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news & notes

March 15, 1996 Volume 6, Number 21

The Rockefeller University

Cohn forum speaker focuses on science leadership after year 2000

Shirley M. Caldwell Tilghman, Howard A. Prior Professor of the Life Sciences at Princeton University, discusses "Who Will Provide Scientific Leadership after 2000?" at the Zanvil A. Cohn Forum on Health Affairs Tues., Mar. 26.

In 1994, Tilghman was a member of the Steering Committee of the first Women in Science Summit at Mills College in Oakland, Calif. Fifty-two women scientists gathered to create the foundation for an action plan to advance women's leadership in science. Citing the underrepresentation of women in science and a shortage of women in leadership positions, the participants of the meeting developed a number of key recommendations.

"Shirley is a leader in the movement to recruit talented women not only into the field of science, but into top positions as well," said Alexander Bearn, chair of the forum's selection committee. "She will discuss how this can be achieved as we move into the next millennium."

Tilghman received her doctoral degree from Temple University

Courtesy of Shirley Tilghman



Shirley Tilghman was a member of the advisory committee of the first Women in Science Summit.

in 1975. She was a Fogarty International Fellow at the National Institutes of Health until 1977, then joined the Institute for Cancer Research in Philadelphia, Pa. In 1986, she became Howard A. Prior Professor of the Life Sciences at Princeton University and in 1993, chair of the Council on Science and Technology. Tilghman is an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and an adjunct associate professor at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Tilghman serves on the National Advisory Council of the National Center for Human Genome Research, the biology board of the National Research Council, and the Editorial Board of *Genes and Development*. Last year she was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of London and a foreign member of the Institute of Medicine of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.

The late Professor Zanvil A. Cohn established the forum in 1992 as a venue for informal discussion of important issues in health research and policy.

The talk will take place at 5:30 P.M. in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Dining Room. Sherry will be served at 5:00 P.M. All are welcome.

Friedman to discuss genetic regulation of body weight

Professor Jeffrey Friedman, associate investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), discusses "Molecular Mechanisms Regulating Body Weight" at the Friday lecture today (Mar. 15).

Friedman and his colleagues identified and cloned the *obese* gene in 1994, which causes obesity in mice when mutated. In 1995, the researchers identified the gene's protein product, called leptin from the Greek word for thin. When injected into mice, leptin increased the activity of genetically obese mice and caused them to lose 30 percent of their body weight. Normal mice also lost weight in response to leptin injections.

Last month, Friedman's laboratory announced in the journal *Nature* that the weight-reducing effects of leptin result from an interaction with a receptor distributed among several tissues, including the hypothalamus, the brain's control center for food intake and energy expenditure. The researchers also identified at least six different forms of the receptor, known as Ob-R, and are investigating their functions.

Friedman received his medical degree at the age of 22 from the



Professor Jeffrey Friedman gives the Friday lecture today (Mar. 15).

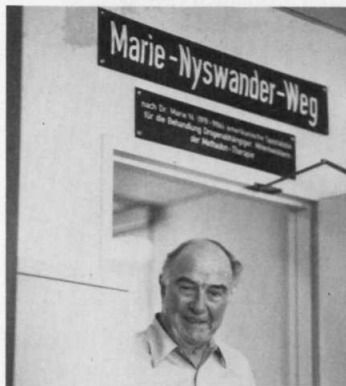
Albany Medical College of Union University. He received a Ph.D. from Rockefeller in 1986 and became assistant professor. He was promoted to professor last year. Friedman, who directs the university's Starr Center for Human Genetics, began his HHMI affiliation in 1986.

The lecture will be held at 3:45 P.M. in Caspary Auditorium and preceded by tea at 3:15 P.M. All are welcome.

Memorial service for Maria Rudzinska

All members of the Rockefeller community are invited to attend a memorial service for Professor Emerita Maria Rudzinska, who died Fri., Feb. 9. The service will take place Mon., Mar. 25 at 4:00 P.M. in the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Dining Room.

German city honors RU researcher



Inghbert Grütner



Professor Emeritus Vincent Dole stands below a replica of a Hamburg, Germany street sign named for his late wife, Marie Nyswander (right). During the 1960s, Dole and Nyswander, then a research associate in his lab, pioneered the use of methadone maintenance for the treatment of heroin addiction. A group of recovering heroin addicts in Hamburg petitioned the city to honor Nyswander. Dole will travel to Germany in June for the formal dedication.

Potpourri

Friday film

Company Limited (India, 1971), directed by Satyajit Ray, will be shown today (Mar. 15) at 8:00 P.M. in Caspary Auditorium. The film, in Bengali with English subtitles, is free.

Biostatistics seminar

Monnie McGee Harper, RU Hospital biostatistician, discusses "Populations, Samples, and Data" at the Basic Concepts in Biostatistics lecture Mon., Mar. 18 at 1:00 P.M. in Nurses Residence 110B. A computer workshop will be held Thurs., Mar. 21 at 1:00 P.M. in Hospital 123. Due to the limited number of computers, registration for the workshop is required. For further information contact Harper, e-mail harperm, or Rachael Kolb, e-mail rachael.

