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## Bush Fires Blackburn from Bioethics Council



Elizabeth Blackburn

Renowned cell biologist Elizabeth Blackburn of the University of California, San Francisco, who served as ASCB President in 1998, was abruptly terminated from the President's Council on Bioethics with a phone call from the White House.

Blackburn had been outspoken in her insistence that the Council consider the moral cost of forgoing potentially lifesaving research, and was frequently at odds with the Council Chairman, Leon Kass over how that science should be presented.

Blackburn and William May of Southern Methodist University, who had joined Blackburn in the opinion that stem cell research is an important and promising field of research that should be funded by the Federal government with appropriate oversight, were replaced by three new members. They include a doctor who has called for more religion in public life, a political scientist who has effusively and publicly praised Kass and has called research in which embryos are destroyed, "the evil of willful destruction of innocent human life" and a professor of government at Berry College in Georgia who warned in a conservative publication that if citizens of the U.S. do not realize that abortion is wrong, then women will be compelled to abort genetically defective babies.

Blackburn has said that, "enlightened societies can only make good policy when it is based on the availability of informed information and reasoned, open discussion. I was aware, in undertaking membership on the Council, that convincing the majority of other Councilors with strong opposing views that were grounded in ideology and religion to moderate their positions would be difficult, time-consuming and perhaps not possible. Thus it was only with the initial strong, personal assurances of the Council Chairman, and of the President of the United States himself, that I was persuaded that the voice of science would be heard and integrated into the statements of the Council. I continue to feel that bioethical issues are important to every biologist and worthy of debate."

*Continued, page 13*

## Kim, Nurse to Open Annual Meeting

Merck Research Laboratories President Peter Kim, and Sir Paul Nurse, 2001 Nobel Laureate and President of The Rockefeller University, will open the 44th ASCB Annual Meeting in the Keynote Symposium on "Cell Biology—Rising to Meet the Medical Challenges of the New Century."

The Keynote will be on Saturday, December 4 at 6:00 pm in the Washington Convention Center. A reception for all attendees follows. ■



Peter Kim

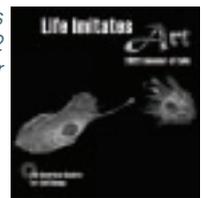


Sir Paul Nurse

## Micrographs Needed

The ASCB is producing a cell biology calendar to commemorate the Society's 45th anniversary and seeks beautiful, high-quality images of cells from members. For more information, see [www.ascb.org](http://www.ascb.org) or contact [ascbinfo@ascb.org](mailto:ascbinfo@ascb.org). ■

ASCB's  
2002  
Calendar



44th Annual  
Meeting  
Program

See page 5



The American Society  
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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

# How to Choose a Place to Meet



Harvey Lodish

The first thing I did when I learned I was elected ASCB President was panic. That's because I was told that the most important thing the Executive Committee and Council would have to accomplish over the next year was pick sites for the annual meetings from 2010 through 2019. Fortunately I learned that the site selection process was well underway by an excellent Site Selection Committee, chaired by Gary Borisy. The other members of the Site Selection Committee were Mary Beckerle, Carl Cohen, Suzanne Pfeffer, Jerry Shay and Gary Ward and they were supported in their work by Trina Armstrong and Elizabeth Marincola from the ASCB.

The first question I asked was why the Society always meets in early December, especially since this is near the end of the fall academic term at virtually all universities. I quickly learned that the ASCB has staked a "claim" to that general timeframe, and therefore has reasonable assurance that other societies will, in their own interest, avoid scheduling their own meetings during the same time period. Potential conflicts are most threatening with regard to companies who also exhibit at other society meetings and on whom we depend for a considerable amount of revenue. Second, by meeting in the low season for the travel industry, the ASCB can negotiate for the most favorable rates for both convention center and hotel room rates. One important but non-obvious ben-

efit of an early December meeting is that the Society can refuse the "attrition clause" in hotel contracts. Were we subject to it, this clause would hold the Society financially responsible for any unsold hotel rooms in

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There is a certain equity to holding meetings in roughly equal proportion on the East and West Coasts, but of course this hurts the many vibrant cities and biomedical communities elsewhere.

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its reserved blocks. This could result in a huge expense to the Society if unexpected problems such as bad weather caused large-scale cancellations. Of course any expense incurred by the ASCB one way or another is a cost to its members, through reduced programs or resources, or increased dues or fees, so every member should be interested in the Society protecting its financial risks in this sort of way.

My second question was why the ASCB meeting has been shuttling back and forth between San Francisco and Washington. An advantage of this arrangement is that we were able to negotiate savings by signing multi-year contracts with each of these cities. Importantly, both cities are easily accessible by air and both have large biomedical research communities that insure a significant number of local attendees. Planning for these meetings and their associated costs is facilitated by returning to the same buildings repeatedly. There also is a certain equity to holding meetings in roughly equal proportion on the East and West Coasts, but of course this hurts the many vibrant cities and biomedical communities elsewhere on the coasts and, importantly, in the interior of the United States.

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The ASCB Annual Meeting brings scientific excitement to the research communities where it meets, as well as financial benefit to the local population.

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As the Site Selection Committee began its deliberations, it became clear that there were significant advantages to holding meetings in other cities. The ASCB Annual Meeting brings scientific excitement to the research communities where it meets, as well as financial benefit to the local population. It enables more scientists and students from the surrounding area to attend without travel and hotel expenses. Less obvious, perhaps, are the education programs aimed at local high school teachers and students.

In considering cities other than Washington and San Francisco, the Site Selection Committee quickly adopted several key criteria. Overall cost was important, as it clearly was not worth a significant rise in registration fees to enable the Society to go to any particular city. Second, there had to be a large number of hotel rooms within reasonable walking distance (six blocks was the working defini-

tion) of the convention center. As an example, Chicago was ultimately rejected because no one wanted to have to shuttle people between downtown hotels and McCormack Place. Part of this reasoning is related to cost, as shuttles are hugely expensive. But also important is the spirit of the ASCB's Annual Meeting, which offers programs such

as Exhibitor Showcases, ASCB committee programs and especially posters, well into the evening hours.

Cell biologists tend to fill their time at their meetings talking about science. Many of you may not realize that many business conventions "shut down" in the late afternoon so that attendees can socialize and eat and drink. (I have been to many such meetings; indeed they are very different from the ASCB meetings.) While cell biolo-

The ability to come and go easily and cost-effectively is critical to maintaining the desirable science-intense character of the meeting.

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gists certainly socialize and eat and drink, the Selection Committee felt that the ability to come and go easily and cost-effectively is critical to maintaining the desirable science-intensive character of the meeting.

Also, the ASCB meetings are very large and will continue to grow through 2019. We will continue to need a room seating >5000 for the large plenary symposia, an exhibit floor of at least 260,000 square feet, and eight rooms with capacities of 200-1500 people for minisymposia. Furthermore, these spaces must be available simultaneously—we cannot afford the large expense of converting back-and-forth a big plenary room to smaller rooms for minisymposia each day. Other considerations include 25-30 rooms for Special Interest Subgroups, and a space large enough for 500 people to attend the annual WICB Career Lunch. All these specifications preclude some sites that with different configuration needs would

be big enough for the number of participants we project.

