

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

20



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CONVOCATION

Thursday, the twelfth of June

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PROGRAM

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

WELCOMING REMARKS

Thomas P. Sakmar

Acting President

INTRODUCTION

Sidney Strickland

Dean of Graduate and Postgraduate Studies

Vice President for Educational Affairs

CONFERRING OF THE
DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Thomas P. Sakmar

CONFERRING OF THE
DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF SCIENCE, *Honoris Causa*

ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL

RECEPTION

MUSIC

Manhattan Brass Quintet

Askold Buk Trio

DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

TODD ERYL ANTHONY

B.A., New York University

*Molecular Mechanisms of Neural Tube Closure and
Neuronal-Glial Signaling during Migration*

Nathaniel Heintz

PAUL COHEN *

A.B., Harvard University

*Role for Stearoyl-CoA Desaturase-1 in Leptin-
mediated Weight Loss*

Jeffrey M. Friedman

KARINA DEL PUNTA

Licenciatura, Universidad de Buenos Aires

*The Molecular and Neural Basis of Pheromone
Communication in Mammals*

Peter Mombaerts

TIMOTHY J. GARDNER

A.B., Princeton University

*Vocal Analysis and Learning Mechanisms for
Canary Song*

Marcelo Magnasco and Fernando Nottebohm

Presented by Fernando Nottebohm

**Participants in the Tri-institutional M.D.–Ph.D. Program*

SHUBADHRA GOPALAKRISHNAN

B.A., Sarah Lawrence College

*A Road Less Traveled: Deciphering the Genome of
a Differently Evolved Eukaryote*

George A. M. Cross and Theresa Gaasterland

Presented by Theresa Gaasterland

CAROLINE MARGARET GROFT

B.A., Wellesley College

*Structural Studies of Rotavirus Nonstructural Protein
3: Recognition of eIF4G and Viral mRNA*

Stephen K. Burley

Presented by Charles M. Rice

CARY SIDLETT GUNTHER *

A.B., Harvard University

*Pursuing a Biological Interpretation of Gene
Expression Data*

Theresa Gaasterland

KENICHI HATAKEYAMA

B.S., M.S., Waseda University

*Measurement of the Diffractive Structure Function of
the Antiproton in Proton-Antiproton Collisions at
 $\sqrt{s}=1800$ and 630 GeV*

Konstantin A. Goulios

DANIEL HAWIGER

M.D., University of Vienna

*Regulation of Peripheral T Cell Tolerance by
Dendritic Cells*

Michel C. Nussenzweig and Ralph M. Steinman

Presented by Michel C. Nussenzweig

MANDE HOLFORD

B.S., York College of the City University of
New York

Expanding the Toolbox of Chemical Protein Synthesis

Tom W. Muir

BINO JOHN

M.Sc., Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

*Comparative Protein Structure Modeling for
Functional Annotation of Proteins*

Andrej Sali

YUN KYOUNG KANG

B.S., Seoul National University

*Isolation and Characterization of Estrogen
Receptor-interacting Proteins*

Robert G. Roeder

GHOLSON J. LYON *

A.B., Dartmouth College

Switching Virulence On and Off in Staphylococcus aureus

Tom W. Muir and Richard P. Novick

Presented by Tom W. Muir

JASON M. MONTEZ

B.S., California State University, Hayward

Leptin, Leptin Receptor and the Physiologic Response to Reduced Adipose Mass

Jeffrey M. Friedman

KIRAN MUSUNURU *

A.B., Harvard College

Structure/Function Studies of the K-homology Domain: From Atomic Resolution to Neurologic Disease

Stephen K. Burley and Robert B. Darnell

Presented by Robert B. Darnell

KA CHEONG VINCENT HEATHCLIFF NG

B.A., University of Oxford

Invasion Mechanisms and Persistence Strategies of Pathogenic Mycobacteria

John D. McKinney

Presented by Sidney Strickland

LEOPOLDO T. PETREANU

Licenciatura, Universidad de Buenos Aires

The Maturation and Death of Olfactory Bulb

Neurons and the Sense of Smell

Arturo Alvarez-Buylla and Fernando Nottebohm

Presented by Arturo Alvarez-Buylla

ALEXANDER R. PICO

B.S., University of Oregon

*RCK Domain Model of Calcium Activation in BK
Channels*

Roderick MacKinnon

ASHA RAJAGOPAL

M.A., M.A., B.A., University of Texas, Austin

*The Sub-cellular Localization and Activity of the
Multidrug Resistance Protein MRP1*

Sanford M. Simon

DANIEL ROSELL *

B.S., State University of New York, Geneseo

*Evidence for Direct Neuromodulation by Seizure-
induced gp130 Cytokines in the Rat Hippocampus*

Bruce S. McEwen

BETTINA SERI

B.S., University of California, Irvine

*Identification of the Neural Stem Cells in the Adult
Hippocampus*

Arturo Alvarez-Buylla and Bruce S. McEwen

Presented by Arturo Alvarez-Buylla

KAMBIZ SHEKDAR

B.A., Rutgers University

*Intranuclear Filamentous Protein Network: Purified
Tpr Protein Forms Fibers In Vitro and Endogenous
Tpr Is Localized to Structures Consistent with
Intranuclear Filamentous Protein Networks In Vivo*

