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# BENCHMARKS

THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2008

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Events calendar goes electronic.

Communications and Public Affairs (CPA) and Information Technology have launched the final phase of the Rockefeller University Calendar of Events overhaul. A weekly e-mail of featured events is sent each Monday morning to all members of the campus community. In addition to information on lectures, seminars, symposia and campus events, the new e-mail calendar also contains brief speaker bios for featured lectures. For more information, contact CPA at x7900.

### Imagine Science Film Festival begins.

Rockefeller University will be one of several New York City hosts for this 10-day festival of events around the subject of science and film that begins October 16. For more information on screenings, lectures and other events, visit [www.imaginesciencefilms.com](http://www.imaginesciencefilms.com).

### HR offers new employee perks.

Human Resources has added several new discounts with area businesses to the roster of employee perks, including: T-Mobile, AT&T, Sprint and Verizon phone service; Ming Dynasty restaurant; Chelsea Piers, Asphalt Green, Globalfit, East Side Tae Kwon Do and Some Like It Hot Yoga fitness centers; Worlds of Discovery amusement parks; BJ's Wholesale Club; Brooks Brothers clothing; and subscription service for *The New York Times*. For more information on these and other perks, visit [www.rockefeller.edu/hr/perks](http://www.rockefeller.edu/hr/perks).

### First Insight Lecture is October 27.

The sixth season of Rockefeller's lecture series on science, policy and the humanities begins next month. The fall/winter schedule includes:

#### October 27

Peter Jerram, chief executive officer, Public Library of Science

#### December 3

Geoffrey Smith, managing partner, Ascent Biomedical Ventures

#### February 23

Tadataka Yamada, president, Global Health Program, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Announcements for this page may be submitted to [thenning@rockefeller.edu](mailto:thenning@rockefeller.edu).

## BENCHMARKS

Paul Nurse, President  
 Jane Rendall, Corporate Secretary  
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## FACULTY RECRUITMENT

# New faculty member studies cancer metastasis

by ZACH VEILLEUX

Sohail Tavazoie, a physician-scientist whose research focuses on the molecular basis of cancer metastasis, has been named assistant professor and will join Rockefeller University as head of the Laboratory of Systems Cancer Biology in January 2009.

Dr. Tavazoie, a native of Tehran, Iran, first developed an interest in science research in high school, when he took a Howard Hughes Medical Institute-sponsored summer course on bacterial genetics at the University of Utah. He considered a career in clinical medicine but found himself drawn to the lab even as he trained as a physician. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University and his M.D. from the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology, both in 2003. Following his internship and residency, in internal medicine, at Brigham and Women's Hospital, he joined Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where he has been a postdoc since 2006, in the laboratory of Joan Massagué.

"I am extremely enthusiastic to have Sohail join the university as our newest junior faculty member," says Paul Nurse, the university's president. "His research has the potential to help alleviate suffering associated with humankind's deadliest diseases, and his approach to the problem of tumor metastasis takes advantage of the interdisciplinary and translational research programs which have long been Rockefeller's strengths."

Dr. Tavazoie has devoted his fledgling career to understanding what happens to cancer cells that causes them to break away from a tumor and travel to critical organs such as the lungs, liver and brain, leading to organ failure and eventually death. This process, metastasis, is the key factor in cancer treatment failure and cancer mortality. "When one thinks of solid cancers, the overwhelming cause of death is metastasis," Dr. Tavazoie says. "I'm interested in understanding the regulatory mechanisms that promote the metastatic process."



Dr. Tavazoie's research has led to the identification of three important microRNAs that regulate key genes that are active in cancer metastasis. He undertook a systematic analysis of more than 450 microRNAs in cells derived from human breast tumors and discovered two that suppress migration and invasion of metastatic cells and one that suppresses their proliferation and growth. Further work led to the discovery of two target genes on which one of these microRNAs acts, and that are required for metastasis in breast cancer, the cancer on which Dr. Tavazoie has focused thus far.

"When you look at clinical tumors at time of initial diagnosis, those patients whose tumors lose expression of these microRNAs are significantly more likely to develop future metastasis," Dr. Tavazoie says. "They are prognostic."

At Rockefeller, Dr. Tavazoie will pursue this line of inquiry using a systems biological approach that integrates molecular, cellular, animal and clinical observations with the goal of identifying and characterizing key molecular regulators as well as extending the work to other cancers, particularly colon cancer. Ultimately, the research could lead to better tools for identifying patients at high risk for metastatic relapse, as well better therapies for the prevention and treatment of metastasis.

"Rockefeller is unique as an institution where fundamental basic discoveries have gone on to dramatically shape the diagnosis, management and treatment of human disease," says Dr. Tavazoie. "The ability to approach a difficult problem in an environment with such a wide range of expertise allows one to think outside the box and would be of benefit to any scientist. I am honored to have been asked to come here."