The Site Selection Committee considered many cities and eventually solicited bids from fifteen. In the end, the decisions in favor of Denver (2011), Boston (2013) and San Diego (2015 and 2018), in addition to San Francisco (2012 and 2016) and Washington (2010 and 2017), were straightforward. St. Louis (2014) was almost eliminated because we will have to hold the plenary sessions in the Edward Jones Dome, the home football stadium of the St. Louis Rams. This disadvantage was outweighed by St. Louis' location and local biomedical community, and by the notion that presenting symposium talks from the 50 yard line would be attractive for speakers. This will work for us—we will have to bring down the whole ceiling and push in the seats from the end zone to make it less cavernous and acquire an auditorium-like configuration. Parenthetically, the ASCB meeting comes in the middle of the National Football League season, and the St. Louis authorities promised that there will be no home game during our meeting. The ASCB 2014 meeting will actually affect the NFL schedule.

New Orleans (2019) has a very small (but vibrant) local biomedical community, but the Selection Committee correctly felt that reduced numbers of local attendees would be offset by the attraction of this Southern city in the cold season.

I need to point out that I personally had little to do with the site selection process, and that all credit should be given to Trina and Elizabeth, who actually visited the six finalist cities, and to the Committee superbly chaired by Gary Borisy. Without doubt ASCB committees are the engines that drive the Society; dozens of our member-volunteers channel their astounding energy to do good work for all members of the Society and for the scientific community broadly. The Site Selection Committee fulfilled this role admirably. ■

*Comments may be directed to [president@ascb.org](mailto:president@ascb.org).*

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The ASCB 2014 meeting will actually affect the NFL schedule.

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## Call for Proposals Summer Meeting Series

All ASCB members, individually or in teams, are invited to submit proposals to organize an ASCB Summer Meeting in 2006. The three-day meetings will host about 200 participants.

Topics should be novel (e.g., combining fields that don't traditionally meet together, or focusing on an emerging area) and include:

- a one-page summary of the scientific substance of the meeting;
- names of 3-10 potential speakers (confirmation need not be obtained in advance);
- CVs of proposed lead organizers.

Submit proposals to the American Society for Cell Biology, 8120 Woodmont Ave., Suite 750, Bethesda, MD 20814 or [ascbinfo@ascb.org](mailto:ascbinfo@ascb.org).

Application deadline is **December 1**. Some participation in fundraising may be required of organizers. Meeting dates and sites are to be determined by the Society in consultation with the organizer(s). ■

# The ASCB 44th Annual Meeting

December 4-8, 2004  
Washington, DC

Harvey Lodish, *President*  
Sandra Schmid, *Program Chair*  
Norka Ruiz Bravo, *Local Arrangements Chair*

## Keynote Symposium

Sunday, December 4, 6:00 PM

Cell Biology - Rising to Meet the Medical Challenges of the Next Century

Peter Kim, *Merck Research Laboratories*  
Sir Paul Nurse, *The Rockefeller University*

## Symposia

Sunday, December 5

Directed Cell Migration in Development

Susan McConnell, *Stanford University*  
Erez Raz, *Max Planck Institute*  
Pernille Rorth, *European Molecular Biology Laboratory*

The Mechanics of Membrane-Bound Machines

Peter Agre, *The Johns Hopkins University*  
Jeff Dangl, *University of North Carolina*  
Ehud Isacoff, *University of California, Berkeley*

Monday, December 6

Regulation of Cellular Programs

Raymond Deshaies, *California Institute of Technology*  
Richard Kessin, *Columbia University*  
Peter Walter, *University of California, San Francisco*

Small RNAs & Gene Regulation

Robin Allshire, *The Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology, University of Edinburgh*  
Jim Carrington, *Oregon State University*  
Thomas Tuschl, *The Rockefeller University*

Tuesday, December 7

The Cytoskeleton & Spatial Organization in Cells

Joan Brugge, *Harvard Medical School*  
David Drubin, *University of California, Berkeley*  
Joel Rosenbaum, *Yale University*

Modeling of Complex Cellular Behaviors

June Nasrallah, *Cornell University*  
Garrett M. Odell, *University of Washington*  
John Tyson, *Virginia Tech*

Wednesday, December 8

Cell Biology of Aging

Judith Campisi, *Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*  
Cynthia Kenyon, *University of California, San Francisco*  
Doug Wallace, *University of California, Irvine*

## Minisymposia

Minisymposia will be scheduled eight each afternoon, Sunday through Wednesday of the Annual Meeting. Four additional speakers for each minisymposium will be selected by the co-chairs from among abstract submissions.

Asymmetry in Development

Juergen Knoblich, *Institute of Molecular Biotechnology, Vienna, Austria*  
Geraldine Seydoux, *The Johns Hopkins University*

Autophagy & Organelle Turnover

Beth Levine, *Columbia University*  
Yoshinori Ohsumi, *National Institute for Basic Biology, Okazaki, Japan*

Cargo Selection & Vesicle Formation

Bruno Antonny, *Institut de Pharmacologie Moléculaire & Cellulaire, Valbonne, France*  
Linton Traub, *University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine*

Cell Biology of the Immune System

Janice Blum, *Indiana University*  
Daniel Davis, *Imperial College London, UK*

Cell Biology of Intracellular Pathogens

Michel Desjardins, *University of Montréal, Canada*  
Julie Theriot, *Stanford University*

Cell Biology of the Neuron

Shelley Halpain, *The Scripps Research Institute*  
Josh Kaplan, *Massachusetts General Hospital*

Cell Cycle

Susan Forsburg, *The Salk Institute for Biological Studies*  
Thomas McGarry, *Northwestern University*

Cell Junctions & Polarity

Andre Le Bivic, *Developmental Biology Institute of Marseilles, France*  
Enrique Rodriguez-Boulan, *Cornell University*

Cell Migration & Adhesion

Margaret Frame, *Beatson Institute for Cancer Research, Glasgow, UK*  
Yu-li Wang, *University of Massachusetts Medical School*

Cell Regulation Through Extracellular Proteolysis

Carl Blobel, *Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center*  
Marcos Milla, *University of Pennsylvania*

Chemical Biology

Ben Cravatt, *The Scripps Research Institute*  
Barbara Imperiali, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Chromatin Structure & Functional Organization of the Nucleus

Shelley Berger, *The Wistar Institute*  
Jan Ellenberg, *European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, Germany*

Control of Gene Expression

Ronald Breaker, *Yale University*  
Stephen Buratowski, *Harvard Medical School*

Cytokinesis & Cellularization

Ahna Skop, *University of Wisconsin, Madison*  
William Sullivan, *University of California, Santa Cruz*

Cytoskeletal Dynamics

Arshad Desai, *University of California, San Diego*  
Laura Machesky, *University of Birmingham, UK*

Diverse Cellular Functions for Ubiquitin & Related Proteins

Erica Johnson, *Thomas Jefferson University*  
Wes Sundquist, *University of Utah*

ECM Biogenesis & Function

Enid Neptune, *The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine*  
Peter Yurchenco, *UMDNJ-RW Johnson Medical School*

Establishment & Maintenance of Membrane Subdomains

Rob Parton, *University of Queensland, Australia*  
Catherine Rabouille, *UMC Utrecht, The Netherlands*

Intermediate Filaments

Robert Goldman, *Northwestern University*  
Harald Herrmann, *German Cancer Research Center*

