THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CELL BIOLOGY

ASCB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2006

VOLUME 29, NUMBER 1

Beckerle Becomes President
Page 2

Bad Budget for NIH
Page 31

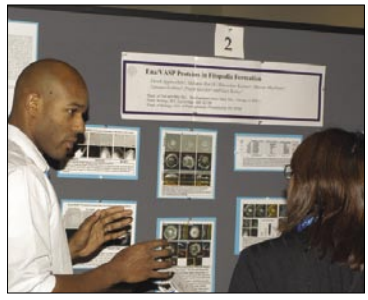
Call for Nominations
Page 44

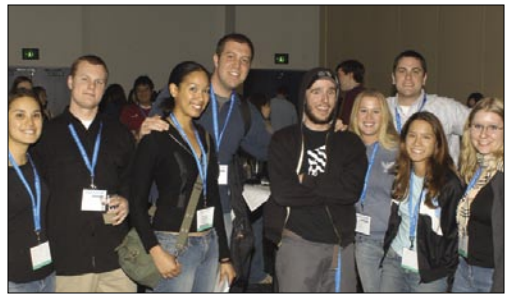
***MBC* InCytes**
Page 50

Inside

ASCB Holds 45th Annual Meeting in San Francisco

Council Approves 2007 Budget, Reviews Programs, Meets with CSR Director, Welcomes New Staff





Science, Networking: and Sessions: New science presented at poster sessions (above), students socialize at the Reception for Undergraduate Poster Presenters, and (below) Bruce Alberts Award winner Samuel Silverstein (left) and 2006 President-Elect Bruce Alberts.

Amidst healthy reserves and strong financial performance, the ASCB Council met last month to review programs and publications, consider new initiatives, and continue to usher publications and meetings into the 21st century. Zena Werb of the University of California, San Francisco, who completed her term as President at year-end, presided over the two-day Council meeting. Mary Beckerle, of the University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute, became President January 1st, and Bruce Alberts became President-elect. Larry Goldstein completed his term as Secretary, and Jean Schwarzbauer assumed the role this month. In addition, other Council members present included: Treasurer Gary Ward; Past-President Harvey Lodish; Councilors Kerry Bloom, Tony Bretscher, Juan Bonifacino, David Burgess, Peter Devreotes, Linda Hicke, Kathryn Howell, Caroline Kane, Erin Keane O'Shea, and Janet Shaw; and Councilor-elect Sandra Masur.

See Council Report, page 4

Join the Congressional Liaison Committee

Concerned about government funding for cell biology research? Not sure how to participate in ASCB advocacy on research funding and science policy issues? The Congressional Liaison Committee (CLC) of the Joint Steering Committee provides you with the tools you need to influence decisionmakers. The CLC is operated by the ASCB, the Genetics Society of America, the Society for Neuroscience, and Science Service.

As a CLC member you will receive alerts about important pending legislation or other federal actions so that you can make your feelings known to your elected representatives. In addition, the CLC will provide you with talking points, background information, and how-to tips to strengthen your message.

It has never been more important for scientists to communicate with their elected officials. Continued advocacy for the NIH, the NSF, and other funding agencies is essential (see NIH story, page 31). There is no cost to join the CLC. Simply complete the form found at www.jscpp.org/clc. For further information, contact JSC National Coordinator Lynn Marquis, at lmarquis@jscpp.org. ■

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PRESIDENT'S Column

The ASCB Needs YOU!

The American Society for Cell Biology has been my primary scientific organization since I was a graduate student with Keith Porter, one of its founders. I attended my first ASCB meeting in 1978 when I was a second year graduate student. I remember driving my pale yellow 1971 VW beetle, with sunroof, from Boulder, Colorado, to San Antonio with a fellow student, Susan Spath. We got up early, stayed up very late, and slept on the floor in a room already occupied by four students from Dan Branton's lab, friends of Susan's from her days as a lab tech at Harvard. If memory serves me, Velia Fowler, now at Scripps, was in one of the beds; we have been friends ever since.

Mary Beckerle

I was awestruck by the science at the meeting—both the quality and the magnitude. I had never seen so many posters in my life. I was working on cell motility, and I was fascinated to see what Gary Borisy and Tom Pollard actually looked like. I witnessed their animated debate in a minisymposium session. Having read many of their papers in my classes, it was incredible to see these scientific heroes in action. It was also tremendously exciting to meet so many people with common interests and to experience being part of a vibrant international community of cell biologists.

Nearly 30 years later, the core focus of the ASCB on promoting scientific exchange in cell biology remains unchanged. The Society continues to organize an exceptional annual meeting. The meeting brings the membership together, highlights recent scientific advances, and provides an opportunity for discussion and debate. The program for the 46th annual meeting—to be held next December in San Diego—is currently being developed by Tony Bretscher and his committee.

Developing and Promoting Best Practices

Along with the constant focus on scientific excellence and exchange, there have been many changes. Over the years, the Society has assumed a leadership role in several areas: public affairs and advocacy, education, scientific publishing, and issues for women and minorities in science. The ASCB has consistently looked to the future, developing and promoting best practices in all its areas of interest and influence while providing forums to discuss professional challenges and opportunities.

The past successes of the many Society initiatives have relied on members' energy and commitment. Likewise, the future impact of our existing programs and new initiatives will depend on your involvement. Many of you have expressed an interest in becoming involved in the Society's activities. Some have wondered aloud how they might participate. One focus of the coming year will be to develop strategies to engage more members in contributing to our shared goals. I view this as a central challenge and opportunity for the Society.

"... the Society has assumed a leadership role in ... public affairs and advocacy, education, scientific publishing, and issues for women and minorities in science."

The challenge has arisen simply because of our remarkable growth. When I attended my first annual meeting, the ASCB had a total membership of 3,600. This year, we have over 11,000 members. While the scope of ASCB activities and the number of working committees has increased, a smaller percentage of our members currently enjoy the experience of participating actively in the work of the Society. We have a tremendous opportunity to avail ourselves of the energy and experience of our membership. There is much important work to be done, and the Society truly needs the

participation of our members to maximize the impact of ASCB activities.

Promoting Involvement in Defined Goals

I have asked each committee chair to identify activities that would benefit from additional member engagement. Beginning next month, these will be highlighted in the Newsletter with information on how you can volunteer to participate. We are not envisioning increasing the size of our regular committees, which are already quite large. Rather we hope to identify new ways for members to contribute to ASCB activities. Opportunities for participation will vary in time commitment and in focus—perhaps reviewing meeting abstracts, leading a discussion group at an annual or summer meeting, electronic mentoring, participating in local advocacy--we will aim to have something for everyone! We also anticipate that future committee appointees will be solicited from the group of actively engaged members.

"Member engagement is key to the vitality of our already robust scientific society. Participation is empowering and will make a difference ...."

Member engagement is key to the vitality of our already robust scientific society. Participation is empowering and will make a difference in our ability to achieve our aims. I believe it is also critical to the future of the Society. Our future depends on a loyal and active membership that participates in defining the focused goals of the ASCB and, therefore, by definition, embraces those goals.

Former ASCB President Suzanne Pfeffer took the lead in establishing member forums at the Annual Meeting. Members representing selected interest groups meet with the elected leadership of the Society to brainstorm about issues of particular concern and develop concrete strategies to address them. These sessions have been held on Saturday afternoon, before the opening of the meeting. Meeting invitees were selected by lottery. The meeting in 2003 with student members of the ASCB led to separate listings of student events in the Annual Meeting Program and a "students" web site (the Community Forum). Similar round-table discussions were held with post-docs (2004) and with minority members (2005). At the San Diego meeting next December, the leadership will host a conversation with international cell biologists, who represent nearly 23% of the Society's membership. This will enable us to learn how we can best support the needs of our international community of cell biologists.

Maintaining Our Responsibilities to the Community

There may be a tendency at a time like this, when funding is tight and the business aspects of the scientific enterprise may feel all-consuming, for scientists to assume a stance that is more competitive than collaborative, more insular than expansive. I do not mean to minimize the impact of the current funding climate. Indeed, both of my grants are up for renewal this year. So I know the meaning of stress, and I know it is much worse for junior scientists trying to establish their programs. Nevertheless, even in these trying times, we must not lose sight of the joy of the scientific enterprise and our responsibilities as scientists to our broader community.

