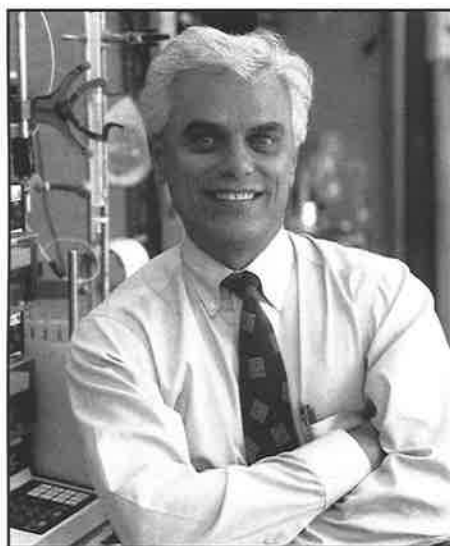
The Kreek lab received \$5.35 million from the NIH to study the molecular genetics of heroin addiction. Photo by Ann-Marie Blaber.

tion—topics with a long history at the university. Since 1987, Kreek has directed an NIDA-NIH Research Center here; its funding was renewed in 1997. Previous basic and clinical research by the Kreek lab has shown that the body's endogenous opioid system, which produces peptides that bind to specific opioid receptors and mimic some of the physiological effects of such opiates as heroin, plays an important role in stress response and addiction. In the early 1960s, Kreek, along with Professor Emeritus Vincent Dole and his late wife, Marie Nyswander, pioneered methadone maintenance for heroin addiction here at the RUH.

## Fischetti appointed new IRB chair

Vincent Fischetti, professor and co-head of the Laboratory of Bacterial Pathogenesis and Immunology, has been appointed chairperson of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at the Rockefeller University Hospital. Fischetti succeeds Associate Professor Shigeru Sassa, who served with distinction for three years. Sassa will move to Japan, for his sabbatical leave, this year.

"We are grateful to Dr. Sassa for the fine standards he established during his three years of service as chairperson," says Emil C. Gotschlich, professor and vice president for medical sciences and the other co-head of the Laboratory of Bacterial Pathogenesis and Immunology. "We are pleased that Vince is assuming leadership of this important committee. This allows the IRB to ensure that research at the Hospital continues to proceed both efficiently and ethically."



Vincent Fischetti is the new chairperson of the IRB at the RU Hospital. Photo by Robert Reichert.

The 15-member IRB reviews the ethical suitability of all investigations at the university that involve human subjects. These include all proposals for research as well as ongoing or long-term clinical research protocols. The board meets monthly to analyze and to approve, modify or disapprove the research projects. The IRB consists of members of both sexes, and includes non-scientific members and members not affiliated with anyone

connected to the university. (See related story, page 2).

The IRB chairperson has the authority for communicating IRB actions to the principal investigators of research projects. He or she is appointed by the board for an initial two-year term and then reappointed annually after that.

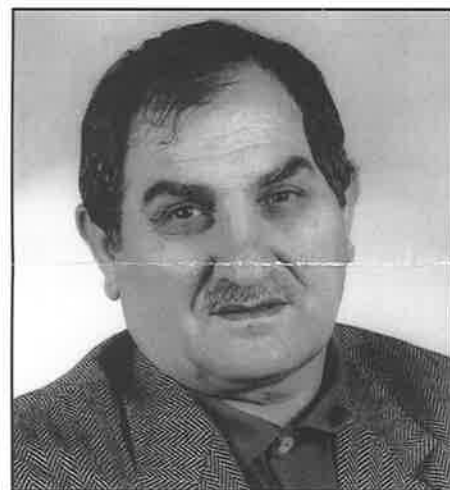
Fischetti is a microbiologist specializing in the study of group A streptococci. His research contributes to the development of a vaccine that can prevent strep throat infection and its potentially serious complications. Fischetti has been affiliated with Rockefeller for 38 years, beginning as a laboratory technician in 1962. In 1973, he was appointed an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1978 and to professor in 1990.