Intraflagellar Transport in Human Health

Martina Brueckner, *Yale University*  
Gregory Pazour, *University of Massachusetts Medical School*

Microtubule-Based Motility

David Burgess, *Boston College*  
Sarah Rice, *Northwestern University*

Molecular Microscopy in Living Cells

Klaus Hahn, *The Scripps Research Institute*  
John Heuser, *Washington University in St. Louis*

The Nuclear Envelope: Structure & Transport Mechanisms

Tom Misteli, *The National Cancer Institute/NIH*  
Mary Moore, *Baylor College of Medicine*

Prokaryotic Cell Biology

Piet de Boer, *Case Western Reserve University*  
Kit Pogliano, *University of California, San Diego*

Protein Translocation Across Membranes

Arthur Johnson, *Texas A&M University System Health Science Center*  
Carla Koehler, *University of California, Los Angeles*

Secretory Organelles & Regulated Exocytosis

Michael Marks, *University of Pennsylvania*  
Aaron Turkewitz, *University of Chicago*

Signal Transduction in Development

David Greenstein, *Vanderbilt University*  
James Posakony, *University of California, San Diego*

Signal Transduction Networks

Anton Bennett, *Yale University*  
Margaret Chou, *University of Pennsylvania*

Signaling in Cell Proliferation & Death

Jean Wang, *University of California, San Diego*  
Jeff Wrana, *Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute, Mt. Sinai Hospital, Toronto*

Stem Cells

Alejandro Sánchez Alvarado, *University of Utah*  
Sean Morrison, *University of Michigan*

Systems Biology: Theory & Practice

Joseph Ecker, *The Salk Institute for Biological Studies*  
Trey Ideker, *University of California, San Diego*

Thermal & Mechano-Sensation

Monica Driscoll, *Rutgers University*  
Ardem Patapoutian, *The Scripps Research Institute*

To register, submit an abstract or for more information,  
contact the ASCB at (301) 347 9300 • [ascbinfo@ascb.org](mailto:ascbinfo@ascb.org) • [www.ascb.org](http://www.ascb.org)



**The American  
Society for  
Cell  
Biology**

2004 Summer Meeting

# Cytokinesis

July 22 - July 25

The University of Vermont



## Organizer

Yu-li Wang, *University of Massachusetts Medical School*

## Thursday, July 22

Keynote Speaker: **Raymond Rappaport**  
*Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory*



Raymond Rappaport

## Friday, July 23

### *Contractile Ring Assembly & Constriction*

Thomas D. Pollard, *Yale University*  
Speakers: Issei Mabuchi, *University of Texas*  
John Pringle, *University of North Carolina*



Tom Pollard

### *Membrane Dynamics in Cytokinesis*

David R. Burgess, *Boston College*  
Speakers: Fred Chang, *Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons*  
John White, *University of Wisconsin*



David Burgess

## Saturday, July 24

### *The Mitotic Spindle and Cytokinesis*

Bruce Bowerman, *University of Oregon*  
Speakers: Michael Glotzer, *Research Institute of Molecular Pathology*  
Edward Salmon, *University of North Carolina*



Bruce Bowerman

### *Novel Aspects of Cytokinesis*

Yu-li Wang, *University of Massachusetts Medical School*  
Speakers: Dannel McCollum, *University of Massachusetts Medical School*  
Douglas Robinson, *Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*



Yu-li Wang

## Sunday, July 25

### *Functional Genomic and Non-Genomic Approaches*

Christine M. Field, *Harvard Medical School*  
Speakers: Kathy Gould, *Vanderbilt University*  
Patrick Hussey, *University of Durham, UK*  
James Spudich, *Stanford University*



Christine Field

**Additional speakers will be selected from submitted abstracts.**

**Poster sessions are scheduled for Friday afternoon.**

**For more information, see [www.ascb.org](http://www.ascb.org).**

# Local Members Organize Annual Meeting Events

The ASCB Local Arrangements Committee met last month in Bethesda under the Chairmanship of Norka Ruiz Bravo of the National Institutes of Health. The Committee oversees Annual Meeting activities including the Social, the Zeiss Run, the Restaurant Guide, the High School Program and the Student Program. This year the Committee is also organizing a grantsmanship presentation by the NIH.



*Anthony Rene, Lorrita Watson and Marcia Steinberg*



*Elizabeth Marincola, Ramesh Nayak, Melissa Williams, Anthony Rene and Peter Espenshade*



*Local Arrangements Committee Chair Norka Ruiz Bravo*



*Jean Chin, Donna Dean, and Dan Gallahan*

## 2004 ASCB Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Committee

Norka Ruiz Bravo, *National Institutes of Health* (Chair)  
 Lynn Amende, *National Cancer Institute/NIH*  
 Jean Chin, *National Institute of General Medical Sciences/NIH*  
 Donna Dean, *National Academy of Engineering*  
 Peter Espenshade, *The Johns Hopkins University*  
 Daniel Gallahan, *National Cancer Institute/NIH*  
 Gordon Hager, *National Cancer Institute/NIH*  
 Carolyn Machamer, *The Johns Hopkins University*  
 Ramesh Nayak, *Center for Scientific Review/NIH*  
 Anthony Rene, *National Institute of General Medical Sciences/NIH*  
 Marcia Steinberg, *Center for Scientific Review/NIH*  
 Richard Tasca, *National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/NIH*  
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## WOMEN IN CELL BIOLOGY

# Academic Careers Without Tenure

*Tenure (Webster's Ninth Collegiate Dictionary): a status granted after a trial period to a teacher protecting him from summary dismissal.*

Universities and colleges maintain a variety of categories among faculty, and each has its own expectations, responsibilities, privileges, job security, and respect. Institutions of higher education have neither the resources nor the desire to hire all members of the faculty into positions that might require funds in perpetuity (tenured), and yet they have need of the expertise of non-tenured faculty in teaching, research and service in order to successfully carry out the mission of the institution.

What are the advantages and disadvantages to the scientist who signs on to a career without tenure at an academic institution? Is tenure a dinosaur that should be allowed to achieve extinction?

When one is considering a position at an academic institution, what aspects are differentially negotiable for tenured and non-tenured faculty? Several persons contributed their experiences for this article, and their assessments of the advantages and disadvantages for non-permanent faculty were remarkably similar among them.

There are many job titles outside the traditional Assistant, Associate and Full Professor at academic institutions, and they can be confusing to students, staff and even other faculty at the same institution. Adjunct Professor, Specialist, Research Faculty, Lecturer, Instructor, Professor in Residence: other titles and personnel categories might be specific to individual institutions, and each title comes with its own rules, responsibilities and privileges.

What advantages accrue to scientists at academic institutions when they do not enjoy traditional job titles? The most remark-

able finding among colleagues across institutions is that they feel that the respect among colleagues in one's field off the home campus is unrelated to a campus job title. And on campus, many important aspects were reported positively: the opportunity to conduct research, teach and participate in department policy discussions is often blind to a title. While there is no tenure, such positions, when full or nearly full time, usually have the benefits of traditional faculty, including health insurance and contribution to retirement. These benefits accord significant financial advantages in any employment situation. These positions can sometimes allow for part-time assignments which can be a particular attraction when raising a family, caring for a sick parent or dealing with other significant personal needs.

