The 50th Annual Meeting of the ASCB (December 11–15, 2010, in Philadelphia, PA) is shaping up to be one of our most exiting ever—and it's time to finish your abstracts and register if you haven't already done so. I’ll review highlights of the scientific program in the next Newsletter. But I can tell you that ASCB Program Chair Jodi Nunnari has put together an exciting program that covers cell biology in more depth and breadth than any other meeting. Whether your interests trend toward pathways, organelles, tissues, microscopes, or diseases, ASCB’s 2010 meeting will be the place to hear cutting-edge developments from around the world.

To celebrate our 50th anniversary as a Society, we are organizing several special events that will make the meeting memorable, even historic. Many previous winners of ASCB awards, past presidents, and Nobel laureates recognized for their work in cell biology have agreed to join us at our Keynote and special 50th Anniversary Reception on Saturday, December 11. We will share reminiscences and hopes for the future. Don't miss this chance for you and your students or colleagues to meet some of the luminaries in the field. We will also look back at 50 in Photos and look ahead to the next 50 years. See you then.

—Tim Mitchison, ASCB President

ASCB Tagline Contest

Who? YOU and your creative mind
What? Submit a Tagline for the ASCB to unveil for its 50th Anniversary. If we choose your tagline, you will win ASCB membership for a year, ASCB 2010 or 2011 Annual Meeting registration, recognition in the ASCB Newsletter and on the ASCB website, and an ASCB t-shirt!
When: By October 1, 2010
How? Read the ASCB Mission Statement below. Think about how to summarize this in a tagline. A tagline is a branding slogan that concisely, memorably, and descriptively sums up an organization or company. Submit your tagline of no more than 55 characters at www.ascb.org/tagline.

ASCB Mission Statement

ASCB is an inclusive, international community of biologists studying the cell, the fundamental unit of life. We are dedicated to advancing scientific discovery, advocating sound research policies, improving education, promoting professional development, and increasing diversity in the scientific workforce.

Sample Taglines:

Apple® - Think Different
Genetics Society of America (GSA) - Discover. Understand. Inform.
MasterCard® - There are some things that money can't buy. For everything else there's MasterCard.

Note: This contest is for the best suggestion for a tagline. The ASCB reserves the right to modify the best suggestion made and, in the event of tie submissions, to select that received earliest.
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ASCb, The International Society for Biosciences?

ASCb President Tim Mitchison invited Jim Spudich, Chair, ASCb International Affairs Committee, to write this column.

When Mary Beckerle and Bruce Alberts, prior Co-Chairs and ex officio members of ASCb’s International Affairs Committee (IAC), asked if I would consider taking on the role of Chair of IAC starting January 2010, I immediately and enthusiastically accepted. There is no more pivotal role for our Society than to broadly foster communications and collaborations with the world at large. The importance of the IAC’s role is manifest by the number of prior ASCb presidents who continue to devote their time and energy to IAC affairs. The devotion of Cheryl Lehr (ASCb Executive Assistant/Office Manager) and Joan Goldberg (ASCb Executive Director) in facilitating initiatives that have come from the IAC is remarkable and ensures the success of our endeavors.

The major objectives of the IAC are “to serve ASCb’s international members and enhance their engagement in the Society, to reach out to international colleagues to promote scientific exchange, and to contribute to building capacity in cell biology worldwide.” To that I would explicitly add “to transcend the complex political issues facing the world today, and set an example of how to cooperate productively, sharing ideas, and creatively moving forward.” As one of the strongest biological science societies in the world, ASCb has an obligation to help bring these objectives to fruition. Many ASCb members are already deeply involved in these endeavors, and I’m delighted to report that this year we have started several new initiatives to add to the extremely productive programs established in prior years. Our current initiatives, summarized below, are strong and growing due to hard work and devotion by all of the IAC members, as well as that of many other ASCb members who are Associates of the IAC.

Global Outreach Programs

IAC Roundtable at the ASCb Annual Meeting

The highly popular IAC Roundtable, headed by Judith Kimble with heavy involvement from Deborah Lycan, is held at the ASCb Annual Meeting. The goals of the IAC Roundtable are to foster interactions between the U.S. and international attendees, to discuss science and policy issues of special significance for international attendees, and to provide suggestions to ASCb leadership regarding programs and benefits. Members of the IAC and ASCb Council facilitate discussions over lunch. Participants include international and U.S. graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

International Research & Training Exchange Fair

A wonderful idea from Dick McIntosh being enthusiastically organized by Vivek Malhotra, the International Research & Training Exchange Fair is new in 2010. It will be held at the ASCb Annual Meeting on the first evening during the 50th Anniversary Reception. Its goal is to enable attendees to learn about research, training, and other opportunities in countries around the world. Information about scientific institutions from a wide variety of regions around the world will be displayed. Representatives will be in attendance at each table to answer questions.

iBioSeminars

A spectacular international initiative is the open-access iBioSeminars, spearheaded by Ron Vale. These lectures, largely funded by Howard Hughes Medical Institute, are viewed in more than 100 countries. Vale and Karen Dell have worked tirelessly to create an extensive and highly popular, freely available library of seminars. Outstanding scientists host lectures on ongoing research in leading laboratories.

The deadline for advertising is the first day of the month preceding the cover date. For information contact Advertising Manager Ed Newman, enewman@ascb.org.
iBioSeminars start with an extended introduction, making them accessible to nonspecialists and students, and then progress to cover current research. Everyone from students to senior scientists can view these lectures. The lectures are intended to be more accessible than most typical seminars for advanced undergraduates/beginning graduate students and researchers outside of the specific field. iBioSeminars are being used by undergraduate and graduate teachers to augment their classroom material. An education component has now been added to the website (see www.ibioseminars.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=107&Itemid=6).

iBioMagazine
A complementary initiative to iBioSeminars is being launched. Called iBioMagazine, this new project features short 10- to 15-minute videos focused on behind-the-scenes issues of science.

IAC Columns in the ASCB Newsletter
Since January 2007, IAC members and colleagues have written articles of interest to scientists around the world. Under the leadership of Mark Peifer and Mahasin Osman, articles include the most recent “Cell Biology under the Puerto Rican Sun,” “Bridging the Gap: Cell Biology in Sub-Saharan Africa,” “Cell Biology in Argentina,” an upcoming article on cell biology in Israel, and an article on India. Osman has recently recruited articles on Brazil and Ghana that will appear in future issues.

International Federation for Cell Biology (IFCB) and Other International Organizations
Through its membership in the IFCB, ASCB helps support travel funds for young scientists, many of whom are ASCB members, to attend IFCB’s Congresses held around the world. Cynthia Jensen attends the IFCB Congresses on behalf of ASCB and promotes relationships with other cell biology associations, such as the Korean Society for Cell and Molecular Biology and the Asian Pacific Organization for Cell Biology.

ASCB Co-Sponsored International Meetings
In light of the international constituency of the ASCB, the IAC has pursued cosponsorship of meetings abroad. This initiative began with a joint meeting with the European Cytoskeleton Forum titled “Dynamic Interplay Between Cytoskeletal and Membrane Systems” facilitated by David Drubin, Daniel Louvard, and Laura Machesky. The meeting, held in Dijon, France, attracted about 200 scientists from Europe, South America, North America, Australia, and Asia. A second international meeting was held in Japan in 2009, facilitated by Mark Peifer, Sachiko Tsukita, and Masatoshi Takeichi, and jointly sponsored by ASCB, RIKEN, and the Japanese Society for Cell Biology. IAC members David Roos and Cynthia Jensen are looking into a potential meeting in Brazil or Singapore for which ASCB can be a cosponsor with no monetary obligation.

Outreach to Specific Countries
African Workshops
One of our most unusual programs is our African teaching and research training program, the brainchild of Dick McIntosh in 2008. It involves many ASCB members. ASCB has been fortunate to obtain a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to support this endeavor. Olympus and Zeiss have also contributed significantly by donating relevant microscopy equipment. A primary goal of this program is to teach young African researchers and teachers about modern cell biology, using Web-based resources and other material that can help to enrich whatever textbook material is available. A second goal is to present laboratory exercises (practicals) that provide hands-on experience with important and commonly used methods for cell biology and that use inexpensive materials to demonstrate important concepts. A focus of each course has been on the cell biology of diseases that are locally relevant, like malaria and sleeping sickness, so the students of the course will leave carrying valuable materials with which to excite and educate their own students. Courses have been given in Tanzania and Ghana, where members of ASCB and colleagues have partnered with African universities to provide two weeks of intensive instruction. Aspects of cell biology were taught to about 25 young African scientists in each course.

Books for Africa
This initiative originated in 2003 when Chris Watters taught cellular and molecular biology at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia as a Fulbright Fellow. While there, Watters became concerned about the severe shortage of textbooks at the university. He convinced
several publishers to donate texts in cell and molecular biology and biochemistry. As a result of Watters’ hard work and dedication, ASCB launched the Books for Africa project under his direction in 2008. Books for Africa, in collaboration with numerous U.S. Embassies, now targets 35 universities in Egypt, Tunisia, the Sudan, Tanzania, Burundi, Swaziland, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia, Cameroon, and Algeria. To date 1,229 textbooks have been sent to African universities. Imagine how many lives have been touched by this effort, by a single ASCB member. Imagine what could transpire if half of ASCB’s membership, or nearly 5,000 members, took on an effort of this nature!