## HOSPITAL

# Krueger named CEO of hospital

by ZACH VEILLEUX

In a reorganization of senior leadership at The Rockefeller University Hospital effective July 1, James Krueger has been named chief executive officer, the organization's highest administrative post. He takes over from Barbara O'Sullivan, who has served as CEO since 2005. Dr. O'Sullivan will retain her position as hospitalist and will also become medical director, a post formerly held by Dr. Krueger.

The switch will allow Dr. O'Sullivan to refocus on clinical operations, patient care and patient safety, and to work more closely with nursing and support staff. It will also make better use of Dr. Krueger's extensive administrative experience and nearly 20 years of tenure at the hospital. He was medical director of the General Clinical Research Center from 1996 to 2006 and has been codirector of the Center for Clinical and Translational Science since 2006.

Dr. Krueger, who is also head of the Laboratory for Investigative Dermatology, will

assume responsibility for all aspects of the hospital's finances and functions. "The hospital and the associated Center for Clinical and Translational Science provide important resources to basic and clinical researchers for human interface science," says Dr. Krueger. "I am honored to be able to continue to work with Drs. O'Sullivan and Coller to make Rockefeller's hospital the best possible for this kind of cutting edge work."

Under Dr. O'Sullivan, the hospital undertook a department-by-department reorganization over three years, focused on enhancing workflow and improving coordination of efforts, as well as on providing a clearer line of communication between the hospital and the rest of the university. "I am proud of the strong team we have built at the hospital," says Dr. O'Sullivan. "This change reflects my efforts, and the efforts of others, to build greater administrative support for hospital operations. The reorganization will make the most of the talents of our staff."

## FROM PAUL NURSE

# Signs, screens and panels

In the coming months we will be unveiling several new initiatives aimed at improving some of the public areas — and making them easier to navigate and somewhat more useful.

The first of these initiatives, which has been in place since early September, is an exhibit in the lobby of Caspary Auditorium highlighting Rockefeller's current and historical Nobel and Lasker prize winners. The exhibit consists of translucent plexiglass panels picturing each of the 36 prize-winning scientists, together with information about the discoveries that led to the awards. Not only is it a showcase of the individual achievements of our faculty over the years, it also represents the progression of biomedical science in the last century.

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# Rockefeller hosts 2008 IQ<sup>2</sup> debates

Intelligence Squared U.S., an organization dedicated to expanding and enlivening public discourse through debate, will hold several debates in Caspary Auditorium this year. The events, geared toward a public audience and broadcast via NPR, feature panels of experts arguing questions of current cultural and political import.

IQ<sup>2</sup>US is modeled on the original organization, founded in London in 2002 by media entrepreneur John Gordon and editor in chief of *The Week* Jeremy O'Grady. Their mission is to encourage public fora for Oxford-style debate that "transcends the toxically emotional and the reflexively ideological." The American chapter was launched in 2006 by The Rosenkranz Foundation, a grant-making organization that supports innovative projects in public policy, higher education and the arts. The first two seasons, hosted by the Asia Society and Museum, were almost entirely sold out.

Each debate is emceed by one moderator, with two or three panelists to argue for the motion at hand and two or three panelists to oppose it. After a wine reception that kicks off every event at 6 p.m., audience members are invited by the moderator to cast their initial votes for or against the evening's motion. Following debate by both sides, the floor is opened to audience questions, and after concluding summaries from each side, the audience vote is recast.

This year's series began September 16 with a debate on whether universal health coverage is the responsibility of the federal government. The remaining fall program will feature debates on whether America is winning the war in Iraq; whether guns control crime; and whether Google violates its own "don't be evil" motto. Additional debates will be held at other venues throughout the year, and some will be televised.

Tickets are required to attend all events. Some debates are already sold out. For more information on IQ<sup>2</sup>US or to purchase tickets, visit: [www.intelligencesquaredus.org](http://www.intelligencesquaredus.org).

## CAMPUS NEWS

# For 50 New York City teens, a summer of science

by TALLEY HENNING BROWN

Generally, by the time Rockefeller University gets its hands on burgeoning scientists, they've already picked up the basics: cells, genes, maybe a couple of grueling months of organic chemistry. That's not nearly early enough, say several university faculty members, as well as postdocs and students, who have been trying to make more of an impact on young, fertile minds. These scientists have, over the past several months, contributed their knowledge and enthusiasm to a variety of outreach efforts to middle and high school students and teachers.

Three such efforts, including two established programs and one that is brand new, have matched Rockefeller's best and brightest with metro New York City students from a wide variety of backgrounds.