He has been the recipient of numerous awards, including a 10-year National Institutes of Health MERIT Award that began in 1987 and which was renewed in 1997. He and four co-editors just published *Gram-Positive Pathogens*, a 735-page book that is the only single volume to address all aspects of gram-positive pathogens, including current knowledge of gram-positive structure and mechanisms of antibiotic resistance.

## Friday lecture: Francesco Salamini to discuss the origin of southwest Asian agriculture

Francesco Salamini, director of the Max-Planck-Institut für Züchtungsforschung and honorary professor at the University of Köln, will present today's Friday lecture (Feb. 4). His topic will be, "Molecular Fingerprinting of Einkorn Wheat and Barley: Relevance to Understanding of the Origin of Southwest Asian Agriculture."

Salamini received his bachelor of science degree from the High School at Remedello (Brescia), and completed his master's of science studies in agricultural sciences at the Catholic University of Piacenza, both in Italy. He then completed a fellowship at the Institute of Plant



Francesco Salamini, director of the Max-Planck-Institut für Züchtungsforschung, will present today's Friday lecture. Photo courtesy of Francesco Salamini.

Genetics at the Catholic University, and received his Ph.D. in plant genetics. In 1988 he was awarded the Medaglia dei XL from the Accademia delle Scienze in Rome and served on the editorial board of *Theoretical and Applied Genetics*, *Plant Biology*, *Maydica* and *Rendiconti Lincei* from 1961 to 1999.

His talk begins at 3:45 p.m. in Caspary Auditorium and is preceded by a tea in Abby Aldrich Lounge at 3:15 p.m.



Jesse H. Ausubel, senior research associate and director of RU's Program for the Human Environment, spoke about "Science and the Next 1,000 Years" at the Cohn Forum on Mon., Jan. 31. Ausubel stepped in at the last minute to replace scheduled speaker Horace Freeland Judson, who was unable to give his talk due to illness. Photo by Paul Schneck.

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## Klára Würtz to perform at today's Tri-Institutional Noon Recital

Today's Tri-Institutional Noon Recital will feature pianist Klára Würtz. She will perform works by Schubert, Schumann and Liszt.

Born in 1965 in Budapest, Hungary, Würtz began playing piano at the age of five. Showing exceptional talent, she became a member of the Hungarian Children's Choir of Radio and Television in the 1970s. As the pianist of the choir, she performed musical intermezzos during tours in Japan, Greece, Italy, Austria and Romania. At the age of 14, she was admitted to the Ferenc Liszt Music Academy where she was a student in the program for exceptionally gifted children. She was then taught by Zoltán Kocsis, Ferenc Rados and György Kurtág. Following this, she received scholarships from András Schiff for his master classes in Prussia Cove, England. In 1985 she won the Ettore Pozzoli piano competition in Milan, and in 1988 she was a prizewinner in the International Piano Competition (Dublin). In a piano-cello duo with Timora Rosler, she won the International Chamber Music Competition (Caltanissetta, Sicily).

Württemberg has toured in Indonesia, the United States, Germany and South America and performed in recitals at the Kennedy Center (Washington, DC), Ravinia Festival (Chicago), and Peter the Great Festival (Groningen), with the Music Academy of St. Petersburg.

Württemberg also is a member of the Amsterdam Piano Trio. She records for Brilliant Classics, Columns Classics,



Klára Würtz will perform at today's Tri-Institutional Noon Recital.  
Photo by Chris Van Houts.

STH Quality Classics and Globe. Her recent recording projects include the Mozart sonatas and Mendelssohn piano trios with the Amsterdam Piano Trio, Schubert sonatas and works by Schumann. She recently became a member of the faculty at the Academy of Arts in Groningen (Holland). This summer she will perform in the Peter the Great Festival in Groningen.

The *Delft Newspaper* (Holland) says Würtz, "plays brilliantly with her musical insight and convincing power. With each sonata, she tells a story."

The recital takes place at noon today (Feb. 4) in Caspary Auditorium. Admission is free for members of the tri-institutional community and their guests.

## IRB's province is deep and wide

Most people familiar with medicine have a general sense of the duties of a research hospital's Institutional Review Board (IRB), but probably few are aware of the scope of issues the committee must consider.