Teaching and Research in India
This new initiative, headed by IAC member Satyajit Mayor with help from Shubha Tole and others, represents an exciting opportunity for ASCB members. Science education and research in India are experiencing an unprecedented stimulus. In addition to cutting-edge and exciting research at existing institutes, new and exciting educational initiatives have been set into motion in the past four years. Five Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs) and the related National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER) are distributed around the country (Figure 1). In addition, at the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) in Bangalore, a new Stem Cell Biology Institute called inSTEM is being incubated, and the leaders of that endeavor are very interested in running programs focused on stem cell biology.

The development of these new initiatives in biological excellence is outpacing the number of highly qualified Indian teachers and researchers, and therefore represents an exciting opportunity for ASCB members. For more information, see p. 23.

Teaching in Turkey
IAC has begun exploring opportunities to secure funding to allow ASCB members to participate in co-teaching and contributing to scientific activities in Turkey. Jon Scholey heads this initiative and will teach at Bosphorus University in Istanbul as a Fulbright Scholar this fall.

Teaching in South America
John Mercer and Meg Titus, leaders of a new initiative in South America, have been teaching courses and workshops in Brazil and Uruguay with a number of their colleagues. They have organized Pan-American Studies Institutes sponsored by National Science Foundation grants; other courses have been funded by South American agencies and the European Molecular Biology Organization. The next course will be offered in August 2010 in Rio de Janeiro.

Partnerships
Seeding Labs
Recognizing that there are wonderful initiatives that have been established outside of the ASCB IAC, we seek to form partnerships to enhance our efforts and those of others. A case in point is Seeding Labs, a nonprofit organization that enables researchers in the developing world to pursue high-impact science. Nina Dudnik, Seeding Labs founder and executive director, began this initiative as a student at Harvard Medical School in 2003. Her goal: to reclaim surplus equipment from the university and other public and private research institutions. In seven years Seeding Labs has provided over $700,000 in scientific equipment to scientists in 16 countries. In the coming years, Seeding Labs aims to focus its work geographically to widen the range of services it provides. The IAC is committed to helping these activities.

Sister Societies
We have also initiated contacts with our sister societies in the biosciences to form partnerships that will help coordinate and enhance the efforts of all.

Conclusion and Perspectives
A little over a year ago, President Obama announced in Cairo, Egypt, that science envoys would be part of a new U.S. effort to build stronger relationships with Islamic communities around the world. The first three envoys, including our own Bruce Alberts, along with several officials of the U.S. government and
ambassadors from Muslim-majority countries, participated in the event to discuss how scientific partnerships can foster cooperation in areas of mutual interest. In this same vein, I am pleased that we have begun the initiative in Turkey. I am very much looking forward to helping this initiative blossom and participating in teaching there. I will also continue a decade-long interaction with the NCBS in Bangalore, where I hold an adjunct faculty position and teach and carry out research. Under the direction of Mayor, our India initiative promises to be truly spectacular.

Still, we are far from our ultimate goal. The American Society for Cell Biology is neither wholly “American” nor exclusively classical “cell biology.” Currently, 25% of the members of the Society represent more than 75 other countries; and modern cell biology is a powerful mixture of disciplines, including classical cell and developmental biology, neuroscience, biochemistry, biophysics, biomedicine, and bioengineering, to name a few. We can feel we have accomplished our goal when ASCB is seen as The International Society for Biosciences, and viewed by scientists the world over as their Society. New, innovative, international initiatives will then surface from different parts of the world, which will complement and enhance those already in existence. Among the many things we need to do is to forge a much larger effort regarding global health. Energy utilization and sources must also be high on our radar screen. As we move further in these directions, we will be one step closer in helping to bring about better international communications and understandings.

Reference


More about all of these initiatives can be found on the IAC website (http://tinyurl.com/ASCB-IAC). Comments are welcome and should be sent to Cheryl Lehr (clehr@ascb.org) or to Jim Spudich (jspudich@stanford.edu).

Calling All ASCB YouTubers!

Let others know why you joined the ASCB and why you remain a member. Why do you attend the ASCB Annual Meeting? Share your favorite ASCB Annual Meeting memory with the world!

We Want to Hear From You!

In recognition of our 50th Anniversary, the ASCB invites you to create a YouTube™-style video no more than 50 seconds in length for all to see. To say thank you, we’ll give you a free ASCB t-shirt that can be picked up at the ASCB Annual Meeting in Philadelphia—you’ll be there, right?

The process is simple.

1. **Pick one of the following statements:**
   - I joined the ASCB because…
   - After ___ years, I am a still an ASCB member because…
   - I look forward to the ASCB Annual Meeting because…
   - My favorite ASCB Annual Meeting memory is…
   - I love cell biology because…

2. **Create a 50-second video** in which you complete one of the statements above. Be creative. Use props. Do whatever it takes to get the message across (in less than 50 seconds, of course).

3. **Upload your video to www.ascb.org/youtube.** Be sure to include the title of your video, your name, and your contact information when submitting.

All approved videos will be posted to the ASCB’s YouTube™ channel and the ASCB website, and may be used in other ASCB promotional materials. If you have questions or comments about this call for videos, contact the ASCB at 301-347-9300 or ascbinfo@ascb.org.

We look forward to receiving your submissions. Thank you for supporting your community!
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Two concurrent Symposia will be held each afternoon, Sunday through Tuesday, December 12–14, at 4:15 pm–5:45 pm; a special Closing Symposium will be held on Wednesday, December 15, from 11:00 am–12:15 pm. Seven Minisymposia and one Working Group will be held each morning, Sunday through Wednesday, December 11–15, from 8:30 am–10:35 am. Co-chairs are encouraged to give a talk, and will select four to six speakers for each presentation from regular abstracts submitted by July 29, 2010.

Member-Organized Special Interest Subgroups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday, December 12, 4:15 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chromosome Dynamics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cytoskeletal Dynamics</td>
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**Chromosome Dynamics**

Peter Fraser
Babraham Institute, UK

Gary Karpen
University of California, Berkeley

Jeannie Lee
Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard Medical School

Karen Oegema
University of California, San Diego

Laurie Smith
University of California, San Diego

Julie Theriot
Stanford University

**Cytoskeletal Dynamics**

Jeannie Lee
Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard Medical School

Karen Oegema
University of California, San Diego

Laurie Smith
University of California, San Diego

Julie Theriot
Stanford University

50th Anniversary Keynote

**Saturday, December 11, 6:00 pm**

**Looking Back: ASCB’s First Meeting**
Remarks by Gary Borisy

**Improving Cancer Chemotherapy: How Can a Basic Scientist Contribute?**

Timothy J. Mitchison
Harvard Medical School

50th ASCB Annual Meeting Program
December 11–15, 2010 | Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA
Timothy J. Mitchison, President | Jodi Nunnari, Program Chair
Minisymposia

Cancer and Cancer Microenvironment
Lloyd Trotman, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Valerie Weaver, University of California, San Francisco

Cell and Tissue Morphogenesis
Darren Gilmour, European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg
Cheryl Tickle, University of Bath

Cell Biology Education: Where’s the Math?
Caroline Kane, University of California, Berkeley
Susan Wick, University of Minnesota

Cell Death
Barbara Conradi, Dartmouth Medical School
Jim Wells, University of California, San Francisco

Cell Growth and Cell Cycle
Michael N. Hall, Biozentrum, University of Basel
Michael Rape, University of California, Berkeley

Cell Migration and Motility
Carole Parent, National Cancer Institute, NIH
Michael Sixt, Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry

Chromatin and Chromosomes
David M. Gilbert, Florida State University
Lori Wallrath, University of Iowa

Cilia and Centrosomes
Tamara Caspary, Emory University
Tim Stearns, Stanford University/HHMI

Cytoskeletal and Nuclear Intermediate Filaments and Disease
Ueli Aebi, University of Basel, M.E. Mueller Institute
Katherine Wilson, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

Cytoskeleton Dynamics
R. Dyche Mullins, University of California, San Francisco
Ed Munro, University of Chicago

Endo- and Exocytosis
Tomas Kirchhausen, Harvard Medical School
Mary Munson, University of Massachusetts Medical School

Extracellular Matrix, Cell Adhesion, and Signaling
Christopher S. Chen, University of Pennsylvania
Douglas Desimone, University of Virginia School of Medicine

Host-Pathogen Interactions
Kent Hill, University of California, Los Angeles
Nick Talbot, University of Exeter

Intracellular Trafficking
Suzanne Pfeffer, Stanford University
Sharon A. Tooze, London Research Institute Cancer Research UK

Lipid Dynamics and Signaling
Will Prinz, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, NIH
Julie Saba, Children’s Hospital Oakland Research Institute

Mitosis and Meiosis
Monica Colaiacovo, Harvard Medical School
Duane Compton, Dartmouth Medical School

MOTORS
Mary Porter, University of Minnesota Medical School
Thomas Schwartz, Children’s Hospital Boston

Neuronal Development and Degeneration
Maxwell G. Heiman, Rockefeller University
Leo Pallanck, University of Washington

Nuclear Cell Biology
Ana Pombo, Imperial College London
Daniel A. Starr, University of California, Davis

Organelle Structure and Biogenesis
Benjamin Glick, University of Chicago
Maya Schuldiner, Weizmann Institute of Science

Prokaryotic Cell Biology
Briana Burton, Harvard University
Joe Pogliano, University of California, San Diego

Protein and RNA Folding and Quality Control
Douglas M. Cyr, University of North Carolina School of Medicine
Sandra Wolin, Yale University School of Medicine

RNA Biology
Javier Cáceres, MRC Human Genetics Unit, Edinburgh
Daniel St. Johnston, The Gurdon Institute, University of Cambridge

Stem Cells
Sally Temple, New York Neural Stem Cell Institute
Amy Wagers, Joslin Diabetes Center

Wound Healing and Regeneration
William Bement, University of Wisconsin–Madison
Philip Newmark, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign/HHMI

Working Groups

As an alternative to Minisymposia, these sessions provide a more interactive experience for meeting attendees.