The energy and commitment of our members have: (1) had a significant impact on framing the debate on the teaching of evolution in U.S. public schools, (2) increased the appreciation of our elected officials and the public for the value of biomedical research, (3) provided mentoring and guidance for cell biology trainees, (4) developed wonderful periodicals to highlight advances in cell biology and education, (5) provided tutorials to enhance professional development, and (6) created a community of cell biologists who share a passion for our field.

With your involvement, we have tremendous potential to lead in the future. As Margaret Mead said, "A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." I look forward to working with you in the coming year and beyond. ■

Comments are welcome and should be sent to president@ascb.org.

Council Report, continued from page 1

The ASCB Council thanked Interim Executive Director David Driggers and other staff. Councilors also welcomed new ASCB Executive Director Joan Goldberg, along with Image and Video Library Curator David Ennist, Director of Publications Mark Leader, and Joint Steering Committee National Coordinator Lynn Marquis, to their first meeting.

2005 ASCB Council: (back row, left to right) Janet Shaw, Linda Hicke, Kathryn Howell, Peter Devreotes, Juan Bonifacino, Anthony Bretscher, Erin O'Shea, Kerry Bloom. (Front row, left to right) Jean Schwarzbauer, then Secretary Lawrence Goldstein, President-Elect Bruce Alberts, Executive Director Joan Goldberg, then President Zena Werb, then President-Elect Mary Beckerle, Past-President Harvey Lodish, and Treasurer Gary Ward.

New Initiatives Approved

Council considered and acted upon a variety of proposals:

- A call for an NIH Consensus Development Conference to counter the growing problem of cross contamination and misidentification of cultured cells: Endorsed.
- Free registration for high school teachers at the Annual Meeting: Approved.
- Options for the Society's 50th Anniversary Celebration: A task force will be established.
- Outreach to ASCB international members: To be re-invigorated.
- A review of past and planned ASCB summer meetings: Their financial impact and educational value were considered; a task force was established to investigate technology (e.g., webcasting). Council also expressed interest in cosponsoring such meetings with international groups.
- Discontinuing the print version of the *ASCB Directory of Members:* With online, member-only accessible, continuously updated information available, Council agreed that the print version was outdated. Saved funds can be better applied to travel grants, etc.

See Council Report, page 6

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45th ASCB Annual Meeting Statistics

Members	3,132
Nonmembers	773
Students	1,147
Nonmember students	656
Guests of Exhibitors	965
Total Scientific Participants	**6,673**
Exhibitors	2,395
Press	48
Total Registration	**9,116**

Council Report, continued from page 4

Finances and Membership Presented

Ward presented an overview of ASCB's finances and the draft FY 2007 budget, which was approved.

ASCB membership was over 11,000 by year's end, noted Goldstein. Retention of regular members is good. A 2006 membership survey will highlight member needs and satisfaction.

CSR Director Antonio Scarpa Described Changes

To address innovations in NIH grant review, and to discuss ideas for further improvement, Center for Scientific Review (CSR) Director Antonio Scarpa joined Council. Since his July 1, 2005, start, Scarpa has focused on improving the management, receipt, referral, and coordination of CSR peer review. He responded to Werb's *ASCB Newsletter* charge (August 2005) that "the judging of grants has become a charade," by emphasizing the importance of CSR peer review.

Scarpa reported that NIH received 80,000 grant applications in 2005; this number has climbed significantly since 2001 and nearly doubled since 1998. He shared data demonstrating that 2/3 of the grants submitted result from researchers writing more grants than previously: The average number per researcher grew to 1.2 by 2002 and 1.4 by 2005. In addition, Scarpa noted:

- More RO1 applications request salary support.
- More faculty is supported 100% by grants.

Addressing Review Cycle, Reviewer Shortage, and Peer Review

To help fulfill CSR's mission, Scarpa is working with staff to:

- Shorten the review cycle
- Improve the assessment of innovative, high-risk/high-reward research
- Increase recruitment and retention of high quality reviewers

Council recommended shorter grant applications, questioned the value of appendices, and agreed on the need to shorten review cycles and attract more senior reviewers.

ASCB Program Expansion Discussed

Rounding out the Council Meeting were:

- Presentations on the Image and Video Library, scheduled for launch this spring
- Concerns raised regarding NIH and NSF funding and the need for member involvement in advocacy efforts
- Updates on ASCB publications and committees
- Discussions on expanding ASCB international outreach, the successful first ever Cell Film Contest, and media outreach year-round
- Brainstorming about:
  - Educational strategies for diverse audiences regarding evolution
  - Educational approaches in recognition of the ASCB's 50th anniversary in 2010
  - Strategies for increasing member involvement (see page 2) ■

ASCB Exhibit Hall

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Did You Miss Us at the ASCB Annual Meeting in San Francisco?

Download FREE reviews of research tools and technologies used by cell biologists at www.scienceboard.net

The Science Advisory Board is a vibrant community of more than 27,000 life science and medical professionals. Members convene electronically to express their opinions on issues affecting the development of research and clinical technologies.

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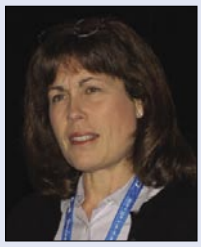
The Science Advisory Board

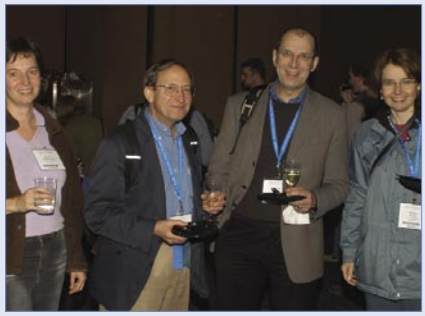
Keynote Symposium/Opening Night Reception

ASCB President Zena Werb introduces new Executive Director Joan Goldberg and Interim Executive Director David Driggers.



Attendees at the Keynote hear Linda Buck, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center/ HHMI (left), and Claire Fraser, The Institute for Genomic Research (right), speak on the topic of Big Science, Little Science.

Former ASCB Executive Director Elizabeth Marincola was recognized at the Keynote Symposium. (Left to right:) 1995 President Ursula Goodenough, Marincola, and 2004 President Suzanne Pfeffer.



CBE Changes Name, Expands Scope

The number of registered users has more than doubled for the former *Cell Biology Education* since early 2005, Editor-in-Chief William Wood announced at the 2005 Editorial Board meeting. He thanked former Coeditors-in-Chief Sarah Elgin and Malcolm Campbell for building the journal and making it a success.

A major theme of the meeting was the effort to make the journal more inclusive of other areas of biology:

- The name of the journal has changed to *CBE–Life Sciences Education* (*CBE–LSE*). The URL will be www.lifescied.org.
- Board members are being recruited with expertise in other life science disciplines, including plant biology and microbiology.
- Several cross-disciplinary special issues are planned: Neuroscience (Summer 2006), Developmental Biology (2007).
- Links will be created to tables of contents of other life science education journals.

Wood announced that Elgin, Campbell, and Gary Reiness will serve as Senior Editors, advising the Editor-in-Chief and overseeing features.

The group discussed topics for upcoming articles and special issues. It reaffirmed its ambition that the journal will generate a culture of research among teachers. The Board approved changes to the Instructions for Authors that address sharing of propagative biological materials, instructional materials, and data and Institutional Review Board approval of research involving human subjects.

The group discussed the financial status of the journal. Members of the Board expect that the journal will continue to be sustained by grants and by support from biological societies. The Board believes that introducing publication fees would reduce submissions and that requiring paid subscriptions would limit readership.

Education Committee Hosts Annual Meeting Events, Focuses on 2006

The Education Committee hosted a variety of well-attended events at the 2005 ASCB Annual Meeting, including the Education Workshop, the 5th Annual K–12 Science Education Partnership Lunch, three Education Initiative Forums, the Bruce Alberts Award presentation, a reception for undergraduate students, and the Education/Minorities Affairs Committee Booth. For more information, visit www.ascb.org/committees/edcom/index.html.