Transpacific cooperation

Associate Professor Shigeru Sassa and adjunct faculty member and trustee Alexander Bearn will speak at a workshop Mon., Mar. 18 and Tues., Mar. 19 in Tokyo entitled "Future Perspectives for Japan-U.S. Cooperation and Exchange in Biomedical Sciences." The workshop is co-chaired by Richard M. Krause of the Fogarty International Center and a former RU professor.

Clinical Research Seminar

Kho Kashfi, an adjunct faculty member in the Hirsch-Leibel lab, discusses "Regulation of Carnitine Palmitoyltransferase-I: A Limiting Enzyme in Fatty Acid Oxidation" at the Clinical Research Seminar Wed., Mar. 20 at noon in Nurses Residence 110B.

Seminar

Federico Bonetto of Università 'La Sapienza' in Rome discusses "Chaotic Principle and Time Reversibility" Wed., Mar. 20 at 4:00 P.M. in the B Level Conference Room in Smith Hall Annex.

Sigma Xi lecture

Barbara Boxer, U.S. senator from California, discusses "Investing in the Future" at a lecture sponsored by Sigma Xi Fri., Mar. 22 at 5:30 P.M. in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Dining Room. Reservations for the lecture and the reception, which begins at 5:00 P.M. in Abby Lounge, should be made with Michele Blum, x8556 or e-mail blumm, by Tues., Mar. 19. All are welcome.

Electronics course

The Electronics Shop, a unit of Information and Computing Services, offers an eight-week course entitled "Computers in the Laboratory (Part II)." The course, which covers modern, computer-based instrumentation for data acquisition and display, experimental control, and data analysis, meets Fridays beginning Mar. 22 at 11:00 A.M. in Rockefeller Research Building 110. For more information contact Gordon Silverman, x7899, e-mail gsilverm, or Box 186.

Reading volunteers

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic needs volunteers with strong scientific backgrounds to record specialized textbooks for reading-impaired borrowers. For further information call 557-5720.

Cottage drawing

Reservations for the MacInnes and Hostage Cottages, located about an hour north of Manhattan in Bear Mountain State Park, will be made by random drawing. The cottages are completely furnished and rent for \$38 per night. Reservation request forms, which can be obtained outside the guest pantry on the third floor of Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall until Fri., Mar. 22, must be returned by Mon., Mar. 25 at noon. Confirmations will be made after Mon., Apr. 1. For more information, call the Housing Office, x8500.

Anniversary lecture

Professor Emeritus Abraham Pais delivered an address on "Physics in Denmark—The First Four Hundred Years" in honor of the Niels Bohr Institute's 75th anniversary celebration earlier this month in Copenhagen.

Call for mentors

The Precollege Science Education Outreach program needs volunteers to mentor teachers and students this summer, visit schools, and give workshops and lab tours. Anyone interested should contact Bonnie Kaiser, x7431 or e-mail bonnie.

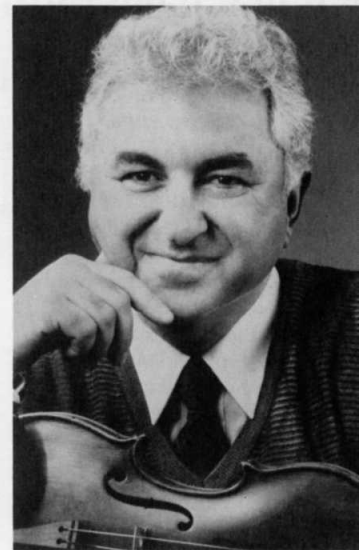
Arrivals

Visiting Associate Professor: Barbara Attardi, Pfaff lab.
Postdoctoral Associate: Stefan Heller and Zhong-Ping Sun, Hudspeth lab.
Postdoctoral Fellows: Daniel Besser and Christopher Marshall, Hanafusa lab; Julio-Antonio Camarero, Muir lab; Christopher Krebs, Pfaff lab; James McDonnell, Cowburn lab.
Guest Investigators: Philippe Batel, Kreek lab; Elena Chernolovskaya, Kappas lab; Yasuko Ishimaru, Chua lab; Hernan Lopez-Schier and Valerie Schaeffer, Desplan lab; Axel Ring and Gregor Zysk, Tuomanen lab; Frances Weiss, Nussenzweig lab.
Adjunct Faculty: Richard Granstein, Krueger lab; David Kaback, Blobel lab.

Departures

Postdoctoral Associates: Michael Heaton, Tomasz lab; Margherita Maffei, Friedman lab; Yasunori Tanaka, Cranfield-Gadsby lab.

Happy Birthday, Bach



Violinist Sergiu Luca performs sonatas and partitas in celebration of Johann Sebastian Bach's 311th birthday at the Tri-Institutional Noon Recital today (Mar. 15). The concert, to be held in Caspary Auditorium at noon, is free. All are welcome.

News&Notes schedule

Due to staff illness, *News&Notes* was published this week in a two-page format. *News&Notes* will return to its four-page format next week (Fri., Mar. 22).

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Leslie Atchison



"Well, Mr. Sanders, it appears that you have more than the usual amount of junk DNA."