Aging
Ana Maria Cuervo, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Marcia Haigis, Harvard Medical School
Brian Kennedy, University of Washington
John Sedivy, Brown University

In Vivo Imaging
John Condeelis, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Kat Hadjantonakis, Sloan-Kettering Institute
Ralph Weissleder, Harvard Medical School

Nanoscale Biology
Marilee Dogterom, FOM Institute AMOLF, Amsterdam
Scott Manalis, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Doug Weibel, University of Wisconsin–Madison

To Screen or Not to Screen
Anne Carpenter, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard
Tobias Meyer, Stanford University School of Medicine
Caroline Shamu, Harvard Medical School

Important Dates
Meeting registration, abstract submission, and hotel reservations are now available at www.ascb.org/meetings.

Deadlines
September 1
Regular Abstract Submission (for poster consideration only)
Travel Award Application

October 7
Early Meeting Registration (for discounted rates)

October 15
Late Abstract Submission

December 1
Hotel Reservations (for guaranteed low ASCB rates)

Contact the ASCB:
ascbinfo@ascb.org
www.ascb.org

For more information, contact the ASCB:
301-347-9300
www.ascb.org
Dealing Effectively with the Media

Do you shy away from speaking to the media? Sure, it can be a scary thing to do, but careful communication with the press can be an effective way to increase public support for issues that matter to us. I recently jumped in with both feet. Although I made most of the classic rookie mistakes, I survived and my issue made the front page. Here I offer some lessons based on that experience.

The Issues: Gender Bias and Beyond

In May 2010 the Canadian government announced the appointment of 19 men and zero women to the prestigious Canadian Excellence in Research Chairs (CERC), valued at C$10 million each. It took little effort to discover why these plums all went to men. There were several contributing factors, but most egregious was the fact that 36 independent search committees conducted searches primarily by informal networking. The result was that there were 36 male nominees, from which 19 males were selected. We know nothing about the composition of these 36 committees. Anyone up for a wager?

In my outrage at the lack of transparency in the process and extreme gender bias in the outcome, I dashed off emails hither and yon, including one to a friend in the newspaper business. The next morning I received a call from a reporter at the Vancouver Sun. She had done her homework, was intelligent and engaging, and seemed supportive of my point of view. In short, she was very effective at getting me to speak freely and openly. Beyond the gender bias issue, the CERC program is riddled with problems. In my view, the whole thing is a misguided effort driven to satisfy political egos and not Canadian science. During one 45-minute phone call I tried to convey my dismay about all of the program’s facets.

Keep It Simple

I was thrilled to see the story appear on the front page. However, although some of my quotes were on the mark, other statements were out of context and one was simply wrong.

My first lesson: I realized that if I’d kept my message simpler and restricted myself to one issue, misquotes would have been less likely. And although reporters don’t like you to see a piece before it goes to press, before agreeing to do an interview you may negotiate the right to check the quotations (promising instant turnaround) before the final piece is filed. This is especially important if you will be discussing complex issues.

If You Say It, They Will Use It

My second lesson: It is important to remember that you are speaking to a reporter. A good reporter will quickly have you feeling like old pals. Watch your language. The media love inflammatory language, such as “ego-stroking.” (Yup, I said that.) If you say it, they will use it, and it may not appear in the context that you intended.

This is particularly important when being interviewed on the topic of gender bias. As tired as it is to most of us, the “battle of the sexes” still sells. Try not to feed that monster. (Yeah, I fed it.) Doing so unnecessarily polarizes the issue and puts a smokescreen in front of the important question of why, after all of these years, we still live in a society where gender bias exists.

If you get questions that you are not prepared to answer, don’t answer them. If you think any of these questions is important, say so, and suggest that you can get back to the reporter on that one or guide them to a source. If you are unsure about something and you offer it on the spot, too late, you’ve said it. Although I avoided this mistake, someone else interviewed for the same piece offered up a number that was off the mark. He was publicly admonished in a letter to the editor several days later. (Ouch.)

Follow Up

You can always follow up. After you are quoted in a piece, write a letter to the editor or write an opinion piece. Use the opportunity to make your point in a situation where you can carefully consider every word, every turn of phrase. My
Favors more of the same and does not embrace diversity. While I and others are making some noise, it isn’t nearly enough. Voices from the international community would be potent assets.

And with respect to making effective use of the media, I have learned some valuable lessons that can be applied not only to raising public awareness of issues such as gender bias, but also to promoting public understanding of and appreciation for science.

—Lynne Quarmby for the Women in Cell Biology Committee

A good reporter will quickly have you feeling like old pals. Watch your language.

MEMBERS in the News

Mina Bissell of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, an ASCB member since 1973 and 1996–97 ASCB President, was named the winner of the 2010 American Italian Cancer Foundation Prize for Scientific Excellence in Medicine.

Lila Gierasch of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, an ASCB member since 1993, was granted Genentech’s Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin Award, for her application of biophysical methods to interrogate biological systems.

Shinya Inoué of the Marine Biological Laboratory, an ASCB member since 1967, has been honored by the Government of Japan with the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon award. The award recognizes his “contributions to science and the development of technologies, and the promotion of research cooperation between Japan and the United States.”

2010 Half-Century Fund Donors

The ASCB is grateful to the following donors* whose contributions support Society activities:

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Ora Weiss
Helen Piwnica-Worms

*As of July 20, 2010

If you get questions that you are not prepared to answer, don’t answer them.
Dear Labby,

On more than one occasion, I have been unable to obtain published reagents (plasmids) from other labs. In some cases, the email request is never answered. In other cases, I get a response explaining why the reagent “won’t work” or why I should try a different experiment. In the latter case, I have responded as to why I think the experiment will work, only to have the reagent never provided. This is very frustrating. In most cases, I know the scientist who runs the lab, and who is not responding, and I know that the lab is funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and publishing results in journals that stipulate that reagents be made available. These investigators are on study sections and editorial boards of many journals. Thus I fear that if I were to “rat” on them, I would receive “retribution,” however subtle. Other labs provide reagents in a timely fashion. For reagents that are in high demand, there are services that assist in providing these materials to other labs. The labs that do not comply with requests seem to sit back and get their work done without contributing to the community of researchers. What does Labby recommend?

—Seeking Reagents

Dear Seeking,

Routine (i.e., email) requests for materials can sometimes be catalyzed by an actual follow-up phone call (an admittedly ancient method but one that can be surprisingly effective). This is because many investigators see these requests as email “noise,” namely low-priority incursions in a busy day. (Translation: “Geez, I was just finishing revising my manuscript and dealing with the reviewers and editor when this annoying distraction came that I’ll have to get someone in the lab to handle.”) But these investigators do respond, eventually. In contrast, the responses you describe have been obdurate, indeed adversarial. Such behavior cannot be condoned.

Labby has informed more than one requestor that the reagent might not work as hoped, for various reasons, but has always sent it nonetheless. To so comment but then not send the reagent is obviously a diversionary tactic. (In Labby’s experience, the requesting investigator had not read Labby’s publication carefully enough to appreciate what a given reagent could vs. could not accomplish. This was certainly forgivable and Labby hoped that the advice offered was helpful, perhaps more than the shipment itself.) Your experience, on the other hand, demonstrates unmistakable stonewalling.

The best approach is to involve your technology transfer office. Its staff know, or can readily reach, their counterparts at the institution whose investigator is refusing to provide a published reagent. It is possible that the uncooperative investigator is subject to an institutional policy on sharing published reagents. Such a policy would complement (or legally even trump, as a condition of employment) that of the journal in which the paper describing the reagent was published. In any case, this approach puts the matter in the hands of institutional officials experienced in this matter. (Moreover, they typically enjoy a healthy interinstitutional camaraderie with their counterparts.) Another advantage of this approach is that it keeps the matter as far from you and the investigator as possible. It would also put the request under the provisions of an interinstitutional Materials Transfer Agreement. This is to the advantage of all parties and, despite a prevalent misperception, is not at all burdensome on either the provider or requester.

If such an approach doesn’t result in success, then contacting the journal would be your best next step. Bear in mind that most journals frame their related policy around providing the requester with an opportunity to confirm the findings obtained with the reagent. Some authors try to weasel out of sharing reagents by claiming that the request goes beyond mere confirmation, i.e., that the material will be used to pursue new research directions. Frankly, this is almost always the case, but Labby and many journal editors regard such arguments by authors as specious. After all, most purposes to which such reagents are put would involve confirming their published properties (and woe to the recipient who fails to do so). A second reason the aforementioned argument by a resisting author falls short is that the stated journal policies do not explicitly prohibit new uses.