Members of the committee discussed topics and possible speakers for next year's ASCB Annual Meeting in San Diego. In addition, committee members agreed to reorganize the

undergraduate reception to include a poster display and link it to the preceding student program. The Education Committee also plans to help publicize the ASCB Image and Video Library, currently under development, at various biology conferences during the year.

Image and Video Library Report

The Image and Video Library, a comprehensive, high quality internet collection covering the field of cell biology is governed by two new boards. A Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), chaired by Kathryn Howell, is composed of ASCB member scientists. The SAB works closely with Curator David Ennist to develop the scientific content of the peer-reviewed site. The External Advisory Board (EAB), chaired by Harvey Lodish, is comprised of both academic scientists and industry leaders. The EAB advises the ASCB on business issues, including the development of business, marketing and fundraising plans.

The SAB has been hard at work gathering images that illustrate the contributions of the founders and early members of the ASCB. This will form the groundwork for the expansion of the collection with more recent micrographs and movies. The collection will be built by topics, and contributions will be reviewed for possible inclusion in the Library. All ASCB members will have the opportunity to contribute. Much work remains to be done, including the construction of on-line submission and review modules. ASCB expects to launch the website late this spring.

EB Wilson Medal Presentation

Joan Steitz of Yale University School of Medicine/HHMI receives the ASCB's highest honor from then ASCB President Zena Werb.

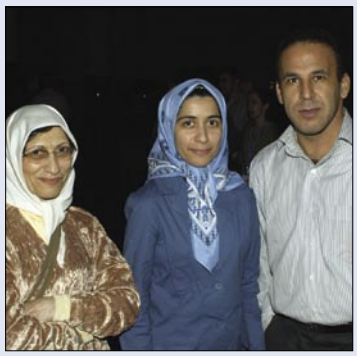
Steitz spoke about SnRNPs: Cellular and Viral Regulators of Gene Expression.

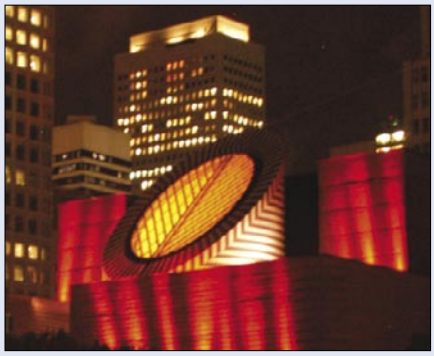
The ASCB Social

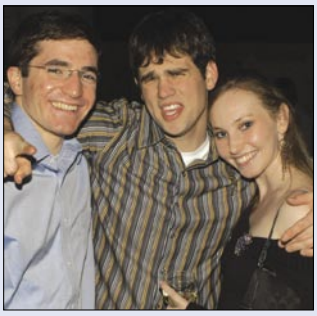
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

Over 700 meeting participants enjoyed the exhibits at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art during the ASCB Social.









MAC Committee Activities at the Annual Meeting

Chaired by Lydia Villa-Komaroff, the ASCB Minorities Affairs Committee (MAC) met on December 12, 2005. In attendance were MAC members Renato Aguilera, David Burgess, Cherie Butts, Tony DePass, Sandra Murray, Thoru Pederson, Laura Robles, and Peter Satir. Invited guests included MAC Linkage Fellow Latanya Hammonds-Odie and 2005 MAC Postdoctoral Travel Awardee Veronica Lopez. Also attending were MAC Director Irelene Ricks and ASCB Executive Director Joan Goldberg. New 2006 members are: MariaElena Zavala (California State University, Northridge); and Eva McGhee (University of California, San Francisco).

MAC priority issues included ensuring MAC continues support for faculty and student programs, including course support at the Marine Biological Laboratory; research collaborations of Visiting Professors and host faculty; and Linkage Fellows program participants. The MAC also proposed the design of a MAC Minority Speaker Referral Service for a variety of purposes, including resources for academic institutions, private organizations, and the ASCB. MAC members also discussed issues of research, tenure, teaching, and mentoring support.

The MAC was pleased by the success of the annual MAC Mentoring Symposium on December 10, 2005, in which over 150 participants came to hear keynote speakers Bruce Alberts and George Langford. The MAC was also encouraged by the enthusiastic participation of ASCB Council in a MAC-Council brown bag lunch about underrepresented scientists in biomedical

See Committee Reports, page 12

Annual Meeting Lost & Found

There are a few unclaimed items from the Annual Meeting such as a pair of glasses, gloves, a sweater, shirt, notes, keys, etc. If you think you have misplaced items from the Annual Meeting, please contact Trina Armstrong at (301) 347-9300 or via tarmstrong@ascb.org.

Visitors to the ASCB booth in San Francisco last month were treated to a preview of the website. The presentation featured an image of the first electron micrograph of a eukaryotic cell, published by Keith Porter, Albert Claude and Ernest Fullam in 1945. Lee Peachey, one of Keith Porter's graduate students, generously loaned an original print so that a scan of this famous image could be made. The annotation of items in the collection will be extensive and will include a title, authors, description of the image with historical significance (if any), materials and methods, and a link to the original publication, if available. Readers should look for announcements on the ASCB home page and in an upcoming issue of the *Newsletter*.

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Nominating Committee Chair Announced

Elizabeth Blackburn

Elizabeth Blackburn has agreed to serve as the Chair of the ASCB Nominating Committee for 2006.

Blackburn is at the University of California, San Francisco. She served as Society President in 1997-98 and received the 2004 ASCB Public Policy Award for her steadfast commitment to science-based policy while serving on the President's Bioethics Council.

The Nominating Committee will recruit candidates to run for ASCB Council terms beginning in 2007, and for a candidate to serve as President in 2008. Committee members will be named later in 2006. ■

Committee Reports, continued from page 10

research. Suggestions made by participants included providing more dynamic and interactive information for students on the ASCB MAC website; more information on the Just Garcia Hill website/database for minority scientists; public and private grant writing workshops for minority faculty and postdocs at the ASCB Annual Meeting; and consideration of alternative career pathways beyond academia. [Note: There is an existing NSF workshop offered each Annual Meeting that describes available funding opportunities and tips on writing a successful grant proposal.]

Other successful MAC activities in San Francisco included 52 MAC travel awardee poster presentations on December 10, 2005. Cash prizes sponsored by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital were awarded to four graduate students. Undergraduate, postdoctoral, and faculty cash awards were provided by an anonymous donor.

Roundtable discussions later that day involved science writing, science ethics, pharmacia and universities. Guest speakers from Roche, Merck, The University of Arizona, and Science magazine were active discussants of these and other science topics. Rounding out a full MAC program in San Francisco was E.E. Just Lecturer Maggie Werner-Washburne on "The Quiescent State of Yeast." The Lecture was followed by the first annual MAC Junior Faculty Workshop.

Press Room

ASCB Science Writer John Fleischman conducts daily press briefings at the ASCB Annual Meeting.

Schmid, Board Chart Course for *MBC*

The 2005 meeting of the *Molecular Biology of the Cell* (*MBC*) Editorial Board was very well attended. Editor-in-Chief Sandra L. Schmid remarked that this was one of several signs that the Associate Editors are committed to the journal. At the meeting, Schmid and the Associate Editors discussed recent enhancements to the review process and how the journal may increase its impact on the field.

Schmid noted changes in the Board:

- Randy Schekman resigned as Editor but will continue to serve as an Associate Editor.
- Joan Brugge agreed to become an Editor, joining Richard Hynes, Tom Pollard, and Mark Solomon.
- Eight Associate Editors are stepping down.

Schmid thanked Schekman and the departing Associate Editors for their dedicated service to *MBC*. In recruiting new Associate Editors, Schmid said she tried to balance the expertise of the Associate Editors with the types of manuscripts received. The distribution of papers among the Associate Editors has become much more even since last year's Board changes.

Another change is that the newly organized Board of Reviewing Editors (BRE) is now in place. The BRE will set the tone for constructive peer review, maintain editorial consistency, and provide a broad range of expertise. Each member of the BRE has agreed to review

ASCB Business Meeting

2006 ASCB President Mary Beckerle and presiding President Zena Werb.

Above right: ASCB Treasurer Gary Ward updates members on Society investments. Right: Susan Gerbi listens to a query from Samuel Silverstein.

one or two papers per month for *MBC*; most peer-reviewed papers will be reviewed by at least one BRE member. Schmid has prepared guidelines for reviewers that emphasize the need for scholarly, constructive, and clear reviews. Journal Production Manager Rachel Altemus demonstrated how to assign reviewers in the journal's online review system.