The SMART program — for Students Modeling a Research Topic — has been under way at Rockefeller since 2005. A national program begun at the Milwaukee School of Engineering in 2001, SMART partners high school science classes with active research labs working on understanding the structure-function relationships of various proteins. After a crash course covering one protein that their researcher-mentor investigates, students employ computer visualization and rapid prototyping construction to build a three-dimensional model of the protein and then develop an oral presentation to give to a lay audience — their school's PTA, for example — and participate in a scientific poster session.

Rockefeller University hosted its first SMART Team in 2005, when Bonnie Kaiser, director of Rockefeller's Science Outreach Program, matched Tommie Hata, a science teacher at The Pingry School in Martinsville, New Jersey, and an alumnus of the Outreach teacher-training program, with Seth Darst, head of the Laboratory of Molecular Biophysics. Dr. Darst guided



Model students. Dr. Collier with middle school kids at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn.

the students in building a model of the bacterial RNA polymerase elongation complex, an essential player in the transcription of a bacterium's DNA. The Darst lab hosted a second SMART Team led by Mr. Hata the following year as well as a team in 2007 led by Outreach alumnus Ted Scoville from Friends Seminary in Manhattan. Several other members of faculty have since joined the effort. Along with Dr. Darst, Vincent Fischetti, head of the Laboratory of Bacterial Pathogenesis and Immunology, and Barry Collier, head of the Allen and Frances Adler Laboratory of Blood and Vascular Biology, have hosted a total of six Rockefeller SMART Teams, from The Pingry School, Friends Seminary and Ebbets Field Middle School in Brooklyn.

"It's great to work with a SMART Team," says Dr. Collier, who, with their teacher Sherlyne Gilles — also an Outreach alum — led the 2008 SMART Team from Ebbets Field in creating a model

of the platelet integrin receptor  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$ , which is central to proper blood clotting. "The students' enthusiasm and love of learning are truly inspirational. And it was extremely valuable scientifically for us to get a three-dimensional model of the receptor we study."

A second initiative, begun in July, paired Michael Rout's Laboratory of Cellular and Structural Biology with a class from The New School's Higher Educational Opportunity Program (HEOP), which provides tutoring, counseling and financial aid to high school graduates who are economically disadvantaged and would not otherwise be admitted to the university. As part of the program, students complete a six-week intensive college-preparatory course the summer before their freshman year, designed to introduce them to college-level academics.

The collaboration, between Katayoun Chamany's HEOP biology and art class

## GREEN INITIATIVES

# Rockefeller gets ever greener

by TALLEY HENNING BROWN

Longer grass and newer light bulbs may not do much to lower gas prices, but taken together, the university's green initiatives have helped double the amount of trash that gets recycled and may slash energy usage by three to five percent, Plant Operations personnel report. Several dozen new initiatives, set in motion by the university's Green Task Force, have also expanded the

types of materials we are recycling, reduced the amount of paper consumed and in several more ways shrunk the university's "carbon footprint."

Last year, the university joined nine other academic institutions in Mayor Michael Bloomberg's "30 in 10" Challenge, instituted in June 2007. Along with Barnard College, the City University of New York,

Columbia University, The Cooper Union, Fordham University, The New School, New York University, Pratt Institute and St. John's University, Rockefeller University pledged to reduce its carbon dioxide emissions by 30 percent by 2017. "We are committed to this goal, just like all the other initiatives we've put in place," says Alex Kogan, associate vice president for

physical facilities and housing, who, with Amy Wilkerson, associate vice president for research support, represents Rockefeller in the mayor's program. "Rockefeller has so far been a leader in the community when it comes to eco-consciousness, and we aim to continue leading — by example."

Here, an update on what's been accomplished and what's in the works:



### GARBAGE

The ongoing campaign to reduce, reuse and recycle at Rockefeller got a substantial boost this year with an increase in the number of recycling bins in offices, hallways and laboratory and building common areas. The increased use of green bins (for mixed paper and cardboard) and blue (for cardboard, certain plastics, glass and metal) have resulted in a 100 percent increase in the amount of recyclable materials collected on campus, to two tons a month. Plant Operations and Custodial Services are working together to spread the word on the new policy to ensure that garbage and recyclables are no longer mixed. "The city sanitation department has strict rules about what recyclables they'll take, so even a cup of coffee accidentally thrown into a recycling bin means everything in that bin becomes garbage," says Roland Volcy, assistant manager of custodial services. "If everyone does their part, we can reduce our waste even further."

Efforts by Restaurant Associates to promote use of reusables in Weiss Café has led to an additional decrease in garbage — more than 28 percent between 2006 and 2007 and another 14 percent last year.

In December, Communications and Public Affairs announced an opt-out system for printed materials that are also available online, and over 10 percent of the campus has elected to stop receiving hard copies of *BenchMarks*, the Peggy Rockefeller Concerts brochure, the university phone directory and/or the *Zagat Neighborhood Guide*.