If you find it necessary to pursue the journal route, your concerns about the limits of confidentiality and possible reproach will be well founded, as unpleasant as that is. There is an investigator in Labby’s research field who is a notorious reagent nonsharer. Everyone knows this, and it has profoundly marred this scientist’s reputation and his hoped-for accolades. So there is some justice. Moreover, most study section members have hypersensitive antennae for foul play on the part of a panel member. Labby painfully witnessed this more than once during eight years of NIH study section service; in each case everyone at the table saw right through the behavior and defeated the contrarian
Who was motivated by a nonscientific agenda. Still, you are right to be concerned, and Labby hopes that the suggested institutional approach will work before the matter must go to the journal.

A final point is that sometimes such initially uncooperative investigators “cave in” by sending the reagent with a demand for coauthorship. Such demands should be strenuously resisted as they are, absent a true and genuine collaboration, “COA” (Corrupt On Arrival). Moreover, such demands would conflict with the standards for authorship that most journals are (at last) now requiring.

There was a 1985 movie, “Desperately Seeking Susan,” a quirky romantic comedy starring Madonna and Rosanna Arquette. Though you may not be desperate, Labby hopes that you will obtain your needed materials in a more linear path than that by which Susan was found. May you soon no longer be “Seeking.”

—Labby

Direct your questions to labby@ascb.org. Authors of questions chosen for publication may indicate whether or not they wish to be identified. Submissions may be edited for space and style.

LETTER to the Editor

To the Editor:
I really enjoy the Dear Labby column in the ASCB Newsletter. The May 2010 column, however, is especially of interest because it deals with the issue of plagiarism. I run a research program for students at a math and science high school. I would like ASCB’s permission to copy this column for use by students in our core research course, our science courses, and my student research program. I can also see it potentially used in our Considerations in Ethics program. This column presents a wonderful real-life example for our students of what can happen when one does not act with academic integrity.

—Judith A. Scheppler, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

Editor’s reply: The ASCB is pleased to provide such permission and gratified that the column is of greater use.

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HIGHLIGHTS from MBoC

The Editorial Board of *Molecular Biology of the Cell* has highlighted the following articles from the July 1 and July 15, 2010, issues. From among the many fine articles in the journal, the Board selects for these Highlights articles that are of broad interest and significantly advance knowledge or provide new concepts or approaches that extend our understanding.

**Drosophila Histone Deacetylase 6 Protects Dopaminergic Neurons against α-Synuclein Toxicity by Promoting Inclusion Formation**

Guiping Du, Xiang Liu, Xinping Chen, Mei Song, Yan Yan, Renjie Jiao, and Chih-chen Wang

dHDAC6 functions to suppress α-synuclein–induced neurodegeneration and locomotion defects in a *Drosophila* PD model through promoting α-synuclein–enriched inclusion formation while reducing the toxic oligomers.

*Mol. Biol. Cell* 21 (13), 2128–2137

**Mitochondrial Fragmentation Leads to Intracellular Acidification in *Caenorhabditis elegans* and Mammalian Cells**

David Johnson and Keith Nehrke

It is unclear how lesions in genes that regulate mitochondrial structural dynamics lead to disease. Here, tissue-specific biosensors expressed in the genetic model organism *Caenorhabditis elegans* are used to demonstrate that robust cellular acidification occurs when mitochondria are fragmented and may contribute to the etiology of morphology diseases in mammals.

*Mol. Biol. Cell* 21 (13), 2191–2201

*MDCK cells expressing a constitutively active variant of ARF6 form cysts with multiple lumens. (Image: James Clancy and Crislyn D’Souza-Schorey, University of Notre Dame)*
Fusel Alcohols Regulate Translation Initiation by Inhibiting eIF2B to Reduce Ternary Complex in a Mechanism That May Involve Altering the Integrity and Dynamics of the eIF2B Body
Eleanor J. Taylor, Susan G. Campbell, Christian D. Griffiths, Peter J. Reid, John W. Slaven, Richard J. Harrison, Paul F.G. Sims, Graham D. Pavitt, Daniela Delneri, and Mark P. Ashe

This study highlights a connection between the eIF2B body and the regulation of translation initiation as a response to stress in Saccharomyces cerevisiae. Fusel alcohols are involved in signaling nitrogen scarcity to the cell, and they inhibit protein synthesis by preventing the movement of the eIF2B body throughout the cell.

Mol. Biol. Cell 21 (13), 2202–2216

A Gαi–GIV Molecular Complex Binds Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor and Determines Whether Cells Migrate or Proliferate

Migrating cells do not proliferate and vice versa, but the mechanism involved remains unknown. This study reveals how this cellular decision is made by showing that a Gαi–GIV molecular complex interacts with EGF receptor and programs growth factor signaling, triggering migration when assembled and favoring mitosis when assembly is prevented.

Mol. Biol. Cell 21 (13), 2338–2354

Unregulated ARF6 Activation in Epithelial Cysts Generates Hyperactive Signaling Endosomes and Disrupts Morphogenesis
Jogender S. Tushir, James Clancy, Andrew Warren, Carolyn Wrobel, Joan S. Brugge, and Crislyn D’Souza-Schorey

This study shows that constitutive ARF6 activation during epithelial cyst morphogenesis promotes the formation of signaling endosomes that serve as platforms for hyperactive receptor signaling and leads to the generation of tumorigenic glandular phenotypes.

Mol. Biol. Cell 21 (13), 2355–2366

The Interferon-γ–induced Murine Guanylate-Binding Protein-2 Inhibits Rac Activation during Cell Spreading on Fibronectin and after Platelet-derived Growth Factor Treatment: Role for Phosphatidylinositol 3-Kinase
Angela F. Messmer-Blust, Sujata Balasubramanian, Victoria Y. Gorbacheva, Jonathan A. Jeyaratnam, and Deborah J. Vestal

IFN-γ and mGBP-2 inhibit the spreading of fibroblasts on fibronectin by inhibiting Rac activation. mGBP-2 is incorporated into a protein complex with the catalytic subunit of PI3-K, p110, and inhibits PI3-K activation during spreading. This is a novel mechanism by which IFN-γ can alter how cells respond to extracellular signals.

Mol. Biol. Cell 21 (14), 2514–2528
Authors of ASCB Publications to Retain Copyright

Authors who publish in Molecular Biology of the Cell (MBoC), CBE—Life Sciences Education (CBE-LSE), and the ASCB Newsletter will retain copyright of their work under a system approved by the ASCB Council and now being implemented. Previously, ASCB, like many publishers, has required authors to transfer their copyright to the publisher. Under the new system, authors will instead grant the ASCB a license to publish the work.

Articles in the three publications will be available to the public under a Creative Commons License (CCL). A CCL is a legal device that allows a copyright holder to permit reuse of a work under defined conditions. ASCB authors will use the Attribution–Noncommercial–Share Alike 3.0 Unported version of the CCL (see http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0). For MBoC, the license granted to ASCB by the author will initially be exclusive, and the CCL will not take effect until after the two-month period in which journal content is available only by subscription. (A personal subscription is a benefit of ASCB membership.) For CBE-LSE and the ASCB Newsletter, the ASCB license is nonexclusive from the time of publication and content is available immediately under the CCL.

The new system will take effect with the September 1, 2010, issue of MBoC and the Winter 2010 issue of CBE-LSE. It has been in effect for the ASCB Newsletter since the July 2010 issue.

—W. Mark Leader

ASCB “50 in Photos”

In recognition of our 50th Anniversary, the ASCB is seeking photographs from the past 50 years to display at the 50th ASCB Annual Meeting, December 11–15, 2010, in Philadelphia, PA. The ASCB will present a nostalgic visual timeline from 1960–2010, so we’re hoping for a good mix of old, new, and in-between photos.

What We’re Looking for:
1. Photos depicting cell biologists working in their labs
2. Photos of cell biologists in a classroom setting
3. Photos of lab equipment (being used by someone or stand-alone)
4. Photos from past ASCB Annual Meetings

Submission Guidelines
- Digital images or digital scans of original images, color or black and white
- Acceptable image formats: .jpg and .tiff (multiple photo submissions can be zipped)
- Images must be at least 3,000 × 2,400 pixels at 300 dpi

How to Submit
Please indicate who is pictured and when and where the photo was taken, if known. Submit online at www.ascb.org/meetings/ascb50photos/step1.cfm. Print submissions will not be accepted.

Submission Deadline
Thursday, September 30, 2010

We look forward to receiving your contributions to this exciting project. If you have any questions, please contact the ASCB at 301-347-9300 or ascbinfo@ascb.org.
President Obama Issues Research Security Guidelines

The Obama Administration is worried that you are unnecessarily stressed. A blogpost by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) cited concern about the stress of compliance with existing federal select agent and toxin regulations for the scientific community. In fact, this was referenced on the blog as one reason to streamline current federal biosecurity regulations.

Last month, President Obama issued an Executive Order that outlines the regulatory roles, responsibilities, and actions to be taken by federal departments and agencies that fund research on select agents.