Schmid presented data on the review process and complimented the Associate Editors for having reduced the time taken for every step in the process. Overall, the time from submission to first decision has dropped to about 19 days.

ASCB Director of Publications Mark Leader reported:

- *MBC* received 1,112 new submissions between November 2004 and October 2005, a 9.1% increase over the previous year.
- The journal continued to increase in size, to 5,901 pages for the 2005 volume.
- The average time from receipt to print publication was 75.9 days in the period from December 2004 to November 2005.
- Authors' final papers are typically posted online within a week of acceptance.

Schmid stated:

- To avoid the journal becoming even larger given increasing submissions, it will be necessary to decrease the acceptance rate.
- The journal's most important criterion for acceptance is that a paper should significantly advance knowledge or provide new concepts or approaches that extend understanding.
- She highlights outstanding papers in InCytes from *MBC*, which appears in the *ASCB Newsletter* monthly (see page 50) and in the print edition of the journal.
- Any paper nominated by the Associate Editors for InCytes will also be a candidate for *MBC*'s Paper of the Year award.

There was a consensus that the Essays section should be maintained for topics not covered in typical review journals and should be broadly defined to allow for flexibility.

E.E. Just Lecture

2005 ASCB President Zena Werb presents the E.E. Just Award to Margaret Werner-Washburne of the University of New Mexico. Werner-Washburne spoke about The Quiescent State in Yeast.

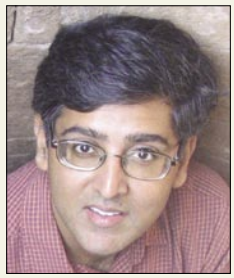
Public Information Committee Tackles Evolution, Press Outreach

In its regular meeting, the Public Information Committee (PIC) discussed the new joint committee task force on "Creationism/ID/Evolution" mandated by Council. The task force will draw on members from the PIC, and the Education and the Public Policy Committees. PIC members agreed that a three-legged response was probably the best approach. They suggested various projects for the joint group, ranging from a stronger "Evolution" section on the ASCB website to organizing "Practice of Science" workshops on how to talk about Evolution in your local community. Council has also asked the task force for recommendations on how the ASCB can mark the Charles Darwin bicentennial in 2009. PIC member Tom Egelhoff volunteered to join PIC Chair Rex Chisholm on the Evolution task force.

The committee also evaluated "Cell Biology 2005," the latest edition of the PIC's press book for the Annual Meeting. Faced with increasing competition from other scientific meetings and more restrictive embargo policies by "big" science journals, PIC asked for a new allocation to promote press coverage of the ASCB meeting. Chisholm reported that Council had approved PIC's $10,000 request. He would be soliciting proposals from public relations professionals to present at the spring PIC meeting in Bethesda, MD, in April 2006.

ASCB Public Policy Award Presented

Accepting the ASCB Public Policy Award for Sen. Arlen Specter (PA-R), Science Advisor for the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations Sudip Parikh urged Annual Meeting attendees to educate their representatives about science and ensure their voices are heard.



Arshad Desai

Desai Named LAC Chair

ASCB President Mary Beckerle announced the appointment of Arshad Desai of Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research as Chair of the Society's Local Arrangements Committee. Committee members will be named this winter.

The 2006 Local Arrangements Committee will organize events for the ASCB Annual Meeting in San Diego this December, including the ASCB Social, the High School and Student Programs, and the ASCB-Invitrogen Molecular Probes Run. ■

Bruce Alberts Award

Alberts Award recipient Samuel Silverstein of Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons and 2005 ASCB President Zena Werb

Silverstein spoke on Research Experiences for Science Teachers: Benefits for Students and the Economy.

Public Policy Committee Focuses on Funding

Funding for biomedical research was a major topic for the ASCB Public Policy Committee at its full day meeting in December 2005. In attendance were Mary Beckerle, David Burgess, Committee Chair Larry Goldstein, Ursula Goodenough, Dan Kiehart, Bob Palazzo, Tom Pollard, Randy Schekman, Maxine Singer and Zena Werb. Also present were ASCB staff Joan Goldberg and Kevin Wilson and Joint Steering Committee for Public Policy staff Peter Kyros and Lynn Marquis.

At the time the Committee met, the U.S. Congress had not yet approved the 2007 budget for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Both the House of Representatives and the Senate had passed their own versions of the Departments of Labor, Health & Human Services and Education Appropriations bill, which contains funding for the NIH. The Senate bill included $29.323 billion for NIH, $1.049 billion or 3.7% more than last year's budget. The House bill allotted $28.515 billion for NIH, $241 billion or 0.5% more than the previous budget. The first Conference Report of House and Senate conferees included a budget of $28.526 billion for the NIH which is $252 million or 0.9% above the 2005 budget. However, in an unusual move, the Conference Report was rejected by the full House of Representatives.

Members of the Committee expressed concern that members of the biomedical research community were not actively engaged in public policy advocacy. Many reasons for the lack of interest were discussed. Public Policy Committee staff will focus on developing new methods of advocacy to engage researchers better. They will also reach out to other communities affected by reductions in NIH funding to engage them in the fight to increase funding.

Education in Schools, On the Hill

The Committee discussed ongoing efforts to include the teaching of creationism and Intelligent Design in science education curricula. Goldstein reported that the ASCB Council wants to have a set of events at the 2006 Annual Meeting centered on evolution. Along with recommending a symposium speaker, the Public Policy Committee will work with other Society Committees to develop outreach events to take place at the 2006 meeting.

The ASCB continues to work closely with the Joint Steering Committee for Public Policy (JSC) and the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus. The Caucus has a membership of over 100 Representatives and ten Senators. During 2005, the Caucus conducted 12 briefings on a wide range of scientific topics including Parkinson's Disease, organ transplantation and nanotechnology. The 12 briefings were attended by over 600 people, including Members of Congress and Congressional staff.

Changes in JSC staff forced a smaller number of Capitol Hill Days than normal. The JSC's Congressional Liaison Committee (CLC) Capitol Hill Day program was only able to conduct three of the five scheduled Hill Days. Despite the reduction, CLC members

See Committee Reports, page 16

ASCB 2006 Summer Meetings

Stem Cell Niches
Boston University
Boston, MA
July 15-18

Deadlines
Abstract: May 12
Registration: May 31

The Cell Biology of HIV-1 and Other Retroviruses
Emory University
Atlanta, GA
July 20-23

Deadlines
Abstract: May 19
Registration: June 7

www.ascb.org

Practice of Science

Maxine Singer, President Emerita of the Carnegie Institution (left); Keith Yamamoto, University of California, San Francisco (below left); and Allan Spradling, the Carnegie Institution of Washington/ HHMI discussed How Long Should It Take to Train a Cell Biologist?

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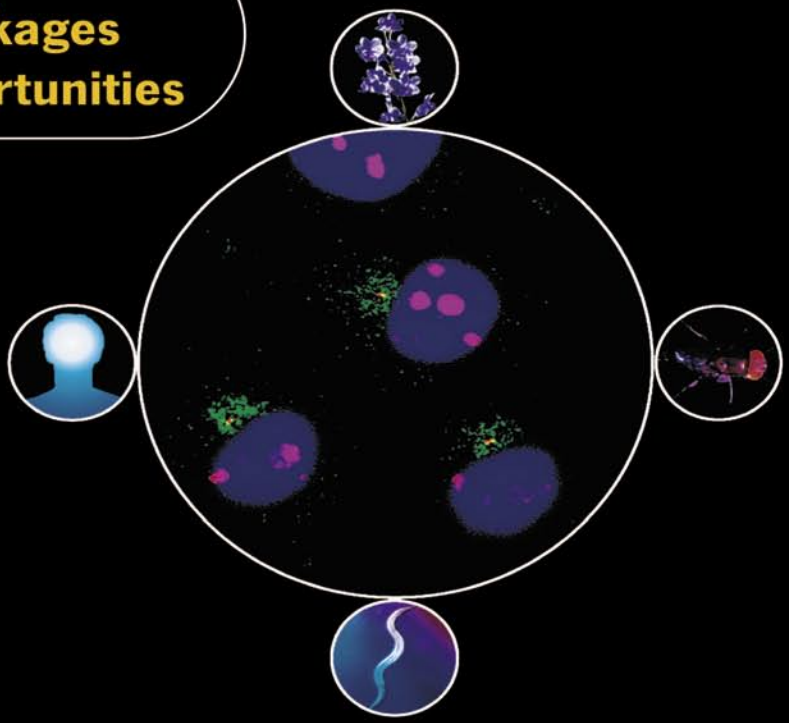

Central image supplied by: Dr Elaine Huston, Glasgow, UK

BJ 1906-2006 Centenary

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Centenary Events Sales Director Christina Wortley is currently placing companies in a masterplan of sponsorship, advertising and event hosting activities - engaging companies with decision-makers they want to meet and associating their products with the most relevant programme subjects.