### CLIMATE CONTROL

Because there's no need for air conditioning when there's nobody around to enjoy it, automatic holiday and nighttime setbacks have been instituted for lighting and temperature control systems in common areas of buildings. Old air conditioners in Faculty House are being replaced with new, Energy Star compliant models as the apartments turn over, and 150 of the units have so far been replaced. (In addition, the university receives a \$100 rebate for each new unit

from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.) A policy instituted this month goes even further, lowering demand on central air conditioning in common areas by raising the temperature three to five degrees Fahrenheit. This by itself will save as much as \$250,000 a year. "These and other energy and climate measures have enabled the university to stabilize its energy expenditure while continuing to expand its operations," says Mr. Kogan. Plans currently under consideration include mandating that the doors of main entrances remain closed when not in use.



### ENERGY

Rockefeller is enrolled in the Renewable Energy Credits program of Hess Corporation, the university's energy supplier, guaranteeing that the university gets 20 percent of its energy from solar, wind and hydroelectric sources.

An emphasis on efficiency, meanwhile, has led to the installation of new compact fluorescent T5 lights — far more efficient than traditional incandescent bulbs — in Rockefeller Research Building and Weiss Research Building, saving 768,000 kWh per year. Next to be retrofitted is Detlev Bronk Laboratory, as it undergoes renovations. Light-emitting diode (LED) lights installed in elevators have reduced the amount of energy for lighting by 75 percent in elevator cabs. Altogether these upgrades have reduced Rockefeller's lighting electrical loads by nearly 50 percent in RRB and Weiss. Not only does that save the university an annual \$130,000, it also saves the environment from an estimated 769.3 tons of greenhouse gases, 56.9 pounds of volatile organic compounds, 2,386 pounds of nitrogen oxides, 370 pounds of carbon monoxide, 6,720 pounds of sulfur dioxide, 60 pounds of particulates and 5,772 milligrams of mercury each year. According to calculations from Performance Efficiency Solutions Group, the university has effected the equivalent of removing 318 cars from the road and planting 1,786 CO<sub>2</sub>-absorbing trees.

Fume hoods, an essential environmental safety component in most labs, are large energy consumers. The university has enacted an awareness campaign asking lab workers to close fume hood sashes when hoods are not in use. Doing so may save up to \$1,800 per hood per year in energy costs.

Plans currently under consideration include: programming residential elevators for skip-stop service; switching the fuel used in the university's dual-fuel burners from oil to gas whenever feasible; installing additional LED fixtures in areas that require 24/7 lighting; taking measurements of lab and residential refrigerators to develop temperature guidelines and set efficiency standards for purchasing new units; and installing more waterless urinals to reduce water usage.



### HAZARDOUS WASTE

According to analyses made over the last several months, the university collects approximately 60 pounds of alkaline batteries, 550 fluorescent light bulbs and dozens of printer cartridges every month from both work and home use, preventing the toxic heavy metals, mercury and petroleum composites in these products from reaching landfills where they can seep into soil, groundwater and air.

and Rockefeller University, came about when Jaclyn Novatt, a graduate fellow in the Rout lab, was hired to teach the fall semester of The New School's Genes, Environment and Behavior course. "I also knew that Angelica Ferguson, one of my previous undergraduate advisees, had landed in the Rout lab as a research assistant. That, combined with Jackie's enthusiasm for science and education, was a great fit for HEOP," says Dr. Chamany.

On July 8, eight students came to the Rockefeller campus, where Ms. Novatt and Ms. Ferguson guided them in harvesting bacteria to view under a microscope, touring the Flow Cytometry Resource Center, getting a look at the steps involved in purifying bacterial protein and suiting up to view DNA on gels under an ultraviolet lamp. They also watched *A Fruit Fly in New York*, a short film by graduate fellow Alexis Gambis. "We really wanted to show the students that while science requires a high degree of dedication, it also requires passion and creativity, and that it isn't mutually exclusive of other creative pursuits, like filmmaking or music," says Ms. Novatt.

Rudy Bellani, a graduate fellow in Fernando Nottebohm's Laboratory of Animal Behavior, led a third effort, to recruit students from high schools across the city for a two-week introductory course in neuroscience. Mr. Bellani partnered with three New York City high schools — The Bronx High School of Science, The Frederick Douglass Academy and the High School for Math, Science and Engineering — to find students with excellent academic records who either had little or no interest in science or who were leaning toward medical, rather than research, careers.

"Most science education programs out there are excellent at fostering the interests of students who are already steering toward lab science, and these are needed. However, almost no programs focus on increasing the actual number of research-interested students," says Mr. Bellani. "I believe that if you want to excite those

other students, you need to hold their attention and give them something they would tell their friends about. Every lecture in this course is thus heavily interwoven with examples of phenomena that are just jaw-dropping cool."