The major components of the Executive Order include:

- Creation of an Interagency Coordinating Council and a Federal Experts Advisory Panel to coordinate federal security policies and practices
- Development of a tiered list of select agents that takes into account the ability of each agent to cause mass casualties and then crafts security practices specific to each tier
- Coordination of federal oversight and inspection of facilities using select agents

Regulation of select agents and toxins began in 1996 and continued in the aftermath of the 2001 U.S. terror attacks. Since that time, new legislation and regulations have, according to OSTP, made compliance more complicated and confusing for scientists. The OSTP blogpost cited a survey by Texas Tech University School of Law that found that two-thirds of scientists surveyed said they were moderately to highly stressed about the possibility of accidentally breaking a select agent regulation.

Now that the White House has issued the Executive Order, it is up to the U.S. Congress to pass similar legislation codifying the regulations. A bipartisan bill in the U.S. Senate closely mirrors some of the major provisions of the Executive Order. In particular, both the Executive Order and a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives give laboratory inspection authority to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Agriculture. The Senate bill, however, gives the U.S. Department of Homeland Security lead responsibility for laboratory inspections.

—Kevin M. Wilson

NIH: No More Late Papers

After September 25, 2010, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will not accept late paperwork. As of that date, the NIH will limit the information that can be sent to scientific review officers after grant applications are submitted.

Once the new policy takes effect, grant applicants will be able to submit only the following after submitting an application:

- Revised budget pages due to new funding
- Biographical sketches due to the loss of key personnel
- Letters of support or collaboration due to the loss of key personnel
- Adjustments resulting from natural disasters or change of institution
- Articles accepted for publication
  
  The following will not be accepted:
- Updated Specific Aims or Research Strategy pages
- Late-breaking research findings
- Supplemental pages for information not in the application
- New letters of support or collaboration


—Kevin M. Wilson
Varmus Takes Helm at NCI

On his first day as the director of the U.S. National Cancer Institute (NCI), ASCB member Harold Varmus had four requests for his colleagues. They included “I’d like to be called Harold” and “never use ‘impact’ as a verb.”

At the beginning of Varmus’s NCI Town Hall meeting, U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Francis Collins said it was “a great personal pleasure to be able to welcome Harold back to NIH.” Varmus then proceeded to outline some of his goals.

Varmus began his remarks by addressing why he wanted to be NCI director after serving as NIH director: “There is no better time, in my view of working in cancer research for the last 40 years, to lead the nation’s cancer research efforts.” He also said that, after leaving Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, he needed a job.

Varmus said that the idea of coming back to the NIH was very attractive. He called the NIH “the most glorious manifestation I know of what government and democracy are capable of doing.”

As he outlined his thoughts, Varmus reminded NCI employees that, despite the good reasons to support big science, the NCI must remain faithful to basic, investigator-initiated research. This is important if the NCI, the NIH, and American science are going to retain their stature, he said. “We have to remember that the great achievements in science have almost always begun with an individual scientist, the lone explorer, having an unexpected idea,” Varmus noted.


—Kevin M. Wilson

ASCB Needs U.S. Members’ Help!

A Congressional resolution congratulating the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) on its 50 years of service has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives. For H.Res.1296 to be passed by the House of Representatives, 100 members of the House must agree to cosponsor the resolution. Please take a few minutes to email your Representative and ask him or her to cosponsor the resolution.

Go to http://jcpp.capwiz.com/jcpp/dbq/officials/ and insert your zip code. Select “Please take a few minutes to email your Representative and ask him or her to cosponsor H.Res.1296.” to send your message.
Minorities Affairs Committee Meeting Held in Rosemont, IL

Program growth and ongoing activities were the focus of the ASCB Minorities Affairs Committee (MAC) annual spring/summer meeting, held this year in Rosemont, IL, on June 11, 2010. The Committee, under the leadership of Chair Renato Aguilera, discussed programs funded by a National Institutes of Health/National Institute of General Medical Sciences Minority Access to Research Careers grant, with MAC member and PI David Burgess. The grant was recently renewed for five years at over $800,000 annually. The MAC meeting preceded the MAC Fifth Annual Junior Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows Career Development Workshop, held June 12–13, 2010, also in Rosemont, IL.

The MAC is committed to furthering career development for minority students and early-career scientists. Toward that end, the MAC sponsors and supports the following programs for underrepresented minorities:

- Travel Awards to the ASCB Annual Meeting
- Visiting Professorship Awards (for mentored, summer research experiences)
- Linkage Fellow Awards at Minority-Serving Institutions (for mid- and senior-level professors to encourage minority interest and achievement in biology)
- Poster Sessions and MAC Awards Luncheon at the ASCB Annual Meeting
- Mentoring Symposium at the ASCB Annual Meeting
- Funding for summer courses at Marine Biological and Friday Harbor Laboratories
- Junior Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows Career Development Workshop in the summer and at the ASCB Annual Meeting
- Support and collaborations with the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) and the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) (symposia, awards, and booths)
- Joint MAC/Educational Resources Booth at the ASCB Annual Meeting
- E.E. Just Lectureship at the ASCB Annual Meeting
- Production and dissemination of training publications and videos

Members in attendance at the MAC meeting included Aguilera, David Asai, Burgess, Andrew Campbell, Tama Hasson, Michael Leibowitz, Veronica Lopez, Sandra Murray, W. Sue Shafer, Winston Thompson, and Maria Elena Zavala. Senior Manager, Minorities Affairs, Deborah McCall was also in attendance.

MAC Programs

The MAC discussed all of its programs and was pleased with their growth and continuity. MAC Chair Aguilera noted that he would like the MAC to focus more on marketing and advertising its programs during the next fiscal year.

Evaluations of the programs for the past few years have been outstanding. Burgess reported that he was pleased with MAC program evaluations, which are prepared by MAC Program Evaluator Joy Quill of Quill and Associates. The MAC also finalized plans for its activities at the upcoming ASCB 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA. It also finalized plans for exhibiting and hosting cell biology talks at the ABRCMS and SACNAS Annual Meetings.

—Deborah McCall

Did You Know...?

You can receive an email alert whenever a new issue of an ASCB journal is published. Choose to receive either a complete copy of the table of contents or a notice that the issue has been published.

- For CBE—Life Sciences Education, sign up at www.lifescied.org/subscriptions/etoc.dtl.
- For Molecular Biology of the Cell (MBoC), sign up at www.molbiolcell.org/subscriptions/etoc.shtml. (You may also request to be notified whenever recently accepted manuscripts are posted on MBoC In Press.)
MAC Hosts Fifth Annual Junior Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows Career Development Workshop

Focusing on career development, the ASCB Minorities Affairs Committee (MAC) hosted its Fifth Annual Junior Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows Career Development Workshop on June 12–13, 2010, in Rosemont, IL. The two-day workshop was once again a hit, with participants noting the excellent opportunities provided for networking and learning.

As one participant stated, “I think I have met some life-long friends! I enjoyed the interaction with my peers and I learned so much.”

The workshop was designed to provide information on publications, grant writing, mentoring, time management, professional development, lab management, and other topics critical for junior faculty and postdoctoral fellows. Participants were invited to bring a manuscript or grant for review by one of the speakers or MAC members. This added to the personal value for participants.

Speakers and planners this year included MAC Chair Renato Aguilera, MAC member and professor and director of the Graduate Program in Biology, University of Texas, El Paso; Minority Access to Research Careers grant PI David Burgess, MAC member and professor of biology, Boston College; David J. Asai, MAC member and director, Precollege and Undergraduate Science Education, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; Franklin Carrero-Martinez, assistant professor, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez; Deborah Harmon Hines, MAC member and vice provost and professor, University of Massachusetts Medical School; Michael Leibowitz, MAC member and executive director of Graduate Academic Diversity, University of Medicine and Dentistry, New Jersey Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences; Nancy Lohrey, program director, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health; Veronica Lopez, MAC member and research assistant, The Pennsylvania State University; Sandra Murray, MAC member and professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine; Richard Rodewald, program director for Cellular Systems, National Science Foundation; and Maria Elena Zavala, professor of biology, California State University, Northridge.

Workshop participants included:

- Heather Benson, Indiana University School of Medicine
- Jennifer Brace, Northwestern University
- Maria G. Castillo, New Mexico State University
- Mardicie Conacci-Sorrell, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- Carlita Favero, University of Virginia
- Tracie Gibson, University of Texas of the Permian Basin
- Joanna Gonzalez-Lergier, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
- Triscia Hendrickson, Morehouse College
- Jose Antonio Ibarra, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH
- Jacqueline Jordan, Clayton State University
- Ann Kimble-Hill, Indiana University School of Medicine
- Kolbrun Kristjansdottir Fass, University of Chicago
- Nancy Karuri, Illinois Institute of Technology
- Angelia Lockett, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis
- Muhammad Lodhi, Fayetteville State University
- Manuel Miranda-Arango, University of Texas at El Paso
- Kenneth Ndebele, Jackson State University
- Paul Okagbare, University of Michigan
- John Opoku-Ansah, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- Florastina Payton-Stewart, Tulane University
- Tamiko Porter, Prairie View A&M University
- Johanna Porter-Kelley, Winston-Salem State University
- Blake Riggs, San Francisco State University
- Checo J. Rorie, North Carolina A&T State University
- Latasha Smith, Central Baptist College
- Andrew Truman, University of Chicago

—Deborah McCall
Kudos for the ASCB MAC 2010 Junior Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows Career Development Workshop

Dear MAC,
Thanks for offering this workshop! It was well organized and there were excellent workshop materials. I think I’ve met some life-long friends. I really enjoyed the interaction with my peers.