If you haven't already spoken, Christina can be contacted at:

Christina Wortley ● CoverPoint Communications ● 5 The Quay ● St Ives
Cambridgeshire ● PE27 5AR ● United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 1480 467371 ● Fax: +44 (0) 1480 467381 ● Email: christina@coverpoint.net

Keith R. Porter Lecture

Randy Schekman of the University of California, Berkeley/HHMI, delivers the Porter Lecture on Morphogenesis of a Transport Vesicle.

Committee Reports, continued from page 14

conducted 95 Congressional meetings. 2005 was the second year of a CLC travel award program funded by a grant from the Open Society Institute. The awards have been particularly helpful in bringing constituents to Washington, DC to meet with Members of Congress with whom JSC members had not previously met.

Women in Cell Biology Committee

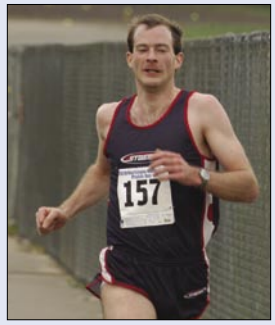
The Women in Cell Biology Committee met on December 10 and discussed its programs, including the workshop on conflict resolution, the annual Career Lunch, the Evening Program, and selection and presentation of the WICB Junior and Senior Awards. Topics for the popular monthly *ASCB Newsletter* WICB Column were discussed, and potential authors identified. ■

Women in Cell Biology Awards

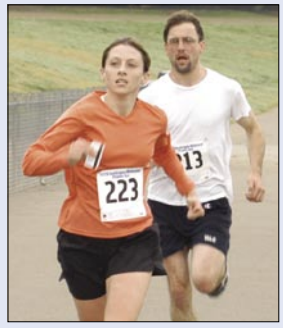
Top: WICB Chair Ursula Goodenough of Washington University (right) presents the 2005 Junior Award to Rebecca Heald of the University of California, Berkeley. Bottom: Elizabeth Blackburn of the University of California, San Francisco (left), receives the WICB Senior Award from Goodenough.

ASCB/Invitrogen-Molecular Probes Run

All this effort, just to get a free t-shirt!



Overall Winner of the Men's 10K: Christoph Burckhardt from the University of Zurich.



10K Runners Colleen Ball and Brad Nolen race toward the finish line.

Greg Lucier from Invitrogen with Overall Women's 10K winner Marjan Huizing of the National Human Genome Research Institute/NIH.

Lucier with Men's Overall 5K Winner Michael Freeley of the Trinity Centre Health Sciences, St. James Hospital in Dublin.

Taking a well-deserved rest after completing the race...and cheering on the rest of the runners about to cross the finish line.

Mission Accomplished!

Overall Winner of the Women's 5K Jennifer Gillette from the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development/NIH.

ASCB-Invitrogen-Molecular Probes Run Results

10K Overall Winners

Christoph Burckhardt—33:28

Marjan Huizing—41:27

5K Overall Winners

Michael Freeley—16:13

Jennifer Gillette—25:07

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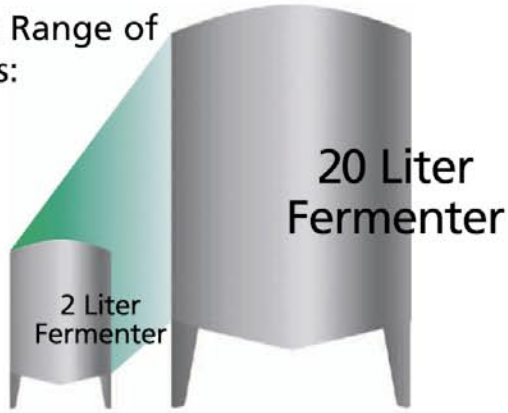

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Lights! Camera! Cells! "Celldance 2005" Premieres in San Francisco

Hollywood didn't blink but the world premiere of "Celldance 2005," the ASCB's first annual cell biology film contest, at the Annual Meeting drew an excited crowd and Council's backing for a sequel. Organized by the Public Information Committee (PIC), the contest's $500 first prize went to Daniela Cimini of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for her short film, "Meeting In The Middle Before Parting."

Ron Vale of the University of California, San Francisco, took the $300 second prize for his animation, "A Moving Kinesin Motor Protein." Rosalind Silverman-Gavrila of the University of Toronto won the $200 third prize for "In Perfect Synchrony." The judges awarded honorable mentions to Alexey Khodjakov of the Wadsworth Center in Albany for "Dance of the Chromosomes" and to Susan Janicki and David Spector of the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory on Long Island for "DNA –> RNA –>Protein."

"Celldance 2006 is already in the works," said PIC Chair Rex Chisholm. "Cell biology is an intensely visual science. These films will be useful in biology classrooms, but the PIC is always looking for ways to open the eyes of the world to life on the cellular level. This is just the beginning." Chisholm praised PIC member Kip Sluder for getting the "Celldance" contest off the ground.

"Celldance 2005" was open to all ASCB members and attracted 29 entries from the U.S. and Canada. Judges were drawn from the PIC and the ASCB's general membership. To overcome the daunting logistics of collecting, distributing and judging entries from ASCB's worldwide membership, "Celldance" was conducted through an RSS or "really simple syndication" feed, using free software developed for video podcasting. Instructions for setting up an RSS feed and downloading the "Celldance 2005 Winners' Reel" are at www.ascb.org. The winning entries of "Celldance 2005" will also be submitted to the new ASCB Image and Video Library.

Celldance Contest Winners

(Left to right:) ASCB Science Writer John Fleischman and Public Information Committee Chair Rex Chisholm present awards to Celldance winners Ron Vale of the University of California, San Francisco; and Rosalind Silverman-Gavrila of the University of Toronto. Kip Sluder (right) chaired the "Celldance" Public Information Subcommittee.

College Student Program Addresses Pathogenesis

Recent scares about a potentially looming avian flu pandemic thrust the field of pathogenesis back into the limelight. Or was it ever out of it? HIV, SARS, and dwindling flu vaccines have appeared in and out of the media. They are hot topics studied by some of the foremost researchers in the world. By scrutinizing these microorganisms, along with the many others that colonize a variety of hosts, researchers continue to diminish the mystery behind the cell biology of the host and its invaders. But can we ever triumph over them all? "Even if we conquer all of the pathogens that we know, there will always be something new coming down the pike," stated Dan Portnoy of the University of California, Berkeley.

Portnoy, along with Joe DeRisi of the University of California, San Francisco, and Julie Theriot of Stanford University, participated in a panel discussion entitled "Emerging Pathogens and Biodefense." The forum was held during the college student program. Speakers discussed how they became involved in their current research endeavors. They also revealed interesting facts about the field of microbial pathogenesis. Theriot recalled how, as a graduate student, after reading a paper by Portnoy's lab, she became

See Highlights, page 20

Student Program

From left to right: Joseph DeRisi, University of California, San Francisco; Julie Theriot of Stanford University; and Daniel Portnoy, University of California, Berkeley, spoke about Emerging Pathogens and Biodefense.

