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*Making discoveries
that transform science*



“It has been exhilarating to watch the progress of DNA biology since we first discovered its genetic role in 1944.”

— *Maclyn McCarty*

In 1944 three
Rockefeller University scientists
discovered the chemical basis
of heredity, laying the groundwork
for the 1953 revelation of
DNA’s double helix.



Oswald Avery



Colin MacLeod

The threadlike DNA fibers present in all cells were revealed to be the chemical basis of heredity in research conducted at The Rockefeller University.

Rockefeller University scientists **Oswald Avery**, **Colin MacLeod** and **Maclyn McCarty** authored the landmark 1944 paper, a “single discovery that opened the way into the biological evolution which continues to transform our view of nature and its most intimate details.”

— *Lewis Thomas, scientist and essayist, 1985*

“This work first linked genetic information to DNA and provided the historical platform for modern genetics.”

— *Nature, January 2003*

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