—Jacqueline Jordan
ASCB 2010 MAC Visiting Professor
Associate Professor of Biology
Clayton State University

Dear MAC,
I want to thank you for a great workshop. The MAC has a very comprehensive and intimate workshop that will be very beneficial to my success as a faculty member.

Checo J. Rorie
Adjunct Assistant Professor
North Carolina A&T State University

Dear MAC and esteemed presenters,
I find myself back in familiar surroundings and had time to reflect on this past weekend’s events. The information that was presented to me in this workshop will be critical to my success. There is no instruction booklet handed to you when you are hired on how to succeed as a professor, but over the past two days, I felt that I just received that manual. I realize that all of you were there for your dedication to mentoring and that usually comes with no monetary gain. However, I do hope that my gratification and my success throughout these years can be that “coin of the realm” of mentorship. Hopefully our paths will cross again in the near future and I will have the opportunity to relay this thank you in person.

Blake Riggs
Assistant Professor
San Francisco State University

Awardees Selected for ASCB MAC Linkage Fellows Program

The ASCB Minorities Affairs Committee (MAC) is pleased to announce that 11 scientists have been selected to serve as Linkage Fellows for 2010. Funding for this program is provided for Fellows to support outreach and activities that promote cell biology at their home institutions. The major goal of this program is to increase participation of faculty from minority-serving institutions to “serve as a link” between the institution, its students, faculty, administration, and the ASCB MAC. The Linkage Fellows Program is supported by a National Institutes of Health/National Institute of General Medical Sciences Minority Access to Research Careers grant.

The Linkage Fellows Program acknowledges all past Fellows as alumni. Alumni are encouraged to remain in the MAC community and continue to serve as that important link between their institutions and the MAC. Alumni are also eligible to apply for MAC Travel Awards to the ASCB Annual Meeting.

Applications for the 2011 MAC Linkage Fellows Program will be available on the ASCB website in January 2011.

The 11 scientists selected for funding for 2010 are:

- Nwadiuto Esiobu, Florida Atlantic University
- Tracie Gibson, University of Texas of the Permian Basin
- Triscia W. Hendrickson, Morehouse College
- Lalitha Jayant, Borough of Manhattan Community College
- Fran Norflus, Clayton State University
- R. Renee Reams, Florida A&M University
- E. Gloria Regisford, Prairie View A&M University
- Nelson J. Nunez Rodriguez, Hostos Community College, CUNY
- Janet Rollins, College of Mount Saint Vincent
- Selwyn Williams, New York City College of Technology, CUNY
- Velinda Worix, University of North Carolina, Pembroke

—Deborah McCall
Awardees Selected for ASCB MAC Summer Visiting Professorship

The ASCB Minorities Affairs Committee (MAC) is pleased to sponsor 11 scientists for collaborative research with host scientists this summer. The MAC Visiting Professors program is supported by a National Institutes of Health/National Institute of General Medical Sciences Minority Access to Research Careers grant. The program’s major purpose is to provide research support for professors at minority-serving institutions to work in the laboratories of members of the ASCB for an eight- to 10-week period during the summer.

Applications for the 2011 MAC Visiting Professors Program will be available on the ASCB website in January 2011.

The 11 2010 Visiting Professors and their Host Scientists are listed below:

■ Visiting Scientist: Manuel Alejandro Barbieri, Florida International University (2nd year)
  Host Scientist: David Lambricht, University of Massachusetts Medical School-Worcester

■ Visiting Scientist: Oluwole Ariyo, Allen University (1st year)
  Host Scientist: Lewis Bowman, University of South Carolina

■ Visiting Scientist: Latanya Hammond-Odie, Georgia Gwinnett College (1st year)
  Host Scientist: Andreas Fritz, Emory University

■ Visiting Scientist: Jacqueline Jordan, Clayton State University (1st year)
  Host Scientist: Gary Miller, Emory University

■ Visiting Scientist: Muhammad A. Lodhi, Fayetteville State University (1st year)
  Host Scientist: Jorge A. Piedrabita, North Carolina State University

■ Visiting Scientist: Joy Marshall, Prairie View A&M University (2nd year)
  Host Scientist: Kendal D. Hirschi, Baylor College of Medicine

■ Visiting Scientist: Kenneth Ndebele, Jackson State University (1st year)
  Host Scientist: Roya Khosravi-Far, Harvard Medical School

■ Visiting Scientist: Thomas Onorato, LaGuardia Community College/CUNY (1st year)
  Host Scientist: Gary M. Wessel, Brown University

■ Visiting Scientist: Johanna Porter Kelley, Winston-Salem State University (1st year)
  Host Scientist: Marcia M. Miller, City of Hope

■ Visiting Scientist: Tamiko Porter, Prairie View A&M University (1st year)
  Host Scientist: Frank Rauschel, Texas A&M University

■ Visiting Scientist: Maria S. Santisteban, University of North Carolina, Pembroke (2nd year)
  Host Scientist: M. Mitchell Smith, University of Virginia Health System

—Deborah McCall
Teaching and Research Initiatives in India

Science education and research in India are experiencing a huge fillip. In addition to cutting-edge and exciting research in existing institutes, new and exciting educational initiatives have been set into motion in the past four years. This is not only transforming the opportunities for talented young students of science, but also providing an incentive for researchers to return to India now. However, the scale of these new Indian initiatives poses many challenges. This is mainly in light of a lack of adequately trained teachers and researchers in the cutting-edge areas of science in India today. This is particularly acute for biology, where the number of top-quality practicing scientists in the whole country of India just about approaches that in a medium-sized university system in the U.S.

Opportunity and Enthusiasm

In this regard, some of the members of the ASCB International Affairs Committee (IAC) felt that the membership of the ASCB provides a wonderful opportunity to draw on a pool of talented and inspiring teachers and researchers to help bridge this gap in India. In particular, we believe that this holds true in some specific areas where a set of identified institutes have expressed a need. To initiate this engagement, we contacted a few colleagues at three institutes to ask their views about what they would envisage for such a program. At the outset, this initiative has received very positive replies and reflects huge enthusiasm to engage with ASCB researchers in India.

In the initial phase of this engagement, the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) will serve as a nodal agency to coordinate arrangements in India. In addition to spending some time at any one or more of the institutes listed below, we hope that ASCB members will be able to visit NCBS during their stay in India. There they can engage with researchers and students and also give research seminar(s).

Biology coordinators at the newly founded Indian Institutes for Science Education and Research (IISER) have expressed an interest in having ASCB members visit India for a few months at a time and possibly teach a course at an Indian institution. The Institute names are abbreviated, as almost everything is in India, as the IISERs and the newly formed Stem Cell Biology Institute is called inSTEM (see below for an explanation of IISER and inSTEM). I think these institutions present an excellent opportunity for ASCB members to engage with an international effort in India.

Teaching an excellent freshman course could be very valuable at some places, while more advanced courses—including hands-on workshops—are what are needed at others. The presence of international researchers on campus interacting with the students over a period of a few months would leave an even more lasting impression. Workshops are also an important activity that will bring to bear the considerable human resource base of the ASCB to this exciting experiment in research and education in India.

The author (Satyajit Mayor, NCBS) and IAC Chair Jim Spudich (Stanford), along with Hema Somanathan and MK Mathew (for IISER, Trivandrum), L. Shashidhara (for IISER, Poona), and Jyotsna Dhawan (for inSTEM, Bangalore), have agreed to act as the initial coordinators. Interested participants may write to iac.ascb.org and queries will be directed as needed.

IISERs

The IISERs at Trivandrum and Poona are two of five such institutes set up by the government of India over the past four years. The others are in Mohali, Bhopal, and Kolkata. These Institutes admit students after high school for an integrated master’s program—i.e., the students graduate with master’s degrees in mathematics, physics, chemistry, or biology. The first two years of the program are common for all incoming students. The students choose their majors in their third year and graduate in five.

The IISERs are not exclusively undergraduate teaching institutions as they also have vigorous research programs and will (at steady state) be admitting graduate students in significant numbers—perhaps half as many as their undergraduate intake. They also plan to have their undergraduates undertake a year-long
research project during their fifth year.

The initial batches of students admitted were drawn in large part from applicants to the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and had ranked among the top in their entrance exam. They are, in general, very bright. However, many of them have limited exposure to or affinity for biology. It would be extremely valuable to expose these students to very well taught biology courses. Educators who could also inspire enthusiasm about biology are needed.