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Highlights, continued from page 18

excited about the way the stomach churning *Listeria* monocytogenes bacteria hijacks the host's machinery to invade and spread. DeRisi later discussed the importance of assays to detect viruses of unknown etiology. He also explained how his lab uses microarray technology to identify mysterious microbes and learn more about elusive organisms like *Plasmodium falciparum*.

After each researcher spoke, the floor was opened to attendee questions. Approximately 150–200 college students from various universities attended, and there was no shortage of inquiries for the panelists. One student from California State University (CSU), Monterey Bay, asked whether bioterrorism was really the threat portrayed by the media. Other students, from schools like CSU, Stanislaus and the University of California, Berkeley, inquired about the state of current research funding, the correlation between the rise in the human population and that of new viruses, and how chronic antibiotic use affects the way disease spreads in current society.

Congress 101

ASCB Public Policy Committee Chair Larry Goldstein (at podium) and below with fellow panelists JSC Education Liaison Peter Kyros and WICB Chair Ursula Goodenough discussed the role that scientists can play in influencing policy in Washington, DC.

Congress 101/CLC Meeting

The U.S. scientific community is facing challenging times due to cuts at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that directly affect, among other budget priorities at NIH, new grants, grant size, and grant duration. Future NIH budgets look equally bleak. Scientists across the U.S. need to be actively involved to change the direction of current funding levels by meeting their Members of Congress, making a call to their offices, and/or writing a letter to their Senator. This was the message repeated to ASCB Annual Meeting attendees at the annual Congress 101 and Congressional Leadership Caucus (CLC) meetings. This message was also echoed by Sudip Parikh, Science Advisor to the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee, when he accepted the ASCB Public Service Award on behalf of Senator Arlen Specter.

Congress 101 was hosted by Larry Goldstein, ASCB Public Policy Committee Chair, and was attended by over 100 people. The panel also included the JSC Congressional Education Liaison Peter Kyros and Committee member and WICB Chair Ursula Goodenough. The presentation and audience discussion focused on why researchers should become involved in public policy advocacy and the valuable role they can play in influencing and shaping public policy in Washington, DC.

The Joint Steering Committee for Public Policy's (JSC) Congressional Liaison Committee (CLC) reception also drew about 100 people for an informal discussion on the best ways to approach your Member of Congress. Tom Pollard, who heads the CLC, hosted the panel discussion. The panel included Omar Quintero who discussed his own experience in meeting his member of Congress through the JSC's Capitol Hill Days.

See Highlights, page 22

Exhibitor Showcases

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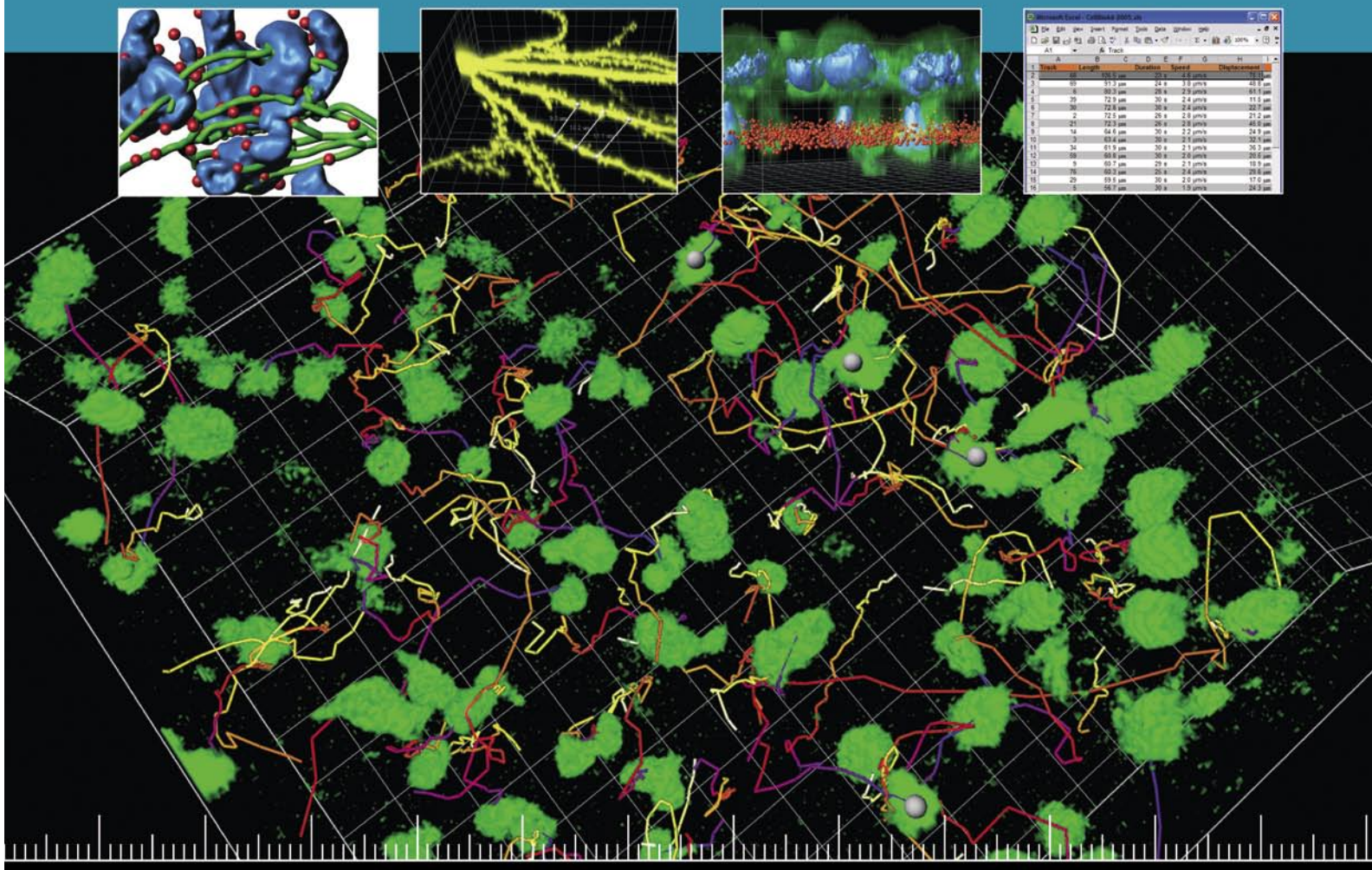

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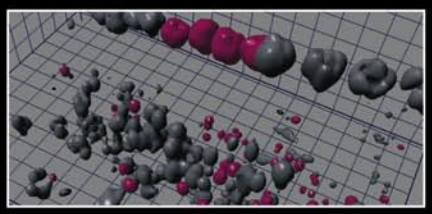

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Education Workshop

Diane Ebert-May of Michigan State University conducted a lively and well-attended Education Workshop: Pathways to Scientific Teaching.

Ebert-May discussed how undergraduates learn and how assessment improves student learning to a rapt audience at the Education Workshop.

Highlights, continued from page 20

Peter Kyros, Lynn Marquis, the National Coordinator for the JSC, and Kevin Wilson, the Public Policy Director for the ASCB, were also on the panel.

All panel members urged researchers to become involved in public policy advocacy and stressed the many simple and non-time-consuming things they can do such as calling or writing your Senator or Member of Congress.

For information on how to be an effective voice for science, please contact Kevin Wilson at kwilson@ascb.org or Lynn Marquis at lmarquis@jscpp.org.

K–12 Science Education Partnership Lunch

Barbara Nagle, SEPUP Director, Lawrence Hall of Science (left), leads a discussion at the K-12 Lunch, Introducing Cell Biology to K–12 Students: Getting Kids Hooked on Microscopy.

Education Initiative Forums

The three Education Initiative Forums sponsored by the Education Committee at the Annual Meeting attracted standing-room-only audiences. The forums, which were chosen from among many excellent education poster submissions, described topics of great interest and impact.

Robin Wright, University of Minnesota, described her school's program called "The Nature of Life." This highly successful, mandatory freshman orientation course for biological science students, brings together students and professors for intensive seminars and bonding. It is held at Lake Itasca, the headwaters of the Mississippi River, during the summer.