A common perception is that non-traditional faculty enjoy the advantage of being free of the crushing burden of grant writing. This is sometimes the case. However, this "advantage" may be illusory if the same person finds her- or himself being the ghost writer for the person who is officially the Principal Investigator. Many times, there is a

strong contribution to the grant without assuming the majority role in the writing, and this collaboration with the Principal Investigator can be particularly productive.

Association with the institution is widely regarded as a very positive feature, offering the opportunity to work with graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and visiting faculty, regardless of whether it's within one's independent laboratory or in someone else's. It is also generally perceived that faculty in these positions enjoy the opportunity to put extra effort into teaching; indeed some positions, such as lecturer and instructor, have no research responsibilities and often no administrative responsibilities outside those associated with classes. This is because expectations are usually different from those of tra-

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The most remarkable finding among colleagues across institutions is that they feel that the respect among colleagues in one's field off the home campus is unrelated to a campus job title.

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(F)aculty in these positions enjoy the opportunity to put extra effort into teaching; indeed some positions, such as lecturer and instructor, have no research responsibilities.

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ditional faculty whose advancement is nearly entirely based on research output, regardless of protestation to the contrary. Many faculty without employment security derive satisfaction from and are very successful in their research contributions.

The biggest single burden nontraditional faculty endure compared to other faculty is lack of job security. Contracts for these positions are typically one to three years, and sometimes less since salary funds are usually soft money, dependent upon grant funding success. While more and more academic institutions are moving away from tenure and toward such rolling contracts, these colleges and universities remain the exception rather than the rule. There is also often ambiguity in evaluating one's "success" in these nontraditional positions, although it almost always reflects a combination of the usual research, teaching and service. Nonetheless, institutions utilize extensive latitude in evaluating performance in these positions, and sometimes this vagueness can be intentional in order to be able to eliminate positions or to justify maintaining a scientist in a nonpermanent status, depending upon the immediate needs of a department or institution. Nontraditional faculty indisputably enjoy less salary and research support than their tenured colleagues.

There is an undeniable perception, if not reality, that one gets less respect for accomplishments at one's home institution. The unspoken sense is that even if one is doing a good job at teaching, service and even research, if one were just "better," one would have a permanent position. Moreover, the feeling of inclusion depends on the department, and perhaps on the title itself. One respondent indicated that he is "virtually invisible" to his department despite being on the faculty for over eight years. An interesting research topic would be a comparison of the impact of individuals from different job categories on both the success of the educational institution and one's research field.

These positions are sometimes considered "way stations" on the road to a "real career." This misconception overlooks the depth and breadth of excellence and commitment of the cadre of professionals in these roles. Many

scientists have chosen these jobs for all the advantages outlined above, and their intention is to advance within these nontraditional ranks, enjoying the independence and satisfaction of the significant contributions they are making. Others however are indeed hired with the misleading understanding that as a traditional position opens up they will be first in line for full consideration.

The most important advice respondents had for scientists considering impermanent positions is, "look before you leap". Often one may be told, "we will try to move you into a more secure position." Analyze the history of the department's achieving that. Be ready to be your own advocate and to initiate interactions with others in your department or across your campus. Learn clearly, preferably in writing, how you will be evaluated for promotion and how the department or campus may come to your assistance if you have a temporary lapse in grant funding. How committed is the department to assuring the research space and resources for you

to advance professionally? What specific responsibilities are required of you each academic year? Ask how your opinions will be counted in departmental decisions on policy, hiring, and retention of other faculty, traditional or not. In addition, ask the Dean or other upper level administrator how the position is significant for the campus. Answers will vary, and the decision to accept the position or not will depend upon personal circumstance. Going in with eyes open and with supporters to promote professional development are essential. ■

—Caroline M. Kane

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# The American Society for Cell Biology

## Call for Award Nominations

### The 24th Annual E.B. Wilson Medal

**Who is Eligible:** An individual who has demonstrated significant and far-reaching contributions to cell biology. The primary nominator must be a member of the ASCB but the candidate need not be. The E.B. Wilson Medal is the ASCB's highest award for science.

**How to Apply:** Provide the candidate's CV and no fewer than three and no more than five letters of support.

**Award:** The winner gives the E.B. Wilson Lecture at the 44th ASCB Annual Meeting, and receives the E.B. Wilson Medal. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

**Deadline:** March 31.

### The 19th Annual WICB Career Recognition Award

**Who is Eligible:** The Junior Award is for a woman in an early stage of her career (assistant professor or equivalent) who has made exceptional scientific contributions to cell biology and exhibits the potential for continuing a high level of scientific endeavor while fostering the career development of young scientists. The Senior Award is for a woman or man in a later career stage (full professor or equivalent) whose outstanding scientific achievements are coupled with a long-standing record of support for women in science and mentorship of young scientists.

**How to Apply:** For the Senior Award, provide a letter of nomination, CV of the candidate and a maximum of five letters of support. For the Junior Award, provide a letter of nomination, CV of the candidate, and a maximum of three letters of support.

**Award:** The winners are presented an honorarium and plaque at the 44th ASCB Annual Meeting. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

**Deadline:** March 31.

### The 11th Annual E.E. Just Lectureship

**Who is Eligible:** A minority scientist who has demonstrated outstanding scientific achievement. The primary nominator must be a member of the ASCB but the candidate need not be.

**How to Apply:** Provide a nomination letter with a description of the nominee's scientific achievement and mentoring support of underrepresented minority students and scientists.

**Award:** The winner gives the E.E. Just Lecture at the 44th ASCB Annual Meeting and receives a plaque. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

**Deadline:** March 31.

### The 4th Annual Norton B. Gilula Memorial Award

**Who is Eligible:** An outstanding graduate or undergraduate student who has excelled in research.

**How to Apply:** The student or advisor should submit a one-page research statement, a list of publications, if any, the abstract submitted to the current year's Annual Meeting and the advisor's letter of recommendation. Duplicate applications from graduate students may be submitted for the Gilula and Bernfield Memorial Awards.

**Award:** The winner is presented a plaque. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

**Deadline:** August 1.

### The 11th Annual ASCB Public Service Award

**Who is Eligible:** An individual who has demonstrated outstanding national leadership in support of biomedical research. Any ASCB member may submit a nomination. The award winner may but need not be a scientist.

**How to Apply:** Provide a letter of nomination with a description of the nominee's advocacy for and promotion of scientific research.

**Award:** The winner gives the Public Service Award Lecture at the 44th ASCB Annual Meeting and receives a certificate. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

**Deadline:** March 31.

### The 7th Annual Bruce Alberts Award for Excellence in Science

**Who is Eligible:** An individual who has demonstrated innovative and sustained contributions to science education with particular emphasis on the local, regional and/or national impact of the nominee's activities. The primary nominator must be a member of the ASCB but the candidate and support letter authors need not be.

**How to Apply:** Provide a nomination letter which includes a description of the nominee's activities with emphasis on the local, regional and/or national impact of the activities; a CV, and no more than three letters of support, at least one of which must be from outside the nominee's institution.

**Award:** The winner is presented a plaque at the 44th ASCB Annual Meeting. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

**Deadline:** March 31.

### The 4th Annual Merton Bernfield Memorial Award

**Who is Eligible:** An outstanding graduate student or postdoctoral fellow who has excelled in research.

**How to Apply:** The student or post-doc or their advisor should submit a one-page research statement, a list of publications, a copy of the abstract submitted to the current year's Annual Meeting, and the advisor's letter of recommendation. Post-docs may also submit the recommendation of their graduate student advisor. Duplicate applications from graduate students may be submitted for the Gilula and Bernfield Memorial Awards.