Every weekday from August 18 to August 29, Mr. Bellani and fellow Rockefeller students Benjamin Campbell (Reeke lab), Graeme Couture (Robert Darnell lab) and Clare Walton (Nottebohm lab) led their students through five hours of lectures, guest presentations, tutorials on reading scientific literature and YouTube videos to cover topics including brain organization, neurotransmitters, memory, neurodegenerative and developmental disorders, sex differences and brain asymmetry, among others. At the end of each week, the students gave PowerPoint presentations on individually chosen scientific papers. The last day of class was held at the university's Center for Field Research in Ethology and Ecology in Millbrook, New York.

"Summer Neuroscience was an amazing program," says Maha Salama, now a senior at the High School for Math, Science and Engineering. "It was an eye-opening experience and the knowledge we gained is priceless. The course helped me realize I definitely want to pursue something in science, maybe even neuroscience." Mr. Bellani is already planning next summer's class.

Combined, the three educational programs have had an impact on nearly 100 students. Several of Dr. Chamany's students have registered for additional science courses in their first year of college. Four of Mr. Bellani's seven students have changed their goals from M.D. to M.D.-Ph.D. tracks. And the nationwide success of the SMART program led last year to a Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant for the Milwaukee School of Engineering. "Science education is improving by leaps and bounds for this generation, and it's great that Rockefeller, being a place where these kinds of endeavors are especially possible, is taking a lead," says Mr. Bellani.

## Friday Lecture Series begins

This year's series kicked off last week and includes speakers from some of the world's most prestigious universities and institutions. The schedule:

October 3	<b>Brian Kobilka, M.D.</b> professor of molecular and cellular physiology and medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine <i>William H. Stein Memorial Lecture</i>
October 10	<b>Richard Axel, M.D.</b> professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics, of neuroscience and of pathology and cell biology, Columbia University; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute <i>Joshua Lederberg Memorial Lecture</i>
October 24	<b>A. James Hudspeth, M.D., Ph.D.</b> F.M. Kirby Professor and head, Laboratory of Sensory Neuroscience, Rockefeller University; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute <i>M.D.-Ph.D. Recruitment Lecture</i>
November 7	<b>Lisa Randall, Ph.D.</b> professor of physics, Harvard University
November 14	<b>B.J. Casey, Ph.D.</b> director, Sackler Institute for Developmental Psychobiology, and professor of developmental psychobiology, Weill Cornell Medical College <i>M.D.-Ph.D. Recruitment Lecture</i>
November 21	<b>David E. Shaw, Ph.D.</b> chief scientist, D.E. Shaw Research <i>Student Sponsored Lecture</i>
December 5	<b>Howard Berg, Ph.D.</b> Herchel Smith Professor of physics and professor of molecular and cellular biology, Harvard University
December 12	<b>Steve L. McKnight, Ph.D.</b> distinguished chair in basic biomedical research and Sam G. Winstead and F. Andrew Bell Distinguished Chair in Biochemistry, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas
January 23	<b>Pascale Cossart, Ph.D.</b> head, bacteria-cell interactions unit, director, department of cell biology and infection, and professor, Pasteur Institute; international research scholar, Howard Hughes Medical Institute <i>Ernst A.H. Friedheim Memorial Lecture</i>
January 30	<b>Rudolf Jaenisch, M.D.</b> member, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research; professor of biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
February 20	<b>Christopher T. Walsh, Ph.D.</b> Hamilton Kuhn Professor, department of biological chemistry and molecular pharmacology, Harvard Medical School
February 27	<b>Helen Hobbs, M.D.</b> Eugene McDermott Distinguished Chair for the Study of Human Growth and Development and professor of internal medicine and clinical genetics, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas <i>Maclyn McCarty Memorial Lecture</i>
March 6	<b>Tom W. Muir, Ph.D.</b> Richard E. Salomon Family Professor and head, Selma and Lawrence Ruben Laboratory of Synthetic Protein Chemistry, Rockefeller University <i>Ph.D. Recruitment Lecture</i>
March 13	<b>Shai Shaham, Ph.D.</b> associate professor and head, Laboratory of Developmental Genetics, Rockefeller University <i>Ph.D. Recruitment Lecture</i>
March 20	<b>Alejandro Sánchez Alvarado, Ph.D.</b> professor of neurobiology and anatomy, University of Utah; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
March 27	<b>Christine Petit, M.D., Ph.D.</b> head, neuroscience department, and director, unit of genetics and physiology of hearing, Pasteur Institute
April 3	<b>Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences</b>
April 17	<b>Harvey F. Lodish, Ph.D.</b> member, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research; professor of biology and bioengineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology <i>Detlev Bronk Alumni Lecture</i>
April 24	<b>Arthur L. Horwich, M.D.</b> professor of genetics and pediatrics, Yale University; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute <i>Jerry A. Weisbach Memorial Lecture</i>
May 1	<b>Bonnie Bassler, Ph.D.</b> professor and director of graduate studies, department of molecular biology, Princeton University; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
May 8	<b>Jennifer Doudna, Ph.D.</b> professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, University of California, Berkeley; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
May 15	<b>Robert D. Schreiber, Ph.D.</b> Alumni Endowed Professor of Pathology and Immunology and of Molecular Microbiology, Washington University School of Medicine <i>Cancer Biology Lecture</i>
May 29	<b>Gregory Hannon, Ph.D.</b> professor, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute <i>Richard M. Furlaud Distinguished Lecture</i>
June 5	<b>Gerald Crabtree, M.D.</b> professor of pathology and of developmental biology, member, Bio-X program, and member, Stanford Cancer Center, Stanford University; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

