

**1993**

**James Jamieson**

Throughout his distinguished career, Yale University's James Jamieson has made many noteworthy contributions as an investigator, educator, and leader of both scientific and clinical communities. Born in a small town in British Columbia, Jamieson entered the University of British Columbia with the intention of becoming a pharmacist. However, it seemed as if everyone was planning to go to medical school, so Jamieson decided he should too. At British Columbia Medical School, Jamieson graduated in 1960 with the highest rank in his class.

Until his first year in medical school, Jamieson had no idea what scientific research was. His first lab experience was on blood pressure regulation and it piqued his interest. During his second year of medical school, Jamieson was offered an opportunity to take a year off and conduct research. This was not a common practice in the late 1950s and many of his medical school classmates and professors thought that he was wasting his time.

Knowing of his student's interest in research, Drs. Sydney (Chair of the anatomy department at the University) and Connie Friedman told Jamieson to consider Rockefeller University for post-doctoral work. Jamieson had never heard of the place, but after investigating further he thought it would be an interesting institution at which to continue his interest in research. He joined Rockefeller University as a graduate student, received his Ph.D. in 1966, and by 1973 was an Associate Professor. He calls his tenure there "an amazing time during the birth of cell biology." He worked directly with George Palade, and was at Rockefeller with Keith Porter, Phil Siekovitz, Christian DeDuve, and many other distinguished scientists. Jamieson stayed at Rockefeller through 1973 when he moved with Palade to Yale. At Yale, Jamieson has been the Director of Graduate Studies for the Cell Biology Section, Director of the Medical Scientist Training Program, and in 1975 became Professor in the Department of Cell Biology. He served as Chairman of the Cell Biology Department at the Medical School from 1983-1992.

Jamieson has always enjoyed his interactions with medical students and the clinical world. At Yale, he has been able to broaden his contacts with clinicians and maintain his interests in basic research. To a great extent, he and his colleagues' research in cell biology has had profound clinical applications in gastroenterology.

Jamieson's work has provided a foundation for exploring fundamental processes in cell function. Using the pancreatic acinar cell as a model system, Jamieson played a central role in establishing the steps involved in protein synthesis, movement of proteins through the cell, and protein secretion. These studies have had a profound effect on the direction of cell biology research for 25 years. Jamieson's recent work has followed these earlier themes and resulted in original contributions to the areas of receptor biology and mechanisms of secretion. Although his investigations have focused on the pancreatic acinar cell, the tenets established by his studies have been applied to a variety of experimental systems. Future studies in the Jamieson laboratory will examine pancreatic

acinar cell tumors whose secretory refractivity to stimulants may parallel fetal-maturation of stimulus-secretion coupling observed in the developing pancreas.

Jamieson notes that many Ph.D.s are skilled in research but are less interested in teaching medical students. Jamieson feels this trend is unfortunate since he has taken great professional and intellectual interest in bridging basic and clinical research. Jamieson strongly believes that the interaction between the bench and the clinical world's genuine medical problems is essential for scientists to gain a better perspective of their own independent investigations.

Jamieson's friend and colleague, ASCB member Fred Gorelick, notes that this unique ability to fuse investigative and clinical issues is one of Jamieson's great talents. Gorelick says that Jamieson's outstanding command of the scientific literature and his ability to intellectually challenge other investigators and to direct them toward new areas of investigation is an example of Jamieson's role model as an educator. Gorelick also lauds Jamieson's wit and says that Jamieson is "regarded as an enormously sensitive and affable individual who puts tremendous energy into training people to make them a success."

Jamieson received the Distinguished Achievement Award of the American Gastroenterological Association this year. The award is given to an investigator who has made a unique, fundamental and ongoing scientific contribution in gastroenterology.

Active in the ASCB since its founding, Jamieson served as Annual Meeting Program Chairman in 1975, Member of Council from 1977-1980, and President from 1982-1983. He recalls that the early ASCB Annual Meetings were attended by only 500 scientists and everyone knew everyone else. He says that while the growth of the Society has forced it to become less personal, it has become much more of a professional organization. Jamieson recalls logging in hundreds of papers as Program Chair without the help of computer or National Office staff. He is encouraged by the number and quality of women and young people that are entering the field, and sees the growth of ASCB's public policy efforts as another positive development in the Society.

When taking time off from his lab, Jamieson enjoys running and mountain biking and likes to escape and relax with his wife, Cynthia, and two daughters on his sailboat on Long Island Sound. His daughter Anne, 25, is working on architectural preservation and restoration projects in New York City, and his 23-year old daughter Laura is interested in pursuing a career in the health sciences.