**Award:** The winner is presented a plaque and speaks in a Minisymposium at the 44th ASCB Annual Meeting and receives an honorarium. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

**Deadline:** August 1.

### The 13th Annual MBC Paper of the Year Award

**Who is Eligible:** A student or post-doc first author who published research in *Molecular Biology of the Cell* from June 2003 through May 2004.

**How to Apply:** Submit your best work to MBC. The best paper is determined by MBC Associate Editors. All papers are considered; no additional application or nomination is required or invited.

**Award:** The winner speaks in a Minisymposium at the 44th Annual Meeting. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

**Deadline:** Associate Editors make recommendations by June 18.

All applications and nominations may be submitted to the American Society for Cell Biology, 8120 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 750, Bethesda, MD 20814-2762; [ascbinfo@ascb.org](mailto:ascbinfo@ascb.org). For names of prior awardees or more information, see [www.ascb.org](http://www.ascb.org) or contact the ASCB at 301-347-9300, [ascbinfo@ascb.org](mailto:ascbinfo@ascb.org).

# PUBLIC POLICY

## BRIEFING

### NSF Head Leaves Before Finishing Term

National Science Foundation Director Rita Colwell announced that her resignation as NSF Director before the end of her term in August.

Colwell, a microbiologist, left effective February 21, to head the Washington, DC life sciences subsidiary of Canon USA. Colwell announced her departure during annual testimony before the House of Representatives' Science Committee.

The White House has named Arden Bement, currently the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), to serve as Acting Director of the NSF. Bement retains his position as NIST Director, signalling that the Administration expects that the appointment of a permanent NSF Director will be swift. ■



Rita Colwell



Arden Bement

### ASCB Helps Fight Latest Education Fires Evolution Foes Battle On

Already this year, evolution opponents in at least four states have launched attacks on the teaching of evolution. In Ohio, opponents are picking up where they left off two years ago by proposing the inclusion of "creation science" in the state's 10<sup>th</sup> grade biology lesson plans.

ASCB President Harvey Lodish, an Ohio native, issued a statement directly encouraging Ohio Governor Bob Taft and each member of the state's Board of Education to reject the proposal. Lodish said, "I urge you to keep religion and science separate and reject the inclusion of these unsound and anti-scientific plans in the education of Ohio students." He also invoked his experience as a founder of Genzyme and Millennium to warn that the proposed change would, "damage the reputation and the economy of the state far beyond the classroom. This action would compromise the credibility of public education in Ohio, making it extremely difficult for the state to recruit researchers and companies in modern biology and biotechnology."

In Georgia, State Superintendent Kathy Cox proposed removing the word "evolution" from the state's new science curriculum, calling evolution a "buzzword" and

proposing new education standards without reference to "evolution." She proposed that the standards include, "all legitimate theories," including "Intelligent Design" to be taught to Georgia's public school students.

The Georgia proposal also met with strong opposition, particularly from Georgia native and former President Jimmy Carter. In a statement, Carter said, "As a Christian, a trained engineer and scientist, and a professor at Emory University, I am embarrassed by [the] attempt to censor and distort the education of Georgia's students." Soon after Carter's statement, the Superintendent withdrew her proposal.

Anti-evolution bills that would require the teaching of creationism alongside evolution in schools have also been introduced in the Missouri and Alabama legislatures.

A bill introduced in the Missouri General Assembly would require, "the equal treatment of science instruction regarding evolution and intelligent design." The bill stipulates the definitions for the teach-



ASCB Public Policy Committee member John Gearhart confers with Rep. Michael Castle (R-DE) (right) and Mark Foley (R-FL) (left) at a briefing of the Republican Main Street Partnership, a coalition of moderate Republican members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate on stem cell research. Reps. Jim Greenwood (R-PA), Amory Houghton (R-NY), and George Nethercutt (R-WA) also attended the briefing.

ing of science in public elementary and high schools and distinguishes the difference among scientific law, scientific theory and hypothesis.

The "Academic Freedom Act" was introduced in Alabama. The bill, if it becomes law, would give teachers at public schools in Alabama "the affirmative right and freedom to present scientific, historical, theoretical, or evidentiary information pertaining to alternative theories or points of view on the subject of biological or physical origins." The bill would also allow students to take any position on evolution or creationism as long as they are able to show an understanding of the course material.

*Lodish's letter to Governor Taft is at [www.ascb.org/publicpolicy/taft04.htm](http://www.ascb.org/publicpolicy/taft04.htm).* ■

## Medicare Reform Includes Stem Cell Research Funding

A little-noticed provision of the \$534 billion Medicare bill will provide funds for pancreatic islet cell transplantation clinical investigation. The most extensive revision yet to the 38-year-old Medicare program, the bill instructs the National Institutes of Health to conduct islet cell clinical trials that includes Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes. Medi-

care will pay for the routine and related costs of the transplant for the Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in the trial. ■

## Scientists Object to Bush Bias

Leading American scientists have called for legislative and regulatory solutions to restoring scientific integrity to Federal policymaking. The Union of Concerned Scientists issued a statement charging the Bush Administration with a pattern of misuse of science, signed by over 60 scientists, including 20 Nobel Laureates and 19 National Medal of Science winners. Five of the signatories are ASCB members.

The statement claims that "when scientific knowledge has been found to be in conflict with its political goals, the [Bush] Administration has often manipulated the process through which science enters into its decisions." It charges the Administration with removing scientists from advisory committees, disbanding selected advisory committees, censoring scientific reports, supporting legislation to limit scientific input, and dismissing scientific recommendations that are counter to policy initiatives. Remarkably, just a week later, the President dismissed leading cell biologist Elizabeth Blackburn from his Bioethics Council (*see story, page 1*).

The signatories call on the scientific community to demand legislative, regulatory and administrative reforms to ensure that independent and objective scientific analysis be included in the policy making process.

Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA) and other Democratic members of the House of Representatives' Committee on Government Reform published a report in 2003 outlining 20 areas of science that have been affected by the politicalization of science by the Bush Administration (*see September 2003 ASCB Newsletter*).

*The UCS report and statement are at [www.ucfusa.org/global\\_environment/rsi/page.cfm?pageID=1322](http://www.ucfusa.org/global_environment/rsi/page.cfm?pageID=1322).*

*The Waxman report is at <http://reform.house.gov/min>.* ■

National Institutes of Health Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Stipends		
Student Year	FY04 Stipend	FY03 Stipend
Freshmen/Sophomores	\$7,812	\$7,296
Juniors/Seniors	\$10,956	\$10,224
Predocs	\$20,772	\$19,968
Postdocs with		
0 years of experience	\$35,468	\$34,000
1 year of experience	\$37,476	\$36,108
2 years of experience	\$41,796	\$40,920
3 years of experience	\$43,428	\$42,648
4 years of experience	\$45,048	\$44,364
5 years of experience	\$46,992	\$46,404
6 years of experience	\$48,852	\$48,444
7 + years of experience	\$51,036	\$50,808

# NIH IRGs Being Reorganized

The National Institutes of Health Panel on Scientific Boundaries for Review has recently concluded an examination of the function and organization of reviews conducted by the Center for Scientific Review (CSR). The evaluation was undertaken to ensure that the NIH review process keeps pace with changes in biomedical research.