For example, the board not only reviews studies on humans conducted at the Rockefeller University Hospital (both in-patient and out-patient), it also oversees trials that involve any human tissue—including cells, blood, urine, hair or nail clippings. This is true even if the tissue was obtained at a different institution.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH), which sets forth IRB provisions, warns against assuming that a protocol poses no risk just because it involves tissue specimens rather than patients. Specimens are often linked to names or identification numbers, and a loss of confidentiality can cause harm to patients and their relatives.

According to Emil Gotschlich, vice president for medical sciences, the IRB is guided by three main ethical principles set forth in a document, referred to as *The Belmont Report*, which has been issued by the National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research. The first principle, "Respect for Persons," states that individuals should be treated as autonomous agents, and that those of diminished autonomy are entitled to protection. The second principle, "Beneficence," advises that studies should "do no harm" and that risk/benefit ratios are calculated to ensure that the benefits are maximized and the harms are minimized. The third principle, "Justice,"

states that the selection of subjects for research should be equitable and the fruits of the research distributed equitably.

"We work with the researchers to help them stay within the prescribed guidelines when working with human subjects," Fischetti says. "You might say that the IRB is the conscience of the university when it comes to matters of human research."

By law, the IRB must include non-scientific members and participants who are not affiliated with the institution. "The external members are there to represent the outside view, the community view," says Susan Richer, IRB member and administrative manager of the General Clinical Research Center (GCRC). "They bring a different perspective."

The current external members include a vice president and director of marketing for a corporation, an attorney at a law firm and a psychiatrist at New York Presbyterian Hospital. The makeup of the membership drawn from within the university also is intended to reflect diverse outlooks. Pediatrician Willem Hanekom, a research associate in the Steinman lab, is included because NIH requires that the review board consider the interests of children who may be involved in a study. RU staff attorney Teresa Solomon considers legal issues of both the university and the patients. Knut Wittkowski, GCRC biometrician, ensures that studies approved by the IRB are well-designed to provide meaningful data—which can mean changing the number of research subjects or advising the researcher to alter the design so it concentrates on a single, clear-cut objective rather than trying to answer several questions at once.

## Potpourri

### 1999 FSA participants

If you participated in the Flexible Spending Account benefit in 1999, please be aware that all claims for expenses incurred in 1999 must be made before Sat., Apr. 15, 2000. Claim forms are available in Human Resources. If you have questions regarding flexible spending accounts, call Human Resources, x8300.

### Weather emergency

RU rarely closes, but in the event of a weather emergency, an announcement will be made on the inclement weather/university emergency phone number, 327-7200. You can also check your personal voice mail for an announcement about a campus closing.

### Call to authors

If you have recently published a book, journal article or other piece, *News&Notes* would like to know about it. Please send your publication particulars, along with a summary or copy of the piece to Ann-Marie Blaber at Box 68 or fax x7876.

### Recently published

Anura Rambukkana, a research associate in the Gotschlich-Fischetti lab, has a paper appearing in the Jan. 2000 issue of *Trends in Microbiology*. The paper, titled "How does *Mycobacterium leprae* target the peripheral nervous system?" discusses the recent advances of the molecular mechanisms by which *M. leprae* (the

causative agent of leprosy) targets the peripheral nervous system and describes the cellular factors that determine this tropism. The paper also discusses how these findings might influence the development of new therapeutic strategies to prevent neurological damage in people with leprosy.

### Valentine's raffle

Dining Services is offering a new reason to take your valentine to lunch on Valentine's Day (Mon., Feb. 14). Patrons at the Abby Dining Room can enter a raffle for chef John Karangis's homemade chocolate truffles, and diners in Weiss Cafe can participate in a raffle for a dozen long-stemmed roses. Both dining areas will also feature special holiday fare.

### Squash anyone?

If you enjoy the fine sport of squash, why not join RU's newly formed squash ladder? It should be up and running by March. To sign up or to learn more about the ladder, visit <http://guitar.rockefeller.edu/~fmelo/squash/>.