Charles Evans, Georgetown University, spoke about an outreach program to promote biomedical health careers among youth in three rural communities: Lakota Ogala Sioux American Indians from the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota; African American and Cajun participants from Napoleonville, Louisiana; and Mexican-American students from a farm migrant worker community in Florida. The students travel to Washington, DC, and spend three weeks on the Georgetown University campus. They attend lectures and field trips, experience laboratory exercises and cultural activities, and participate in science and nonscience classes. All of these activities expose the high school students to a myriad of biomedical science-based careers.

Finally, Anna Ballew, Stanford University, described a lab course for university sophomores that is designed to engage students in yeast genetics through the study of chemicals that may affect human health. The course allows students to design their own projects; conduct independent, original research in the lab using sophisticated equipment; collect data; and present their findings in a final report and poster presentation.

High School Program Discusses Stem Cells

Teams around the world are working on approaches to stimulate stem cells to replace dead cells in diseases like Parkinson's or diabetes. But many American researchers have sought posi-

See Highlights, page 24

High School Program

Allan Spradling of the Carnegie Institution of Washington/HHMI speaks about Bringing Basic Science to the Study of Stem Cells.

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Preliminary Program

Molecular Structure

Macromolecular Structure and Dynamics
Andrej Sali, UCSF

Proteomics and Bioinformatics
Michael Snyder, Yale University
David S. Eisenberg, UCLA

Chemical Genetics and Drug Discovery
Chaitan Khosla, Stanford University
Kevan Shokat, UCSF

Glycobiology and Extracellular Matrix
Carlos B. Hirschberg, Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine

Genome Dynamics

Genome Dynamics: Replication, Repair, and Recombination
Laurie S. Kaguni, Michigan State Univ.

Chromatin: Structure, Expression, and Regulation
Sharon R. Dent, University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

RNA: Structure, Metabolism, and Regulation
Alan D. Frankel, UCSF

Protein Synthesis, Folding and Turnover
William Merrick, Case Western Reserve University

Cell Signaling

Metabolic Regulation
Richard W. Hanson, Case Western Reserve University
Daryl K. Granner, Vanderbilt Univ.

Signaling in Growth and Development
Michael B. Yaffe, MIT

Signaling in Aging and Disease
Natalie G. Ahn, University of Colorado at Boulder

Membrane Biogenesis

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of Lipids
George M. Carman, Rutgers University
Christian R.H. Raetz, Duke University

Structure, Function, and Biogenesis of Cell Membranes
William Dowhan, University of Texas-Houston Medical School

Minority Affairs Sponsored Symposia

Juliette Bell, Fayetteville State Univ.

Issues in Breast Cancer Among Minority Populations
K.V. Venkatachalam, Nova Southeastern University

Minorities and the HIV/AIDS Epidemic
Juliette Bell, Fayetteville State University

EPD/MAC Symposium – Undergraduate Student/Faculty Science
Joseph Provost, Minnesota State University-Moorhead, Mark A. Wallert, Minnesota State University-Moorhead and Phillip A. Ortiz, Empire State College

EPD/MAC Symposium – Outreach and Public Education
Neena Grover, Colorado College

Public Affairs Advisory Committee Symposia

William R. Brinkley, Baylor College of Medicine

Teaching the Science of Evolution Under the Threat of Alternative Views
William R. Brinkley, Ken Miller, Don Johanson, Eugenie Scott, Ted Peters

Education and Professional Development:

Focus on the Future, Shape the Debate
J. Ellis Bell, Univ. of Richmond

Undergraduate Poster Session and Plenary Lecture: My Life in Science
Edmond H. Fischer, University of Washington School of Medicine and Edwin G. Krebs, University of Washington School of Medicine

Current Themes in Molecular Evolution
Michael M. Cox, University of Wisconsin – Madison

Plenary Lecture: Integrity and Independence of Scientific Thought
Elizabeth Blackburn, UCSF

Matching Expectations: Employers and Education in the Molecular Life Sciences
Joy A. McMillan, Madison Area Technical College

The Classroom of the Future
J. Ellis Bell, Univ. of Richmond

Workshops

Mass Spectrometry and Proteomics
Al Burlingame, UCSF and Sue Weintraub, UTHSC, San Antonio

Surface Plasmon Resonance and Proteomics
Eileen Lafer, UTHSC, San Antonio

How to Publish in the JBC
Presented by Associate Editors of JBC

Award Lectures

- **Herbert Tabor/Journal of Biological Chemistry Lectureship**
- **ASBMB-Amgen Award**
- **ASBMB Award for Exemplary Contributions to Education**
- **ASBMB-Merck Award**
- **Avanti Award in Lipids**
- **FASEB Excellence in Science Award**
- **Herbert A. Sober Lectureship**
- **Howard K. Schachman Public Service Award**
- **Schering-Plough Research Institute Award**
- **William C. Rose Award**

Centennial Special Events

- **Opening Centennial Celebration Reception**
- **ASBMB/JBC Birthday Bash, A Taste of San Francisco**
- **ASBMB 5k Fun Run**
- **An Evening with the San Francisco Symphony**

ASBMB Travel Awards

ASBMB Centennial Clara Benson Travel Fellowship Award

Graduate Minority Travel Award

Graduate or Postdoctoral Travel Award

Undergraduate Student Travel Award

Undergraduate Faculty Travel Award

Special Events

10th Annual Undergraduate Student Research Achievement Award Poster Competition, Saturday, April 1, 2006

ASBMB Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Travel Award Symposium, Saturday, April 1, 2006

ABRF/ASBMB Symposium

Minority Scientists Mixer

Women Scientists' Mentoring/Networking Session and Reception

Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Mentoring/Networking Session and Reception

ASBMB Business Meeting

Abstract Deadline: February 8, 2006

www.asbmb.org/meetings

Over 3,000 posters were presented at the ASCB Annual Meeting.

Highlights, continued from page 22

tions in other countries due to stringent restrictions placed on stem cell research in the United States by the Bush Administration. What are stem cells, what kind of research is performed on these intriguing cells, and what is the heat of the controversy behind using these cells? Allan Spradling of the Carnegie Institution in Washington/HHMI discussed these and other issues during the high school program.

Approximately 350 students from schools around the greater San Francisco Bay Area attended the presentation. It spanned Spradling's unique introduction to fruit fly research in high school, his graduate and postdoctoral careers, and his current work using fruit fly stem cells. Spradling explained how working with fruit fly stem cells is not controversial like human stem cell research. He also detailed some of his groundbreaking results that provided a library of stem cell mutants to the *Drosophila* research community. After Spradling's talk, students asked questions and were escorted to the vendor exhibits and poster sessions.

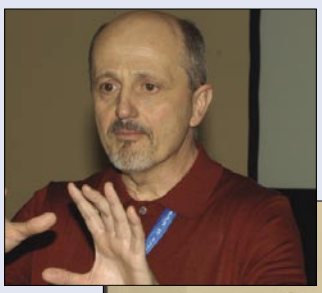
Subcommittee on Postdoctoral Training

Tracie Gibson of Purdue University introduces (left to right) Christina Lewis of the University of California, San Francisco, Postdoctoral Scholars Association; Jill Fuss of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory; and Keith Micoli of the National Postdoctoral Association. The Subcommittee on Postdoctoral Training presentation was titled Networking for Success: The Essence of an Effective Postdoctoral Association.

Postdoctoral Society Committee, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. The panelists addressed how postdocs can get involved in such associations and how to tap into existing resources.

Members of the subcommittee met separately to organize plans for next year's Annual Meeting and to appoint a new chair. Cherie Butts, a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Mental Health, will replace Tracie Gibson as chair. Laurie Littlepage and Kristen Kwan have agreed to serve as co-vice chairs. SCOPT plans to continue to expand its outreach to ASCB postdocs.

WICB Workshop



Michael Milano of Murphy & Milano, Inc., led the WICB Workshop on From Conflict to Confidence: Negotiating Day-to-Day Conflicts.