The IISERs aim to have many graduating students trained in different disciplines, with an affinity for biology. The IISERs’ faculty was chosen for research that is intrinsically interdisciplinary and goes beyond the boundaries of conventional thinking. This is in addition to the faculty’s obvious research accomplishments, promise, and teaching proficiency. One of the great strengths of IISERs is their interdisciplinarity. While purity of individual disciplines is maintained, IISERs have physicists, chemists, biologists, and mathematicians working shoulder to shoulder, without any departmental (or compartmental) structure. At IISERs, the ambience is very academic, energy levels are high, and there has been great enthusiasm among the faculty and students to carry out high-quality research.

inSTEM Bangalore: www.ncbs.res.in/inStem

inSTEM is an autonomous institute of the Department of Biotechnology, India. It is located at and nurtured by the NCBS, Bangalore. The mandate of inSTEM is to serve as the umbrella organization for three initiatives: 1) inSTEM itself, at its Bangalore premises, represents the core intramural program for interdisciplinary basic and translational research in the areas of stem cell and regeneration biology; 2) the Center for Stem Cell Research located at CMC Vellore, a center for translational and clinical research in stem cells and regenerative medicine; and 3) an Extramural Program in Stem Cell Research, a funding initiative for support of stem cell research nationwide.

Prof. Jyotsna Dhavan, one of the deans at inSTEM, thinks that the initiative to engage the ASCB in educational programs in India is very timely. InStem is beginning to develop its graduate program and would be very interested in mechanisms that would not only help define course structures but also create ways to involve an international faculty in this collaborative process.

I hope that ASCB members will visit www.ascb.org/iweb/membership/membercontentnews.aspx (member login required, then click on “Teaching Opportunities in India”) to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities to share their knowledge and enthusiasm in India.

—Satyajit Mayor, on behalf of the ASCB International Affairs Committee

Reference


Cottam Honored as Young UK Cell Biologist

Nathanael Cottam of the University of York has received the 2010 British Society for Cell Biology (BSCB) Young Cell Biologist of the Year Award. The award was presented at the April 2010 BSCB meeting at the University of Warwick, UK. Cottam was awarded for his work on “A Cell-Free Vesicle Tethering Assay.”

The award is presented to a PhD student who has not yet received a degree and who is the first author and presenter of a poster at the BSCB spring meeting in any area of cell biology. Cottam will receive an expense-paid trip (compliments of BSCB) and meeting registration (compliments of ASCB) to attend the ASCB’s 2010 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Cottam will present his poster during the ASCB Annual Meeting, and will report on his meeting experience for both the ASCB and BSCB Newsletters.

—Thea Clarke
Erin Dolan

Erin Dolan’s major research interest is not what goes on atop the bench but what happens among those standing nearby. Although she is a trained neurobiologist working in a biochemistry department, Dolan’s current field of inquiry is the complex triangular relationship among the undergraduate making a first foray into research, the graduate student learning to mentor, and the PI who believes in mentoring students in research but may never have sought empirical evidence about the benefits to students or faculty. Her steadfast interest in science education research will propel Dolan into a new role this month when she takes over as Editor-in-Chief of the ASCB journal CBE—Life Sciences Education (CBE-LSE; www.lifescied.org).

Dolan is one of a new breed of researchers bringing the perspectives of scientist and science education researcher to the study of how scientists actually become scientists. Many of these new science education researchers are active in the ASCB. Their influence led the Society in 2002 to start Cell Biology Education (which later became CBE-LSE) under editor Sam Ward. In August, Dolan takes over the CBE-LSE editorship from Bill Wood. Hers will be the fourth editorship if you count as one the reign of co-editors Malcolm Campbell and Sally Elgin.

Dolan’s academic home is in the Biochemistry Department at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (Virginia Tech), a very large (30,000 students), land-grant university in Blacksburg, VA. Her research, which focuses on science research as a context for learning and the dynamics of mentoring in research, is not the traditional fare in biochemistry departments. But Peter Kennelly, the department head, says he was delighted when Dolan agreed to accept a tenure-track appointment in 2005 and was equally pleased to see her promoted to associate professor last year.

It’s the combination, Kennelly explains, of Dolan’s bench background and her meticulous research standards that give her credibility with “hard” science faculty who are typically suspicious of social scientists and education specialists. “When she talks to a university faculty member about education or about outreach, she’s not viewed as an outsider, someone for whom the day-to-day life of a faculty member in a biochemistry or a cell biology department is an abstraction. Erin is someone who knows what we are about.”

Blue Walls, Higher Scores?

Dolan’s investigations are not about tweaking classroom or lab practices but are about uncovering the underlying phenomena that govern science learning, says Kennelly, “With Erin, it’s not a case of ‘If I paint the walls blue, do the scores go up?’ Erin asks why, and not everyone does that. She has a real passion for getting at the heart of the process and not just chasing after short-term outcomes and treating the student as a black box.”

Getting at first causes in how students learn is an uphill struggle, says Nancy Moreno of the Baylor College of Medicine. Moreno also came into science education research with a biology “bench” doctorate and now shares a major research interest with Dolan on the impact of science outreach programs. In Moreno’s view, taking on the editorship of CBE-LSE shows that Dolan is “really stepping into a national leadership role” in convincing bench scientists that science education is no longer a worthy but distant concern. It is the future of American science, Moreno contends.

Dolan has shown that outreach partnerships between bench scientists and classroom science teachers can be highly effective, says Moreno. “One tends to discount outreach efforts as feel-good experiences, but there’s a body of literature...
on what works. There are rigorous ways to evaluate these programs, and Erin has really been a champion of examining these types of programs in a scholarly way.”

Running her education research group at Virginia Tech, Dolan is under no illusion that her bench colleagues will readily embrace the new scholarship. Part of the problem, Dolan says, is that academic papers on learning or education psychology are written in a highly specialized jargon every bit as obscure as anything Dolan ever read in neurobiology. Moreover, it’s unrealistic to expect bench scientists to follow the literature so far outside their fields. That’s why Dolan has been writing a regular column for CBE-LSE since 2008, “Recent Research in Science Teaching and Learning.” It puts the best of this research a clickable link away from ASCB members and other bench-bound readers.

“I see CBE-LSE as a crossover journal, publishing articles that are of interest to scientists and science education researchers,” says Dolan. But new teaching scholarship has to be research-driven, she contends, and high-quality papers that break new ground will continue to be at the heart of CBE-LSE.

**Sounds Irish**

Erin Dolan was born in Princeton, NJ, where her dad was an electrical engineer with RCA. Only she wasn’t Erin Dolan then, she explains, but Erin Peckol. “Erin Dolan. Doesn’t that sound Irish? Sorry, but not a drop.” (It was her husband, Danny Dolan, who later supplied her with the name.) Her Peckol grandparents were Slovenian immigrants and her father one of their seven first-generation American children, all of whom went in for academic overachievement. “My dad’s family is full of over-degreed people,” she says with a laugh.

When Dolan was two, the family moved to Seattle where her father was a practicing engineer for 20 years before becoming an engineering instructor at the University of Washington. Her mother was an accountant, which Dolan points out, gave her a double dose of numeracy. Growing up in Seattle gave Dolan a great thirst for caffeine and fond memories of her secondary school, the independent Lakeside School. “It was just a great, great school and, more than anything, it probably shaped my views on education.”

For college, Dolan chose Wellesley College in Massachusetts, where she acquired an appreciation for small liberal arts colleges and for experimental neurobiology. Her introduction to the research life came in the lab of Barbara Beltz, a developmental neuroscientist. When Dolan left for graduate school at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), she imagined a future balancing bench research and classroom teaching on a small college campus.

Cori Bargmann’s sensory and developmental neuroscience lab at UCSF certainly offered the bench training. Over six years, Dolan was co-author (still as Peckol) with Bargmann on a string of high-impact publications probing sensory activity in *Caenorhabditis elegans* neurons. “UCSF had the best dynamic for me,” she recalls. “It was a place where everyone assumed that you were smart rather than waiting for you to prove it.” UCSF also turned out to be a hotbed for science education outreach. Dolan was drawn into UCSF’s famed Science and Health Education Partnership with the San Francisco public schools as a volunteer in an after-school science club for middle school girls.

But when it came time to go on the job market in 1999, Dolan found the career prospects at small colleges daunting. “They wanted you to do everything with no resources,” she recalls. “Start a research lab with $2,000 in start-up funds. I thought, I’ll get back to you on that.”

By a fluke, she applied for a science outreach position at the University of Arizona in Tucson. The work, touring a DNA experiment-in-a-box around schools, was a bit tedious, but highly useful, she remembers. “You teach a thing a million times—if you teach the same activity over and over—but you begin to see how students think and how they learn.” Dolan also began to wonder why students often didn’t learn. For one, they rapidly figured out that her “experiment” was not collecting real data. “Students aren’t dumb,” Dolan says. “They get it pretty quickly. They want to do something ‘real.’ ”

**Arabidopsis, Mon Amour**

These observations led Dolan to create the Partnership for Research in Education in Plants (PREP). Working with high school science teacher Eric Brooks and plant physiologist Frans E. Tax, Dolan combined “real” research with relevance to 9th and 10th grade biology through the much-studied model plant *Arabidopsis thaliana*. For a former “worm runner” in the Bargmann lab, Dolan had not a moment’s hesitation in switching to plants for PREP. “Plants are cheap. Plants are hardy enough for student caretakers and, if you kill them, you just plant more seeds. Even bacteria and yeast require a lot of preparation and care, plus you
have to dispose of them properly and maintain a sterile environment for culturing.”