### Music Room

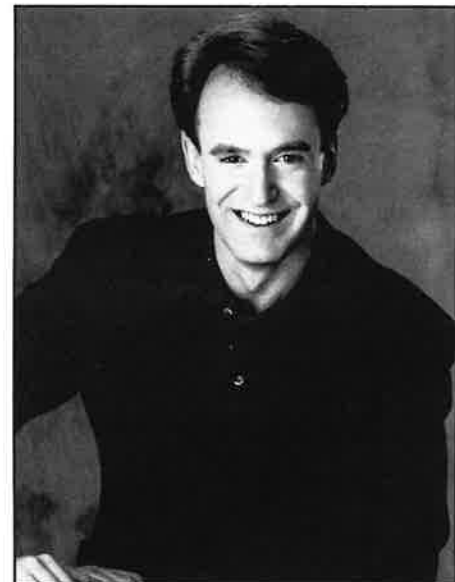
The music room on the first floor of Caspary Hall is available for use. The room, equipped with a Steinway grand piano, music stands and chairs, may be reserved for time slots of one hour during the day or evening. A sign-up sheet is available on the door outside the music room.

## Lab administrator moonlights as cabaret star

By day Brent Winborn, administrator for the Greengard lab, manages a 52-person lab. But some nights he performs a one-man cabaret show. One show, *Nothing, Only Love*, which Winborn compiled in 1998, has been performed for sold-out audiences at Manhattan venues including Eighty Eight's and Don't Tell Mama. The performance features a variety of Broadway and popular music that together weave a love story in three acts, from first meeting to a final goodbye. Rick Jensen, a three-time winner of the Manhattan Association of Cabaret & Clubs (MAC) Awards, acts as musical director for most of Winborn's performances, including *Nothing, Only Love*.

Originally from Arkansas, Winborn came to New York 15 years ago to pursue a career in musical theater. He has performed in off-Broadway and regional theaters and has even been a featured performer on Holland America's World Cruise. He left the musical theater world five years ago in favor of producing his own cabaret shows.

In 1996, Winborn came to Rockefeller putting to work previous experience in grant administration and his undergraduate degree in finance. Asked to compare science with theater, he says, "Good scientists are a lot like good performers—they need to be creative, imaginative and inventive." He jokingly describes his position as administrator of the large and busy lab as a "bit like a company manager of a roadshow" juggling the needs of many different and talented people. Winborn credits the "peaceful view" from his window, which overlooks the East River, in helping him keep the show on the road,



When he's not managing the Greengard lab, Brent Winborn performs as a cabaret singer.  
Photo by Joe Henson.

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# RU researchers show testosterone reduces level of Alzheimer's proteins



Professor Paul Greengard's lab has shown that testosterone supplementation in elderly men may be protective in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.  
Photo by Robert Reichert.

In 1998, RU's Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience, headed by Vincent Astor Professor Paul Greengard, offered the first physiological evidence that estrogen therapy may prevent the onset of Alzheimer's disease. Because estrogen is a female sex hormone, the finding led them to wonder whether the male sex hormone testosterone might have a similar function. In new research, the lab has shown that testosterone supplementation in elderly men may indeed be protective in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. The research is reported in the Tues., Feb. 1, issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

"The results provide a scientific basis for testing the efficacy of testosterone for the prophylactic treatment of elderly men at high risk for Alzheimer's disease. However, the possible therapeutic benefits must be weighed against the increased risk of side effects, including prostate cancer," says Greengard, senior author and director of the Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research.

One of the hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease is the appearance of so-called

senile plaques in the brain, which consist of clumps of protein fragments known as  $\beta$ -amyloid peptides. The  $\beta$ -amyloid proteins are made in most organs of all normal and Alzheimer-stricken individuals. However, the protein selectively accumulates in the brains of Alzheimer's patients, so scientists think the plaques are a key to the disease.

The processing of full-length  $\beta$ -amyloid precursor protein yields either plaque-producing amyloid peptides or different, harmless fragments. In the new study the authors report that treatment with testosterone decreases the secretion of  $\beta$ -amyloid peptides in rat and mouse neurons by 30 to 45 percent, while it significantly increases the secretion of the harmless fragments. In contrast, treatment with two other steroid hormones, cholesterol and corticosterone, fails to reduce  $\beta$ -amyloid peptide levels, supporting the idea that  $\beta$ -amyloid-precursor-protein metabolism may be specifically sensitive to the actions of testosterone and estrogen.