A panel suggested an expansion of the number of Integrated Review Groups from

the current 20 IRGs to 24. The Panel affirmed its belief that active researchers working in the areas being proposed are the best judges of the merit of proposals. The Panel also registered its hope that reviewers would be enabled to provide institutes with their best judgment on the research, without having to consider secondary technical detail.

The Cell Biology IRG will be responsible for reviewing research applications that focus on the study of fundamental cell biological processes, including functions, interactions, and the regulation of cells and cellular organelles.

For more information see [www.csr.nih.gov/review/reorgact.asp](http://www.csr.nih.gov/review/reorgact.asp). ■

*Blackburn, continued from page 1*

Blackburn has maintained that reports issued by the Council did not adequately represent the dissenting opinion represented by herself, May, and other scientist members Janet Rawley of the University of Chicago and Michael Gazzaniga of Dartmouth. Blackburn says, "I am greatly concerned that reports of the Council failed to rise to the standards of scientifically defensible and intellectually balanced documents, despite the dedicated attempts of myself and others on the Council to make them so."

She adds, "I am heartened only by the fact that some members of the Council have maintained open minds during our many hours of deliberation. Although these members may not have always agreed with the scientist-members, they were willing to distinguish between science and religion, and to recognize when facts and motivations were being misconstrued in order to substantiate a predetermined point of view."

The terms of all members of the Council had officially expired in January, but only the terms of Blackburn and May were not renewed. A White House spokesperson said only that, "we decided to go ahead and appoint other individuals with different expertise and experience."

The action is all the more remarkable following by only a week the statement of leading scientists objecting to the President's record of misusing scientific

advisory bodies to serve political purposes (see story, page 12).

Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) criticized the President's actions, saying, "the American people deserve the right science, not right-wing ideology, on critical issues facing their health." Democratic presidential nominee Senator John Kerry (D-MA) agreed, stating from a campaign stop in Oakland, California that, "a scientific panel ought to be chosen on the basis of science and on the basis of reputation, not politics." He affirmed his qualified support for stem cell research by indicating that, "there are limits to how the lines are developed and there are limits to what you do. Absolutely. But again, you look for the best scientific and bioethical advice. You don't pre-cook it. That's what's important."

Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA) and Senator John McCain (R-AZ) are holding hearings on the issue of presidential appointments and the influence of politics on science policy. The Union of Concerned Scientists' statement accused President Bush of selecting and biasing the advice he receives on controversial science policy issues.

The timing of the dismissals has become standard operating procedure for this Administration, which regularly takes controversial action on Friday afternoons, when it is most likely to fall into a weekend news void. ■

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"I'm greatly concerned that reports of the Council failed to rise to the standards of scientifically defensible and intellectually balanced documents, despite the dedicated attempts of myself and others on the Council to make them so."

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## ASCB PROFILE

# Sally Zigmond

“Life with a PhD is one constant critique,” Sally Zigmond told the University of Pennsylvania’s newest Doctors of Philosophy last May. Compared to an MD, an MBA or a JD, Zigmond told the graduates that a research science PhD “doesn’t prepare you for anything so concrete, and though it is possible that you will get rich, it’s not all that likely. So, what were you thinking when you chose to earn a PhD?”



*Sally Zigmond with children in Venezuela*

“The good news is that the PhD brings independence and the chance to be strength-

ened through frequent failure,” Zigmond reassured them, because it is also “a full operator’s license” to pursue “the deep pleasure in pressing daily against the puzzles at the edge of scientific knowledge.”

Intellectual independence and scientific discovery are what matter most for Sally Zigmond. She is Professor of Biology at Penn, inventor of the “Zigmond Chamber,” and a driving force in the fields of cell motility and chemotaxis. As a child, that

fierce independence got her thrown out of the Girl Scouts, Zigmond recalls with a laugh. As a prospective graduate student, it’s what made her choose Rockefeller University. “Without formal class requirements, you just studied until you figured out which lab you wanted to

join,” she recalls. Zigmond also says she

liked Rockefeller’s candle-lit dining room.

Yet it was that independent self-described “orneriness” that almost ended her scientific career before it began, Zigmond says. She chose to join the neutrophil chemotaxis lab of Jim Hirsch, largely because Hirsch seemed willing to let Zigmond pose her own questions and design and execute her own experiments. A year of floundering later, Zigmond’s independence had brought her to the brink of collapse. “I asked Jim for help,” she recalls. “He gladly spent a day with me at the bench, showing me how to simplify a question, so that it could be answered, how to execute the experiment carefully enough—

no shortcuts—so that the result would be reliable. To our joy, everything we did that day worked.” It certainly saved her future in science.

Her successful thesis work in 1972 led to Zigmond’s development of

assays to detect chemotaxis and the discovery of a cell-derived chemoattractant. Early high-profile papers launched Zigmond’s career, leading to post-docs with Michael Abercrombie at the Strangeways labs in Cambridge, England, and with Nobel Laureate and early ASCB President George Palade at Yale. In New Haven, Zigmond developed a novel, two-welled, glass-topped chamber that was one of the first devices to test the ability of cells to orient in a defined gradient of chemoattractant. Nearly 30 years after she first described it, the Zigmond Chamber is still cited in methodologies, defined in medical dictionaries, and is available commercially. In New Haven, Zigmond’s cell motility interests brought her into the burgeoning field of actin filaments at a critical time. In 1976, she accepted a tenure track offer in Biology at Penn, a department that she would eventually chair.

But the lessons of her painful “independent” year at Rockefeller stayed with her.

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Nearly 30 years after she first described it, the Zigmond Chamber is still cited in methodologies, defined in medical dictionaries, and is available commercially.

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Even fierce independents need others for criticism and for appreciation. It's one of the reasons she's been a member of ASCB since 1974 with service on the Program Committee and on Council.

Today as Zigmond shifts more toward teaching, she still retains her reputation as a no-nonsense diagnostician of floundering experiments, misguided hypotheses, and wonky data. When Lynn Cassimeris

joined the Zigmond lab as a post-doc in 1988, she'd been told of Zigmond's reputation as a brilliant but tough scientist. The brilliance was certainly there, says Cassimeris, who is now at Lehigh, but the toughness was always helpful. Still, for a new post-doc, a Zigmond critique could be startling, Cassimeris recalls. "Sally would cut right to the point. She could see all the holes faster than anyone else. The experiment, the methodology, the interpretation of data—she could find a flaw in 30 seconds that I hadn't found in days of thinking about it. But the wonderful thing about Sally was that her criticisms were never personal. It was always about getting the science right. I always came away feeling enlightened but never beaten down. That's a remarkable skill for a mentor."

Although Zigmond was not her advisor when she was a grad student at Penn, Claire Waterman-Storer recalls vividly Zigmond's reputation as a shredder of sloppy science. "I worship Sally Zigmond," says Waterman-Storer, who is now at Scripps. "Sally has a mind like a steel trap, but she doesn't use it to embarrass people. I remember going to seminars with her and, as we were walking out, Sally would quietly point out all the holes in what we'd just heard. But it's only since I've gotten older that I've come to appreciate just how damn smart Sally really is. I call her five or six times a year now to ask her advice about things. I'll call to find out what Sally thinks this protein may be doing. Or what she thinks of somebody's results in a paper or what she thinks of some result I just got in a live cell actin assay.