Equally important, the *Arabidopsis* genome had just been sequenced, Dolan explains. There were seeds readily available with specific genes already knocked out but with no apparent phenotype. *Arabidopsis* labs devoted their limited resources to more promising candidates, but the phenotypes of thousands of other mutants could be revealed when the plants are exposed to experimental stressors. *Arabidopsis* has about 25,000 genes and plants have to respond to thousands of environmental factors. The sheer number of experiments quickly becomes an impossibility for standard bench research. Yet, many high school students, with their own creative ideas, want opportunities to make a real contribution to the scientific community. It was also a perfect way to partner students with practicing scientists who could follow up on any student discoveries.

Originally supported by the National Science Foundation, PREP has become over the last eight years a two-way street for scientists and the more than 15,000 students who have participated, Dolan reports. “We’ve had publications where the scientist acknowledged student discoveries and grant applications where they [students] were acknowledged as the source of preliminary results.” Dolan has also documented gains in student reasoning skills and in students’ development of a scientific identity.

Dolan took PREP and her ongoing research into science partnerships with her when she left Tucson for Virginia Tech’s Fralin Life Sciences Institute, an interdisciplinary hothouse for bioscience initiatives. When Dolan arrived at the Fralin in 2002, she stood out for her outreach expertise, her research agenda, and her ability to pursue extramural funding. She moved from the Fralin to a formal “academic home” in the Biochemistry Department after winning a National Institutes of Health National Center for Research Resources Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) in 2003. In 2009, Dolan won a second, five-year SEPA.

**Foodie in Seattle**

Today Dolan, her husband, and their four-year-old daughter, Tara, live just outside Blacksburg, across the road from a cattle farm. Living outside Blacksburg is a relative term, she concedes, because it remains a very small town despite its enormous student population.

“When we want city, we leave,” she says. When they head for a city, Dolan usually has a short list of restaurants. “I’m a foodie,” she confesses. Seattle was a cradle of the foodie movement and her parents were early converts. For the upcoming ASCB Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Dolan has a certain Cuban restaurant firmly in mind.

Back on campus in the Biochemistry Department, Dolan still stands out. Former postdoc Deborah Johnson recalls hearing Dolan speak as a vocational epiphany. Johnson was just finishing her doctoral thesis in biochemistry. “It was like, wow, I could do something else with my PhD than bench work,” Johnson recalls. “We really hit it off. I told her, ‘I want to do what you’re doing.’”

Besides studying the PREP experience, Dolan and Johnson looked into the little understood nexus of undergraduate researchers, grad student “mentors,” and PIs. Many large institutions all but require grad students to take on undergrad mentees. Yet, in their interview study, Johnston says they discovered that no one sat down with grad students afterwards to assess the experience. When they did so, the researchers found a mixture of accomplishment, confusion, and blame. Some grad students said they had felt coerced into mentoring undergrads who were often seen as ham-handed threats to their data. (Undergrads, in turn, reported being used as all-purpose scapegoats by grad students.) For the most part, grad students reported positive outcomes of mentoring undergraduate researchers, yet Johnson reports, some came...
away disappointed, having learned little about what is a vital scientific skill: training your own trainees.

Mentoring is too important to science to be left in the dark, says Dolan. Until now, most studies of lab placements have focused on the undergraduate side. Rarely have the effects on the faculty member, the graduate, or the postdoctoral mentor been examined. Little had been known about how faculty attitudes affect the graduate trainee, leading Dolan to ask, “Does a positive mentoring environment guarantee a positive outcome for the grad student or postdoc who might resent being stuck with the under grads? What is the impact of grad student coercion on the postdoc or the undergrad? We just don’t know.”

These fundamental questions—how students learn to reason, how trainees learn to train others—are more important to science education than how to deliver more facts, Dolan believes. “Knowledge changes. Techniques change. Putting all this effort into cramming scientific knowledge into people before they get out of high school seems just silly. There’s way too much information out there in the world for anyone to make a decision based on it. Even in science, we don’t do that. Scientists make decisions based on the information they care about, for example, information from a trusted provider.”

Dolan is that trusted provider, says Johnson, who is taking a family leave break from research now. Her former boss understands the two disparate groups concerned with science education reform—the science researcher and the social science researcher. “Erin can talk with both and empathize with both. They are in different worlds and not many can do the crossover. No one does it quite as well as Erin,” says Johnson.

—John Fleischman

**MEMBER Gifts**

The ASCB is grateful to the following members and applicants who have recently given a gift to support Society activities:

Kerry S. Bloom
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An educational parody

Educational Opportunity Administrative Supplements. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced that $21 million of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding for administrative supplements to existing NIH grants over two years has been allocated for educational opportunities in NIH-funded laboratories for summer students and science educators. Applications may be submitted throughout FY10, but some NIH Institutes and Centers may have specific deadlines. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-09-060.html.

High-Throughput-Enabled Structural Biology Research (U01). The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) encourages applications to establish partnerships between researchers interested in a biological problem of significant scope and researchers providing high-throughput structure determination capabilities through the NIGMS PSI:Biology network. Applicants should propose work to solve a substantial biological problem for which the determination of many protein structures is necessary. Expiration: September 8, 2013. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-214.html.

Mentored Quantitative Research Development Award (K25). The purpose of these National Institutes of Health (NIH) awards is to attract to NIH-relevant research those investigators whose quantitative science and engineering research has thus far not been focused primarily on questions of health and disease. Expiration: January 8, 2012. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-039.html.


The National Academies’ Research Associateship Programs administer postdoctoral (within five years of the doctorate) and senior (normally five years or more beyond the doctorate) research awards sponsored by federal laboratories at over 100 locations in the U.S. and overseas. Quarterly application deadlines. www7.nationalacademies.org/rap.

National Centers for Biomedical Computing (R01). This funding opportunity is for projects from individual investigators or small groups to collaborate with the National Institutes of Health Roadmap for Medical Research National Centers for Biomedical Computing (NCBCs). Collaborating projects are intended to engage researchers in building an excellent biomedical computing environment, using the computational tools and biological and behavioral application drivers of the funded NCBCs as foundation stones. Expiration: September 8, 2011. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-08-184.html.


NIGMS Grants. The National Institute of General Medical Sciences is accepting applications for funding research in which several interdependent projects offer significant advantages over support of these same projects as individual research. Standard NIH application dates apply. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-030.html.

Pathway to Independence Award. The primary purpose of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00) program is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented NIH-supported independent investigators. The program is designed to facilitate a timely transition from a mentored postdoctoral research position to a stable independent research position with independent NIH or other independent research support at an earlier stage than is currently the norm. Expiration: January 8, 2012. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-036.html.
GRANTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-related Research. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have announced to PIs holding specific types of NIH research grants that funds are available for administrative supplements to improve the diversity of the research workforce by supporting and recruiting students, postdoctoral researchers, and eligible investigators from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-190.html.

Research Supplements to Promote Re-entry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers. These supplements are intended to encourage individuals to re-enter research careers within the missions of all National Institutes of Health (NIH) program areas. This program will provide administrative supplements to existing NIH research grants to support full-time or part-time research by individuals in a program geared to bring their existing research skills and knowledge up-to-date. Expiration: September 30, 2011. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-191.html.

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for Individual Predoctoral Fellows in PharmD/PhD Programs. The objective of this National Institutes of Health funding opportunity announcement is to help ensure that highly trained PharmD/PhD graduates will be available in adequate numbers and in appropriate research areas to carry out the U.S. biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research agenda. Expiration: January 8, 2012. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-029.html.

SHIFT Awards: Small Businesses Helping Investigators to Fuel the Translation of Scientific Discoveries (SBIR: R43/R44). These National Institutes of Health awards are intended to foster research that is translational in nature and to transform academic scientific discoveries into commercial products and services. They require that an investigator who is primarily employed by a U.S. research institution at the time of application transition to a small business concern (SBC) and be primarily employed (more than 50% time) by the SBC by or at the time of the award. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-122.html#SectionIV3A.

Supplements for Functional Studies Based on High-resolution Structures Obtained in the Protein Structure Initiative. The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) announces the availability of administrative supplements to provide funds to enable investigators interested in protein function to capitalize on the information and material products of the Protein Structure Initiative (PSI). These supplements are available for 1) NIGMS-funded research grants (R01, R37, and P01) as well as 2) investigators with peer-reviewed research grants not funded by NIGMS, through the PSI research centers. www.nigms.nih.gov/initiatives/PSI/supplements.

NAS Seeks Nominations for Richard Lounsbery Award

The National Academy of Science is seeking nominations for the 2011 Richard Lounsbery Award. The award is intended to stimulate research and to encourage reciprocal scientific exchanges between the U.S. and France. It is given in alternate years to young American and French scientists in recognition of extraordinary scientific achievement in biology and medicine. Nominations will be accepted until September 15, 2010. For details visit www.nasonline.org/site/PageServer?pagename=AWARDS_lounsbery.

MEETINGS Calendar

A complete list of upcoming meetings can be found at http://ascb.org/othermeetings.psp. No meetings have been added since the last issue of the Newsletter.

ASCB Annual Meetings

December 3–7, 2011. Denver
December 15–19, 2012. San Francisco
December 14–18, 2013. New Orleans
December 6–10, 2014. Philadelphia
December 12–16, 2015. San Diego
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