Findings from epidemiological studies have indicated that estrogen-replacement therapy in postmenopausal women may protect

against the development of the disease in a similar way. A team of Columbia University researchers had suggested a link between sex hormones and Alzheimer's by studying groups of women who had taken estrogen supplements and those who had not. The results showed that the women taking estrogen supplements got Alzheimer's at half the rate of those who did not take supplements. At first, however, no one was sure how estrogen was involved at the molecular level. Then Greengard's research group found that treatment of animal or human nerve cells with estrogen greatly reduces the amount of  $\beta$  amyloid made by those cells. That discovery provided the first molecular evidence of why estrogen replacement therapy offers postmenopausal women some protection from Alzheimer's.

The new testosterone findings do not mean, however, that testosterone supplementation will become as common in men as estrogen supplementation is in women. The researchers note that while studies have shown that testosterone levels tend to decline in aging men and women, the possible benefits of testosterone supplementation must be weighed against potential deleterious effects, including the development of prostate cancer in men and endometrial cancer in women.

Greengard's co-authors are Guest Investigator Gunnar K. Gouras, Assistant Professor Huaxi Xu, Research Assistant Rachel S. Gross, former Guest Investigator Jeffrey P. Greenfield and former Postdoctoral Fellow Bing Hai, all of the Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience, and Assistant Professor Rong Wang, of the Laboratory of Mass Spectroscopy and Gaseous Ion Chemistry.

This work was supported by the U.S.P.H.S., the American Health Assistance Foundation, the Alzheimer's Association and the Ellison Medical Foundation.

## Alzheimer's: a disease or just part of the aging process?

Memory loss may be the most devastating consequence of aging, and the problem is most acute in people with Alzheimer's. In the vast majority of Alzheimer's patients, the disease only develops in later life. Research in the Greengard laboratory is aimed at discovering why the disease takes 70 years or more to appear.

In Alzheimer's disease, deposits of a particular protein build up in the brain. These protein plaques, as they are called, appear in all cases of Alzheimer's, although scientists do not yet fully understand their role in the disease. The protein that forms these plaques—known as  $\beta$  amyloid—is normally found in most of the organs of healthy people as well as in people with Alzheimer's. The laboratory's new finding—in addition to its previous work—shows a new approach to reducing the level of protein plaques in the brain. The bad news is that scientists who study Alzheimer's think almost all of us will eventually get the disease if we live long enough.

"An important question," Greengard says, "is whether Alzheimer's is a disease or part of the aging process. It's hard to distinguish between the two. We sometimes treat the aging process as a disease, but can we prevent aging itself? I think we can. If we understand what the biochemical processes of aging are, and how to inhibit those steps, there is no limit to our ability to prevent aging."

## Douglas Nixon is co-winner of this year's Elizabeth Glaser Scientist Award

Douglas F. Nixon, a scientist at the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center (ADARC) at Rockefeller University, has been named a co-winner of the Elizabeth Glaser Scientist Award. The award is given annually by the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation to top scientists from the international research community "on the basis of their knowledge, innovation and dedication."

Nixon, who shares the 2000 honor with Paul Krogstad of the UCLA School of Medicine, will receive approximately \$700,000 for five years of research into pediatric AIDS. Those funded by the award, now totaling 21 worldwide, "have achieved significant advances in pediatric HIV/AIDS research." Nixon receives the award for investigating how antiviral white blood cells function in pediatric HIV infection, why they malfunction, and how these antiviral responses may be boosted.

"We are quite pleased that Doug is being honored for his outstanding research in pediatric HIV infection," says Rockefeller Professor David Ho, scientific director and CEO of ADARC. "And we

are grateful to the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation for recognizing the importance of his work and providing funds to help him continue his investigations."