## Signs, screens and panels (continued from page 1)

This is an ideal place for an exhibit of this nature as it's an area of our campus which sees a great deal of traffic from visitors and guests, and it will be of particular value to Development in their fundraising efforts. We've made some other changes to the area, including new lighting to improve the ambiance of the entrance to the auditorium as well as to draw attention to the exhibit. (Caspary Auditorium itself was refurbished over the summer, with a fresh coat of paint, a new podium and projector and repairs to the seats.)

A second recent initiative is the installation of flat-panel monitors in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Lounge and the entrance to Weiss Research Building. These screens, wired to the campus network, will display information about upcoming events and campus announcements. They can be used to show live feeds of events in Caspary Auditorium and to disseminate critical information in the event of an emergency, and they will be used by Development in the presentation of information about Rockefeller to guests at their events. The two screens are a pilot project; if they prove useful, additional screens will be installed in other buildings.

Finally, work is under way on a project that should alleviate confusion experienced by many of our first-time and infrequent visitors who arrive on



campus to be greeted by a maze of pathways and unidentified buildings. We are working with a firm which specializes in wayfinding systems to create a series of signs to mark key buildings. In the coming months, they will produce signs to identify our main buildings and two information kiosks featuring a campus map, one near the gate at 66th Street and one on the Peggy Rockefeller Plaza. The design of the signs, which will feature silk-screened lettering on bronze, should integrate with our existing landscaping and architecture. We will also expand this wayfinding system to include directional signage on the pathways and in the tunnels when the construction on the north end of campus is complete.

PHOTO: ZACH VELLEUX

# MILESTONES

## PROMOTIONS, AWARDS AND PERSONNEL NEWS

### Awarded:

**Laura Banaszynski**, a 2009 Nobel Laureate Signature Award for Graduate Education in Chemistry, from the American Chemical Society.

**Matthew Evans**, **Valerie Horsley**, **Andreas Keller** and **Tom W. Muir**, finalists in the Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists competition. Dr. Evans, a postdoc in Charles M. Rice's Laboratory of Virology and Infectious Disease, Dr. Horsley, a postdoc in Elaine Fuchs's Laboratory of Mammalian Cell Biology and Development, and Dr. Keller, a research associate in Leslie B. Vosshall's Laboratory of Neurogenetics and Behavior, were named in the postdoctoral competition. They each receive \$5,000 and go on to compete for an additional \$10,000. Dr. Muir, head of the Selma and Lawrence Ruben Laboratory of Synthetic Protein Chemistry, is a faculty finalist. He receives \$10,000 and goes on to compete for an additional \$15,000.

**Michelle Lowes**, a Clinical Scientist Development Award from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. The award provides \$135,000 a year for three years.

**Fernando Nottebohm**, a 2008 McKnight Technological Innovations in Neuroscience Award, for work that aims to develop a technique for creating transgenic songbirds. Dr. Nottebohm, head of the Laboratory of Animal Behavior, is one of four recipients of the prize, which comes with \$200,000 over two years.

### Named:

**Margaret R. MacDonald**, a member of the Virology-B Study Section of the Center for Scientific Review at the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. MacDonald is a research associate professor in David D. Ho's Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center laboratory and in Charles Rice's Laboratory of Virology and Infectious Disease.