She's just so soft spoken and so graceful in her criticism."

Even in a science filled with extremely smart people, Zigmond's sheer intelligence

makes her stand out, says Rick Horwitz, a former colleague at Penn who is now at the University of Virginia. "When you're telling her about your work, Sally is not only with you, she's usually ahead of you. She understands quantitative things so she has this ability to grasp

both the cell biology and the biochemistry at a physical chemical level.

She's incredibly bright, quite deep, and extremely knowledgeable. And everything she's done shows that rare knack of being both rigorous and insightful."

Sally Householder Zigmond was born and raised in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where her father taught English (and coached tennis) at Western Michigan

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She still retains her reputation as a no-nonsense diagnostician of floundering experiments, misguided hypotheses, and wonky data.

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"She could find a flaw in 30 seconds that I hadn't found in days of thinking about it."

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University. Her mother taught physical education at WMU and later became Dean of Women. From her father, Zigmond inherited an appreciation of clear prose and a passion for tennis. From her mother, she picked up an interest in the natural world and human biology. The middle of three sisters and

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Even fierce independents need others for criticism and for appreciation.

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the only one who grew up to be a scientist, Sally blazed through science classes in high school and seemed bound for the University of Michigan when her mother derailed her by suggesting that Sally look at Wellesley

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“the ‘Goddess of Biology’”

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College. Sally was swept off her feet by the campus and by Wellesley’s scholarship offer.

Looking back, Zigmond says her timing was bad for studying biology at Wellesley in the early

1960s. Faculty members trained in the new molecular biology were just arriving on campus as she finished her senior year in 1966. On her own, she discovered the new wave by reading the breakthrough papers of Jacob and Monad (in French). She never had any doubts about research biology as her professional direction.

Zigmond lives in northwest Philadelphia with her second husband, Peter Sterling, a neurobiologist also at Penn. Through Sterling, Zigmond has two grown stepchildren, Emily and Daniel, and two step grandchildren, Sam and Rebecca. Years of playing has worn out her passion (and cer-

tain crucial joints) for tennis, forcing Zigmond to shift to bicycling and wind surfing, especially when Zigmond and Sterling are at their house on Cape Cod. At Penn, Zigmond teaches a biology course for non-biology majors called “What Every Lawyer, Businessperson and Citizen Needs to Know About Molecular Biology.” Her cell biology course for biology majors requires them not only to understand the science, but to write about it for others in a clear but creative way. Zigmond’s classes, both for majors and non-majors, regularly top the Penn student rating polls. “I love teaching, especially the non-majors course,” says Zigmond. “In the first week, I stress how hard the class is going to be. That gets rid of the kids who were attracted just by the title. What I’m left with are the kids who did very well in science in high school but didn’t choose this as their direction in life. They are a great bunch, incredibly smart and a lot of fun to work with.”

Lynne Cassimeris has no trouble understanding why Zigmond’s classes pull so strongly. “Penn students publish their own guide to courses,” Cassimeris recalls. “One year when I was there, Sally was referred to in the guide book as the ‘Goddess of Biology,’ which I promptly cut out and taped to the wall of the lab. I can’t imagine a higher compliment.” ■

## Cool Stuff ...



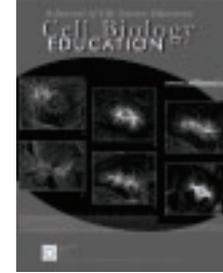
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## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS



Judith  
Glaven

**Judith Glaven** of *Cell Press*, an ASCB member since 1996, has been appointed Director of Basic Science Programs at Harvard Medical School. ■

## Gifts

The ASCB is grateful to the following members who have recently given gifts to support Society activities:

Jane Aubin  
Mina Bissell  
John Eriksson  
Parmender Mehta  
Barbara Schneider  
Carolyn Silflow  
Julie Theriot  
Michael Watkins  
Maria Elena Zavala

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Teaching Enhances Research



To the Editor:

I have just finished reading the President's Message in the February issue of the *ASCB Newsletter*. I will admit that I was at first a bit unconvinced by the premise. Then, as I thought more deeply, I realized that it is absolutely correct.

My research has benefitted enormously from being asked to teach basic immunology, which I knew very little about beforehand. Thoughts that have come from these teaching experiences have influenced the way we think about problems in the lab, the methods that we use, and the overall direction of our work. Since teaching is largely underappreciated, I think Harvey Lodish's comments are quite valuable for faculty, students and medical school/university administrators.

I will pass the article on to my students. Many thanks for the insight and encouragement to continue teaching!

—Stephanie S. Watowich

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

### ASCB Should Practice What It Preaches

To the Editor:

I also look at programs of meetings and count the number of women relative to men (*ASCB Newsletter* WICB Column, "Ensuring Diversity at the Podium," February 2004) and have observed the same underrepresentation of women. Therefore, I was dismayed to see just before I turned to Susan Forsburg's WICB article the announcement for the ASCB-sponsored meeting on cytokinesis which included:

- male keynote
- 4 of 5 session chairs are men
- 10 of 11 speakers are men

Looks to me that ASCB might take a good look at itself.

—David M. Gardiner

University of California, Irvine

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**Twentieth Anniversary of the Meeting on Oncogenes  
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Debbie Morrison, NCI-Frederick  
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Sheila Thomas, Harvard Medical School  
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**Abstract Submission Deadline - April 12, 2004**

[www.oncogenemeeting.org](http://www.oncogenemeeting.org)

## **Graduate Students: Work for Annual Meeting Registration, Social Ticket**

Students who are interested in volunteering time (up to six hours) in exchange for free Annual Meeting registration and a free ticket to the ASCB Social may send an email to [ascbinfo@ascb.org](mailto:ascbinfo@ascb.org). Priority is given to students who are ASCB members or member applicants. Interested ASCB post-doc members may be selected after students are placed. Apply at <https://www.ascb.org/ascbsec/volunteer.html>.

The American Society for Cell Biology  
8120 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 750  
Bethesda, MD 20814-2762  
301-347-9300; fax 301-347-9310  
[www.ascb.org](http://www.ascb.org)

## **GRANTS & OPPORTUNITIES**

**NIH Awards.** The Roadmap for Medical Research solicits nominations in multiple disciplines for its NIH Director's Pioneer Award. Deadline: April 1. See <http://nihroadmap.nih.gov>.

**NIH Virtual Career Center.** A resource by the NIH Office of Education for exploring employment options and career development opportunities in health sciences. See [www.training.nih.gov/careers/careercenter/index.html](http://www.training.nih.gov/careers/careercenter/index.html).

**NIAID Fellowships.** The NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases solicits applications from biodefense training and development researchers of prevention, detection, diagnosis and treatment of diseases caused by potential bioterrorism agents. Grants, fellowships and career development awards. See [www.niaid.nih.gov/biodefense/research/funding.htm](http://www.niaid.nih.gov/biodefense/research/funding.htm).

**MARC Grants.** The NIH NIGMS Minority Access to Research Careers solicits applications for predoctoral fellowships. Application deadlines: April 5 and December 5. See <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-03-114.html>.