The awards were presented at a press conference in San Francisco by Mayor Willie Brown, who proclaimed Mon., Jan. 31, as "Elizabeth Glaser Day." The proclamation and awards ceremony were planned to coincide with the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections being held in San Francisco. That meeting allows many of the world's leading HIV/AIDS researchers to convene in advance of July's World AIDS Conference in Durban, South Africa.

The foundation says that its Scientist Award "reflects the dynamic qualities for which Elizabeth herself is remembered—a keen sense of mission, unswerving vision and a passion for bringing hope to children with HIV/AIDS. Through these awards, her vision will continue to inspire researchers to join together bringing an end to pediatric HIV/AIDS."

"I can think of no better day, than on Elizabeth Glaser Day, to present this honor



Left to right: Co-founder of the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, Susie Zeegan; US Senator Barbara Boxer; Paul Krogstad, co-winner of the 2000 Elizabeth Glaser Scientist Award; San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown; Douglas F. Nixon, co-winner of the 2000 Elizabeth Glaser Scientist Award; and co-founder Susan De Laurentis. Photo courtesy of the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation.

to these two gifted scientists. They have demonstrated the tenacious curiosity and tireless dedication of which Elizabeth would be deeply thankful," said Paul Glaser, Chairman of the Board of the Elizabeth Glaser AIDS Foundation.

The Pediatric AIDS Foundation was co-

founded in 1988 by Elizabeth Glaser, wife of actor Paul Glaser, after they discovered that she and their son and daughter were infected with HIV. Elizabeth Glaser died in 1994, and the foundation was renamed the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation on World AIDS Day in 1997.

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THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY—Please post

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

10:30 a.m. **Molecular Basis of Neural Tropism of *Mycobacterium leprae*.** Anura Rambukkana, Research Associate, RU. New York TB Club Seminar. **110B Nurses Residence.** Contact Claudia Manca, 327-8103.

12:00 p.m. **Helping Orphan Receptors Find Their Growth Factors: Tales of Neurons, Muscle, Blood Vessels and Bone.** George D. Yancopoulos, Chief Scientific Officer and Senior Vice President of Research, Regeneration Pharmaceuticals, Tarrytown, N.Y. Cell Biology Seminar. **116 Rockefeller Research Laboratories, MSKCC, 430 East 67th St.**

12:00 p.m. **Somatic Hypermutation of Ig Genes is Linked to Transcription.** Ursula Storb, Professor, Dept. of Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology, U. of Chicago. Immunology Seminar. **117 Whitney, WMCCU, 1300 York Ave.**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

4:00 p.m. **Population Phases and Phase Transitions in Survival Evolution.** Mark Azbel, Professor, Tel Aviv U. Center for Studies in Physics and Biology Seminar. **B Level Conference Room, Smith Hall Annex.** Tea at 3:30 p.m. Contact Martin Zapotocky, 327-8835.

4:00 p.m. **The Repair of DNA Double-strand Breaks in Human Cells.** Stephen C. West, Principal Scientist, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, UK. Molecular Biology Seminar. **116 Rockefeller Research Laboratories, MSKCC, 430 East 67th St.** Refreshments at 3:45 p.m.

4:30 p.m. **Stochastic Dynamics of Microtubules in Chromosome Capture and Transport.** Charles S. Peskin, Professor, Dept. of Mathematics, Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, NYU. PBMM Research Seminar. **Weill Auditorium, WMCCU, 1300 York Ave.** Coffee at 4:15 p.m.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

10:00 a.m. **Total Synthesis of (+)-Halichlorine, An Inhibitor of VCAM-1 Expression.** Dirk Trauner, MSKCC. Pels Family Center for Biochemistry and Structural Biology Seminar. **301 Weiss.** Contact Bobbie Larraga, 327-7240. Open to RU/WMCCU/NYPH/MSKCC community and guests only.

11:00 a.m. **Tracing Nuclear Uptake of DNA by Single-Molecule Manipulation.** Michael Elbaum, Professor, Dept. of Materials and Interfaces, Weizmann Institute of Science. Center for Studies in Physics and Biology Seminar. **B Level Conference Room, Smith Hall Annex.** Contact Grégoire Bonnet, 327-8160.