### Hired:

**Michael Aikins**, campus porter, Housing Student Dormitories.

**Daniel Alexander**, administrative assistant, Investments.

**Steven Alfano**, senior systems administrator, Information Technology.

**Peter Alff**, postdoctoral associate, Papavasiliou Lab.

**Niroshana Anandasabapathy**, postdoctoral fellow, Steinman Lab.

**Jessica Baylan**, research assistant, Leibowitz Lab.

**Amanda Beck**, postdoctoral associate, Comparative Bioscience Center.

**Marie-Madeline Cals-Grierson**, visiting scientist, Blobel Lab.

**Graciela Cardenas-Castro**, wireless administrator, Telecommunications Services.

**Dorothy Carter**, research assistant, Hatten Lab.

**Abbie Casper**, postdoctoral associate, Gaul Lab.

**Rohit Chandwani**, instructor in clinical investigation, Tarakhovsky Lab.

**Andrea Chiricozzi**, postdoctoral fellow, Krueger Lab.

**Jorge Class**, animal attendant, Comparative Bioscience Center.

**Genevieve Cody**, research assistant, Heintz Lab.

**Samuel Cross**, research assistant, MacKinnon Lab.

**Durga Dandamudi**, research assistant, Steinman Lab.

**Jan Davidson-Moncada**, instructor in clinical investigation, Papavasiliou Lab.

**Johannes Decker**, research assistant, Rice Lab.

**Gina Dipiero**, teacher, Child and Family Center.

**Yair Dorsett**, postdoctoral associate, Nussenzweig Lab.

**Ljiljana Dukanovic**, research assistant, Blobel Lab.

**Chandra Egger**, laboratory administrator, Allis Lab.

**Mary Frandson**, administrative assistant,

Strickland Lab.

**Maria Frias**, postdoctoral associate, Robert Darnell Lab.

**Hideki Fujita**, senior research associate, Krueger Lab.

**Theresa Gaasterland**, visiting professor, Nottebohm Lab.

**Christopher Gafuik**, postdoctoral associate, Steller Lab.

**Lalena Garcia**, head teacher, Child and Family Center.

**Valeriya Gaysinskaya**, research assistant, Rice Lab.

**Fraser Glickman**, director, High Throughput Screening Resource Center, and research assistant professor, Office of Academic Affairs.

**Andrew Gordus**, postdoctoral associate, Bargmann Lab.

**Kolbe Hancock**, research assistant, Greengard Lab.

**Doeke Hekstra**, postdoctoral associate, Leibler Lab.

**Jason Holtham**, circulation assistant, The Rockefeller University Press.

**Mia Horowitz**, visiting professor, Steller Lab.

**Nelson Humala**, laboratory technician, Ravetch Lab.

**Rebecca Iverson**, development assistant, Development.

**Eugene Jackson**, security guard, Security.

**Emmanuelle Jordi**, visiting student, Greengard Lab.

**Choonkyun Jung**, postdoctoral fellow, Chua Lab.

**Shreya Kamath**, research assistant, Darst Lab.

**Fred Kamintzky**, security guard, Security.

**Maria Divina Laya**, accountant, Finance Controllers Office.

**Jooyun Lee**, instructor in clinical investigation, Collier Lab.

**Sarah Lee**, development assistant, Development.

**Anthony Licausi**, electrical helper, Plant Operations Maintenance Shop.

**Emily Mandel**, office administrator, Technology Transfer.

**Maria Maningat**, instructor in clinical investigation, Breslow Lab.

**Andreas Mauer**, instructor in clinical investigation, Collier Lab.

**Amy Maxmen**, science writer, The Rockefeller University Press.

**Shelby Moore**, administrative assistant, Comparative Bioscience Center.

**Mathias Munschauer**, foreign research intern, Tuschl Lab.

**Gen Murakami**, postdoctoral associate, Pfaff Lab.

**Charles Nakar**, visiting fellow, Collier Lab.

**Peter Olds**, research assistant, Steinman Lab.

**Hilleary Osheroff**, postdoctoral associate, Hatten Lab.

**Naoki Oshimori**, postdoctoral fellow, Fuchs Lab.

**Benjamin Otopalik**, research assistant, Heintz Lab.

**Mina Pastagia**, instructor in clinical investigation, Fischetti Lab.

**Chandrika Patel**, data entry assistant, Finance Controllers Office.

**Alex Pitts-Kiefer**, visiting student, Krueger Lab.

**Katya Prakash**, research assistant, Vosshall Lab.

**Ljiljana Radovic**, teacher, Child and Family Center.

**Steven Reisenweber**, research assistant, de Lange Lab.

**Nicholas Riedinger**, helpdesk and computer support specialist, Information Technology.

**Teresa Rivera**, visiting student, Funabiki Lab.

**Olympia A. Robinson**, assistant director, Child and Family Center.

**Evon Rodrigues**, security guard, Security.

**Jacob Rosenberg**, research assistant, Steinman Lab.

**Dibyendu Roy**, senior Oracle payroll analyst, Information Technology.

**Ingrid Salas**, medical staff services coordinator, Hospital Regulatory Affairs.

**Andrew Schile**, postdoctoral associate, Steller Lab.

**Jessica Spitzer**, postdoctoral associate, Tuschl Lab.

## Still life with scientist



A nearly nine-foot-wide painting of Rockefeller president Paul Nurse, by acclaimed British artist Jason Brooks, has been made part of the permanent collection of the National Portrait Gallery in London. Mr. Brooks achieved a high level of precision by using acrylic paints and an airbrush, working from large-format photographs he took himself. From a distance, the painting is sharply defined, but close up it is made of abstracted forms, an attempt, in the artist's words, "to get lost in somebody's structure." Jason Brooks studied at Cheltenham College of Art and Chelsea College of Art in London. He has won numerous prizes and exhibits regularly at Stellan Holm Gallery in New York.