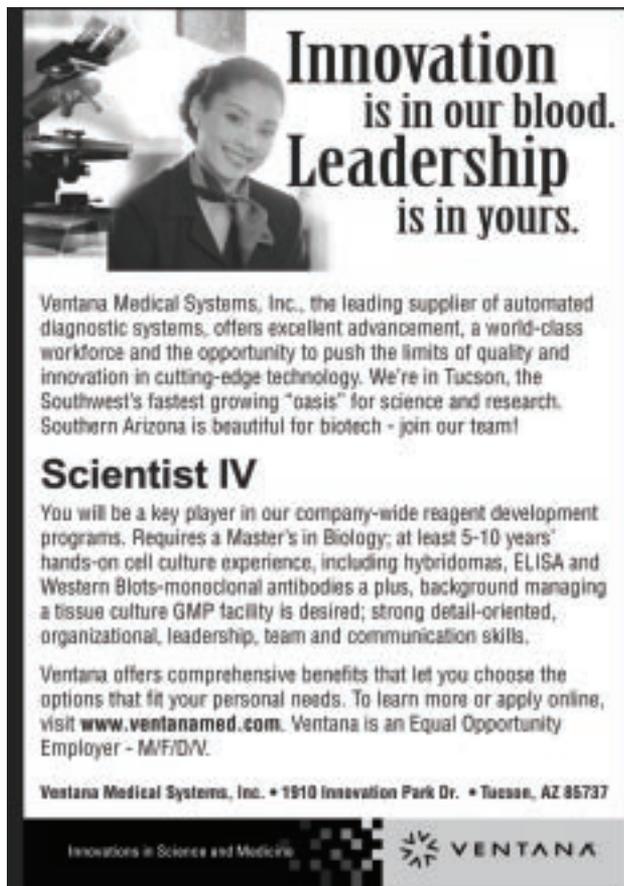
**NSF IGERT Program.** The National Science Foundation is soliciting proposals for the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program. Deadline is April 29. See [www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf04550](http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf04550). ■

**Chair  
Department of Genetics, Development, and  
Cell Biology  
Iowa State University**

The Department of Genetics, Development and Cell Biology (GDCB) ([www.gdcb.iastate.edu](http://www.gdcb.iastate.edu)), newly formed with the recent reorganization of the biological sciences at Iowa State University, seeks a Chair to lead an expanding department. Existing research programs within GDCB utilize experimental and computational approaches to study subjects including genome structure and dynamics, gene regulation, cell function and metabolism, and developmental mechanisms. Candidates for Chair should have a record of scholarly achievement commensurate with the rank of Professor, a nationally-recognized research program, and a commitment to undergraduate and graduate education. Preference will be given to those with leadership experience demonstrating the ability to advance excellence in research. Resources will be made available to foster continued growth of the department. To be considered send a letter of application and a curriculum vitae to: **Dr. Alan Myers, Chair, GDCB Search Committee, 1210 Molecular Biology Bldg., Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011.** Applications received by April 15, 2004 are guaranteed consideration. Confidential inquiries to the search committee Chair are welcome at [ammyers@iastate.edu](mailto:ammyers@iastate.edu). *Iowa State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.*

## ASCB Job Service Free to Members

The American Society for Cell Biology Job Board invites ASCB members to post their CV free of charge. Individuals who post their CV may control access to identifying information. CVs are accessible and searchable without charge. Employers pay a nominal fee to list positions. Employers and job seekers contact each other directly; interviews may be scheduled by mutual convenience at any time throughout the year or at the ASCB Annual Meeting Career Center. For more information or to post your CV, go to [www.ascb.org/careers](http://www.ascb.org/careers).



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### Research Associate/Postdoctoral Positions Microbiology/Immunology Dartmouth Medical School

Two Research Associate/Postdoctoral positions are available in Microbiology to study the emerging, yeast pathogen, *Candida albicans*. One project involves mechanisms of transcriptional regulation of morphogenesis and virulence. The other project involves elucidating novel interactions between yeast and host stratified squamous epithelium at the molecular level. Both projects provide opportunities for major discoveries in areas of gene regulation and pathogenesis and in host responses to pathogens. The laboratory studies pathogenic mechanisms of candidiasis and regulation of expression of virulence factors using biochemical, genetic, genomic, bioinformatic and immunological approaches. Qualified applicants will have expertise in cell culture, cell biological biochemical and genetic techniques. Those with strong backgrounds in molecular biology of non-pathogenic yeasts and/or bacteria who wish to apply their knowledge to a human pathogen will be given strong consideration. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter with research interests and career goals, a current C.V. and the names of three references to Paula Sundstrom, Ph.D., at [Paula.Sundstrom@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:Paula.Sundstrom@Dartmouth.edu)

Dartmouth College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

ASCB  
ANNUAL MEETINGS

**2004**

Washington, DC  
December 4-8

**2005**

San Francisco  
December 10-14

**2006**

San Diego  
December 9-13

**2007**

Washington, DC  
December 1-5

**2008**

San Francisco  
December 13-17

**2009**

San Diego  
December 5-9

## MEETINGS CALENDAR

**May 4-5. Bethesda, MD.**

NIH/NIDDK. Protein Misfolding and Misprocessing in Disease Conference. See [www.niddk.nih.gov/fund/other/protein\\_misfolding/index.htm](http://www.niddk.nih.gov/fund/other/protein_misfolding/index.htm).

**May 17-21. York, PA.**

Penn State biotechnology workshop, "Recombinant DNA." See [www.dnatech.com](http://www.dnatech.com).

**May 19-24. Washington, DC.**

"Forward to Professorship" workshop. See [www.seas.gwu.edu/~forward/advance](http://www.seas.gwu.edu/~forward/advance)

**May 24-25. Bethesda, MD**

"Advances in Skeletal Anabolic Agents for the Treatment of Osteoporosis." See [www.asbmr.org/anabolics.cfm](http://www.asbmr.org/anabolics.cfm).

**June 3-6. Ames, IA.**

Third International Congress on Plant Metabolomics. Abstract deadline: April 2. See [www.bb.iastate.edu/~gfst/phomepg.html](http://www.bb.iastate.edu/~gfst/phomepg.html).

**June 5-10. Callaway Gardens, GA.**

FASEB Summer Conference, "Thrombospondins and other Modulatory Adhesion Molecules in Tissue Organization and Homeostasis." See [www.faseb.org/meetings/src](http://www.faseb.org/meetings/src).

**June 6-11. Hong Kong, China.**

Gordon Research Conference, "Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology." See <http://grc.org/programs/2004/neurobio.htm>.

**June 10-13. Boston, MA.**

2nd Annual Meeting of the International Society for Stem Cell Research. See [www.isscr.org](http://www.isscr.org).

**June 12 - 24. Vancouver, BC.**

University of British Columbia 12-day short course, "3D Microscopy of Living Cells." Applications due March 15. See [www.3dcourse.ubc.ca](http://www.3dcourse.ubc.ca).

**June 14-18. York, PA.**

Penn State biotechnology workshop, "PCR Methodology." See [www.dnatech.com](http://www.dnatech.com).

**June 26 -28. Vancouver, BC.**

University of British Columbia Workshop, "3D Image Processing." Applications due March 15. See [www.3dcourse.ubc.ca](http://www.3dcourse.ubc.ca).

**July 18-22. Glasgow, UK.**

BioScience2004-From Molecules to Organisms. See [www.BioScience2004.org](http://www.BioScience2004.org). ■

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### THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CELL BIOLOGY

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