4:00 p.m. **Extracting Relevant Information.** Bill Bialek, NEC Research Institute. Center for Studies in Physics and Biology Seminar. **B Level Conference Room, Smith Hall Annex.** Tea at 3:30 p.m. Contact Martin Zapotocky, 327-8835.

4:00 p.m. **Neural Selection and Control of Eye Movements.** Jeffrey Schall, Professor, Dept. of Psychology, and Director, Vision Research Center, Vanderbilt U. Progress in Neuroscience Seminar. **Weill Auditorium, WMCCU, 1300 York Ave.** Tea at 3:45 p.m.

4:00 p.m. **Oscillation and Resonance.** Rodolfo Llinas, Professor, NYU. Center for Studies in Physics and Biology Seminar. **B Level Conference Room, Smith Hall Annex.** Tea at 3:30 p.m. Contact Martin Zapotocky, 327-8835.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

10:30 a.m. **Biostatistics Course.** Biostatistics Course. **128 Hospital.** Contact Knut Wittkowski, 327-7175. Open to RU/WMCCU/NYPH/MSKCC community and guests only.

11:00 a.m. **Merging Chemistry and Biology on the Surfaces of Cells.** Carolyn Bertozzi, Professor, Joel H. Hildebrand Chair, Dept. of Chemistry, UC Berkeley. Pels Family Center for Biochemistry and Structural Biology Seminar. **301 Weiss.**

12:00 p.m. **Alzheimer's Disease: Biological Measurement of Risk.** Richard Mayeux, Professor of Neurology, Psychiatry and Public Health, Director, Gertrude H. Sergievsky Center, and Co-Director, Taub Institute for Research on Alzheimer's Disease and the Aging Brain, Columbia U. College of Physicians and Surgeons. Seminars in Clinical Research. **110B Nurses Residence.**

1:30 p.m. **Life Technologies Gateway Cloning Seminar.** Demonstration. **301 Weiss.** Contact Anita Carr, 800-828-6686x6687. Seminar will begin at 2:00 p.m. Open to RU community and guests only.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

1:00 p.m. **Muscle A-band Structure and the Crossbridge Cycle.** John M. Squire, Professor of Structural Biophysics and Head of Biological Structure and Function Section, Biomedical Sciences Division, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, London, UK. Cell Biology and Genetics Seminar. **A-106 WMCCU, 1300 York Ave.**

3:30 p.m. **The Role of Basic Helix-Loop-Helix (bHLH) Transcription Factors in Neuronal Precursor Determination and Neuronal Cell Signaling.** Michael Caudy, Dept. of Neurology and Neuroscience, WMCCU. Progress in Neuroscience Seminar. **Weill Auditorium, WMCCU, 1300 York Ave.** Tea at 3:15 p.m.

4:00 p.m. **Differentiation of Human Tumors through PPAR- $\alpha$ .** Bruce M. Spiegelman, Professor of Cell Biology, Dana Farber Cancer Institute. CNRU Special Nutrition Lecture. **D-417 WMCCU, 1300 York Ave.** Contact Linda Cotte, 639-8352.

4:00 p.m. **The Molecular Biology of Hematopoietic Stem Cells and Their Microenvironment.** Ihor Lemischka, Associate Professor of Molecular Biology, Princeton U. Human Genetics Seminar. **116 Rockefeller Research Laboratories, MSKCC, 430 East 67th St.**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

12:00 p.m. **Inducible Mechanisms of Inhibition of Cytokine Signaling and STAT Activation.** Lionel Ivashkiv, Associate Professor of Medicine, HSS, WMCCU. Immunology Seminar. **117 Whitney, WMCCU, 1300 York Ave.** Contact Michele Lavarde, 746-6452.

12:00 p.m. **Regeneration in the Metazoans: Why Does It Happen?** Alejandro Sanchez Alvarado, Staff Associate, Dept. of Embryology, Carnegie Institution of Washington. Molecular Biology Seminar. **116 Rockefeller Research Laboratories, MSKCC, 430 East 67th St.** Refreshments at 11:45 a.m.