**Sriram**, postdoctoral associate, Leibler Lab.

**Devendra Srivastava**, postdoctoral associate, Darst Lab.

**Magali Suzanne**, visiting scientist, Steller Lab.

**Melvin White**, animal attendant, Comparative Bioscience Center.

**Jeanette Wickelgren**, research assistant, Sham Lab.

**Andrew Williams**, research assistant, Simon Lab.

**Shawniqua Williams**, visiting medical student, Collier Lab.

**Maria Woloshyn**, analyst, Investments.

**Jongchan Woo**, postdoctoral fellow, Chua Lab.

**Andy Yuan**, research assistant, Hang Lab.

**Chaolin Zhang**, postdoctoral associate, Robert Darnell Lab.

**Juliet Zhang**, research assistant, Heintz Lab.

### Promoted (academic appointments):

**In-Cheol Jang**, to research associate, Chua Lab.

**Abigail Matthews**, to senior research associate, Ott Lab.

**Claudia Mertens**, to senior research associate, James Darnell Lab.

**Andrew Xiao**, to research associate, Allis Lab.

### Promoted (staff):

**Jennifer Ashlock**, to university print production specialist, Communications and Public Affairs.

**Alexander Cardia**, to development assistant II, Development.

**Kin Ming Cheung**, to assistant director plant operations finances, Plant Operations.

**Jacqueline Chiappetta**, to administrative coordinator, Steinman Lab.

**Camille Clowery**, to copy editing coordinator, The Rockefeller University Press.

**Amy Conroy**, to special events coordinator, Communications and Public Affairs.

**William Cortes**, to mechanic III, Plant Operations Power House.

**Sylvia Cuadrado**, to senior manuscript coordinator, The Rockefeller University Press.

**Kelsey Dixon**, to development associate, Development.

**Fay Dmitriev**, to senior applications programmer, Information Technology.

**Brian Dougherty**, to board relations and academic programs associate, Corporate Secretary.

**Alice Dyer**, to supervisor of glasswashing services, Glasswashing Services.

**Kennisha Farrell**, to project coordinator, Telecommunications Services.

**Carlen Gelfond**, to development associate, Development.

**Evan Greene**, to assistant director, Development.

**Talley Henning Brown**, to associate editor, Communications and Public Affairs.

**Lindsey Hollander**, to supervising manuscript

coordinator, The Rockefeller University Press.

**Angela Howell**, to skilled laboratory helper, Glasswashing Services.

**Jennifer Jackson**, to program assistant, Sponsored Research and Program Development.

**Sachin Kadam**, to assistant safety officer, Laboratory Safety and Environmental Health.

**Nina Kats**, to purchasing agent, Purchasing.

**Artemis Khatcherian**, to research specialist, Krueger Lab.

**Sergey Khomuk**, to Oracle technical financial lead, Information Technology.

**Christine Lai**, to research assistant, Heintz Lab.

**Naomi Lingenhol**, to assistant manager, Comparative Bioscience Center.

**Kimberly Lovelace**, to associate director, Investments.

**Lu A. Lu**, to research support specialist, Transgenic Services.

**Christopher Maurio**, to human resources associate, Human Resources.

**Valentina Mazharov**, to project manager, Planning and Construction.

**Alison North**, to senior director, Bio-Imaging Resource Center.

**Inna Novitskaya**, to research specialist, Krueger Lab.

**Shauna O'Garro**, to production editor, The Rockefeller University Press.

**Barbara O'Sullivan**, to medical director, Hospital Medical Direction.

**Joseph Palarca**, to research assistant, Rice Lab.

**Evagelia Papadimas**, to administrative assistant, Young Lab.

**Sudeep Sree Parambath Sreedharan**, to senior financial applications developer, Information Technology.

**Santa Pecoraro**, to administrative manager, Rice Lab.

**Karl Ramos**, to senior manuscript coordinator, The Rockefeller University Press.

**Jason Rothauser**, to assistant production editor, The Rockefeller University Press.

**Irina Shimeliovich**, to research specialist, Steinman Lab.

**John Slattery**, to mechanic I, Plant Operations Power House.

**Laura Smith**, to senior preflight coordinator, The Rockefeller University Press.

**Nicole Stokes**, to laboratory manager, Fuchs Lab.

**Brenna Trout**, to development assistant II, Development.

**Christopher Vancil**, to identity management and business process engineer, Information Technology.

**Svetlana Zarubina**, to applications development manager, Information Technology.

**Peter Zervos**, to senior grants accountant, Finance Accounting Services.

**Lili Zhang**, to office administrator, Rice Lab.

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