Günter Blobel

Presented by Elias Coutavas

IZABELA GIRIAT STANKIEWICZ

B.S., University of Wisconsin, Madison

*Site-specific Chemical Modification of Proteins
In Vivo*

Tom W. Muir

CATHERINE JEANNE STARR

B.Sc., B.Sc., Victoria University of Wellington

*A Mutation in the Zebrafish Choroideremia Gene
Causes Hair Cell Degeneration in the Ear and
Lateral-line Organ*

A. James Hudspeth

GIOVANNI STEFANI

M.D., Università Degli Studi Di Modena
Functional Role of Nova in RNA Metabolism
Robert B. Darnell

DAN STETTLER

B.S., Stanford University
Lateral Connections in Primary Visual Cortex
Charles D. Gilbert
In absentia

ANTON A. TITOV

M.D., St. Petersburg Medical Academy
*Traffic of Transcription Factors and Lorenzo's Oil
on DNA Chips: Studies on Nuclear Import and
Peroxisomal Biogenesis*
Günter Blobel
Presented by Elias Coutavas

MICHELLE TRESTER ZEDLITZ

B.S., University of California, Santa Barbara
*A Modular Cross-linking Approach for Exploring
Protein Interactions*
Brian T. Chait and Tom W. Muir
Presented by Brian T. Chait

LINDA E. WILBRECHT

B.A., University of Minnesota; B.A.,
New College, Oxford University
*Commitment to a Learned Skill Dampens **
Neuronal Replacement
Fernando Nottebohm

ANJA WILLE

Diploma, Universität Bonn
*Sum Statistics for the Joint Detection of Multiple
Disease Loci in Complex Traits*
Jürg Ott

SHIRLEY Y. XIE

B.A., M.S., Brandeis University
*Characterization of the Olfir7 Odorant Receptor
Gene Cluster*
Peter Mombaerts

EDWARD YANG *

B.S., Stanford University
Studies of Transcriptional Control by the STATs
James E. Darnell Jr.

WENYONG WILLIAM ZHANG*

A.B., Bowdoin College

*CTLA-4-mediated APC Targeting Improves
Immunogenicity of an AIDS DNA Vaccine*

David D. Ho

YANXIANG ZHAO

B.S., Peking University; M.A., State University
of New York, Stony Brook

*Structural Studies of DNA Replication Proteins by
X-ray Crystallography and Molecular Dynamics*

John Kuriyan

Presented by Sidney Strickland

TORSTEN N. WIESEL, M.D., F.R.S.

Presented by A. James Hudspeth

Torsten N. Wiesel, president emeritus and Vincent and Brooke Astor Professor Emeritus at The Rockefeller University, is a neurobiologist whose discoveries significantly shaped our current understanding of how visual information is analyzed by the brain. In 1981, Wiesel and David H. Hubel, M.D., his longtime associate, shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their studies of how visual information is transmitted and decoded through a complex network of nerve fibers from the eye's light-sensitive inner lining, the retina, to the brain.

Wiesel received his medical degree from the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, in 1954. Following appointments at the Karolinska Institute and Hospital and Johns Hopkins Medical School, he joined Harvard Medical School in 1959. He became chairman of the Department of Neurobiology in 1973 and was named Robert Winthrop Professor in 1974.

Wiesel, who joined The Rockefeller University in 1983 as Vincent and Brooke Astor Professor and head of the Laboratory of Neurobiology, assumed office as president of the university in December 1991. Under his leadership, 30 new laboratories conducting vanguard research in key areas of biology, chemistry and physics were established, headed by newly appointed or promoted faculty members, including 16 with the rank of tenured professor. His concern for gender equality among the tenured faculty is reflected by the fact that three of the new appointees were women.

During the Wiesel administration, the university also established six interdisciplinary research centers, in the areas of human genetics, immunology, sensory neuroscience, Alzheimer's research, chemistry and physics-biology. To support these centers, appointments and related capital improvements, the university raised nearly \$200 million in private gifts during the seven years of Wiesel's presidency. In

addition, Wiesel set and met goals for achieving a balanced operating budget, rebuilding and beautifying the campus, strengthening the campus community and establishing links with constituencies and communities beyond the university's gates. The pedestrian bridge linking the faculty-student housing with the university's scientific campus was dedicated in his honor to commemorate his contributions in these areas.

Since 1994, Wiesel has chaired the Committee on Human Rights of the National Academy of Sciences and he is secretary general of the Human Frontier Science Program, headquartered in Strasbourg, France. Wiesel is chairman of the board of governors of the New York Academy of Sciences, and served as its acting CEO in 2002. He is a member of the boards of the Population Council, the Hospital for Special Surgery, the Pew Center on Global Environment Change and the McGovern Institute for Brain Research. In addition he serves on a number of national and international scientific advisory boards.