7:00 p.m. **Psoriasis Support Group.** Patricia Gilleaudeau, Research Nurse, RU. Psoriasis Support Group Meeting. **110B Nurses Residence.** Contact Patricia Gilleaudeau, 327-8333.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

4:00 p.m. **Development of NMR Methods to Study the Folding of Proteins and Oligonucleotides.** Harald Schwalbe, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Chemistry, MIT. NMR Structural Biology Seminar. **301 Weiss.** Contact Milton Werner, 327-7221.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

4:00 p.m. **Oscillation and Resonance.** Rodolfo Llinas, Professor, NYU. Center for Studies in Physics and Biology Seminar. **B Level Conference Room, Smith Hall Annex.** Tea at 3:30 p.m. Contact Martin Zapotocky, 327-8835.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

11:30 a.m. **Scifinder Scholar Database—Follow-Up for Questions.** Wentsai Wang, Senior Account Consultant, Chemical Abstract Services. Demonstration. **302 Weiss.** Contact Pat Mackey, 327-8909. Open to RU community and guests only.

12:00 p.m. **The Global Spread of the *M. tuberculosis* W Family Strains: From New York to Siberia.** Barry Kreiswirth, Director, The Public Health Research Institute, NYU. Seminars in Clinical Research. **110B Nurses Residence.**

4:30 p.m. **Oncolytic Viruses and Tumors: Turning One Scourge against Another.** E. Antonio Chiocca, Associate Professor of Neurosurgery, Mass. General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Neurooncology Neuroscience Conference. **Hoffmann Auditorium, MSKCC, 1275 York Ave.** Refreshments at 4:15 p.m. Contact Viviane Tabar, 639-8556.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17**

8:00 p.m. **Transcriptional Control of *Drosophila* Embryogenesis.** Michael Levine, Professor of Genetics, Dept. of Molecular and Cell Biology, UC Berkeley. Harvey Society Lecture. **Caspary Auditorium.** All are welcome.

**The Arts and Other Events****FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

12:00 p.m. **Tri-Institutional Noon Recitals.** Klára Würtz, piano. Performing works of Liszt, Schumann and Schubert. **Caspary Auditorium.** Contact John Gerlach, 327-7776. Open to RU/WMCCU/NYPH/MSKCC community and guests only.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

8:00 p.m. **Rockefeller University Film Series.** *Roma* (1972). Directed by Federico Fellini. **Caspary Auditorium.** Open to RU/WMCCU/NYPH/MSKCC community and guests only.

**THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY  
Friday Lectures &  
Thesis Presentations**

These events are held in Caspary Auditorium at 3:45 p.m. Tea is served in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Lounge at 3:15 p.m. All are welcome.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

**Molecular Fingerprinting of Einkorn Wheat and Barley: Relevance to Understanding of the Origin of Southwest Asian Agriculture.** Francesco Salamini, Director, Dept. of Plant Breeding and Yield Physiology, Max-Planck-Institut für Züchtungsforschung, Köln, Germany.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

**Comparative Protein Structure Modeling of Genes and Genomes.** Andrej Šali, Assistant Professor, RU.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

**Thesis Presentation: Effect of a-Oligosaccharide Phenotype on the Gonococcal Invasion of Human Epithelial Cells.** Sue Minor, Biomedical Fellow, RU.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

**Tumor Immunity and Neuronal Function: New Insights from the Study of Paraneoplastic Neurologic Degeneration.** Robert Darnell, Associate Professor, RU.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

12:00 p.m. **Tri-Institutional Noon Recitals.** Andreas Klein, piano. Performing works of Beethoven and Chopin. **Caspary Auditorium.** Contact John Gerlach, 327-7776. Open to RU/WMCCU/NYPH/MSKCC community and guests only.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

3:00 p.m. **Chamber Music Concert.** Möbius String Quartet. Performing Ludwig Van Beethoven's *String Quartet in B Op. 130* and Haydn's *String Quartet in D Op. 76 No. 2.* **Caspary Auditorium.** Contact Daniel Reich, 746-7540. Open to RU/WMCCU/NYPH/MSKCC community and guests only.

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