Subcommittee on Postdoctoral Training

The ASCB Subcommittee on Postdoctoral Training (SCOPT) hosted a session at the Annual Meeting on "Networking for Success: The Essence of an Effective Postdoctoral Association." Members of the panel included Keith Micoli, National Postdoctoral Association; Christina Lewis, University of California-San Francisco Postdoctoral Scholars Association; and Jill Fuss, Biosciences

WICB Workshop

Are scientists concerned with conflicts that might affect their ability to perform professionally? The highly interactive Women in Cell Biology Workshop on Conflict Resolution held December 10, 2005, provided dozens of participants the opportunity to learn how to go from conflict to confidence and how to negotiate situations on a day-to-day basis. Led by Michael Milano of Murphy & Milano Inc., attendees learned, among other things, that conflict is not an unusual situation, that there are many styles to resolving conflict, and that each individual needs to find a comfortable and productive style that provides her or him with confidence to resolve a conflict by working with others to achieve a resolution.

WICB Career Lunch

Approximately 400 people attended the Career Lunch sponsored by WICB. The attendees selected from 25 topics of interest, at 38 labeled ta-

ANNUAL MEETING Highlights

WICB Career Lunch

bles. The most popular topics included the "newer" areas, such as Biotech & Pharmaceuticals, as well as the more "traditional," Obtaining an Appropriate Postdoc Position, Job Application Strategies for Academic Positions, and Developing Your Career. From the animated discussions and an unofficial exit poll, it is clear that the Career Lunch continues to be a highlight for both the table leaders and registrants.

WICB Thespians

The Impostor Syndrome was aptly dramatized during the Women in Cell Biology evening program by Committee Thespians Lydia Villa-Komaroff, Linda Hicke, Gary Borisy, Randy Schekman and Matthew Welch. They displayed the anguish, anxiety, and raw fear that come when you think others have an inflated opinion of your prowess. That is, your self-confidence is disconnected from the reality of your talent. The thespians also portrayed the flip side of the anxiety-prone suffering the Impostor Syndrome. That is, some colleagues may have a history of being "often wrong but never in doubt" (a phrase quoted from Ellen Goodman, a columnist at *The Boston Globe*). These individuals bombast their way through their own worries about being discovered as intellectual frauds.

Perhaps the most telling observation from this evening program was the number of prominent members of the Society, including no fewer than six current and former Presidents, who remarked on their own anxieties surrounding these issues. They showed how they relied on caring mentors, friends and loved ones to begin to believe in their own talents.

Clearly this year's evening program struck a chord, touching a nerve in both men and women, junior and senior cell biologists. An article on the issue, penned by WICB member Sue Wick, can be found in *Career Advice for Life Scientists*, Volume 1. A workshop on the topic seems warranted at a future ASCB meeting. ■

WICB Evening Program

Finding the Balance Between Over-Confidence and the Imposter Syndrome

Caroline Kane facilitated the Evening Program.

Committee Thespians included (left to right) Gary Borisy, Lydia Villa-Komaroff, Randy Schekman and Matthew Welch.

Gary Borisy and Lydia Villa-Komaroff are getting into the seriousness of their roles ...

... while Linda Hicke and Matt Welch are having too much fun with their role-play.

Minorities Affairs Committee Activities

MAC Mentoring Symposium

Above left: Cherie Butts of the National Institute of Mental Health/NIH moderated the MAC Mentoring Symposium. At left: Bruce Alberts of the University of California, San Francisco, and George Langford of Dartmouth College spoke on Trailblazers and Path Finders: Secrets for Career Success from Leading Scientists. *Above: Mentoring Symposium participants.*

MAC Poster Session

MAC Poster organizers Peter Satir (far left) and Anthony DePass (far right) with MAC poster session winners (left to right) Dwane Clarke, Mauricio Cortes, Kiani Lopez, Anthony Aragon, Veronica Lopez, Sabrice Guerrier, Lymarie Maldonado-Baez, and Juan Reyes.

MAC Poster presenters: James Olzmann (left) of Emory University and Omayra Rivera-Denizard of the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez (right), present their research.

MAC Poster Winners

Undergraduate

First Place
Dominick Lemas—University of Vermont, Burlington

Second Place
Kiani Lopez—University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez

Third Place
Dwane Clark—Morgan State University

Graduate Awards

First Place
Sabrice Guerrier—University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Second Place
Lymarie Maldonado-Baez—The Johns Hopkins University

Third Place
Mauricio Cortes—University of Chicago
Anthony Aragon—University of New Mexico, Albuquerque
Juan Reyes—Chicago State University

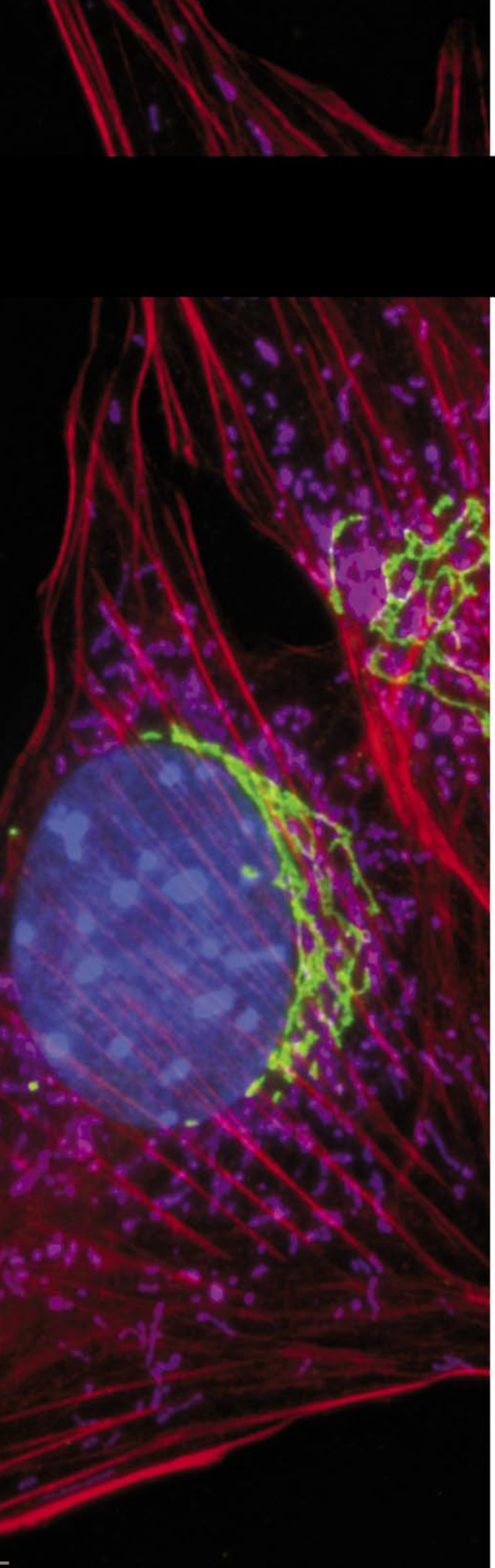
Postdoctoral Fellows

First Place
Alexis Rodriguez—Albert Einstein School of Medicine

Second Place
Veronica Lopez—University of California, Davis

Faculty Awards
Omar Quintero—Franklin and Marshall College

Underepresented Minorities/Council Roundtable Discussion



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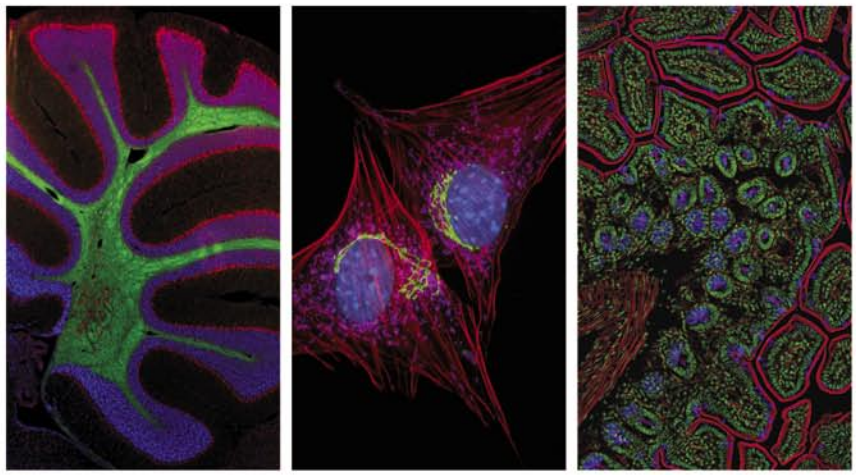

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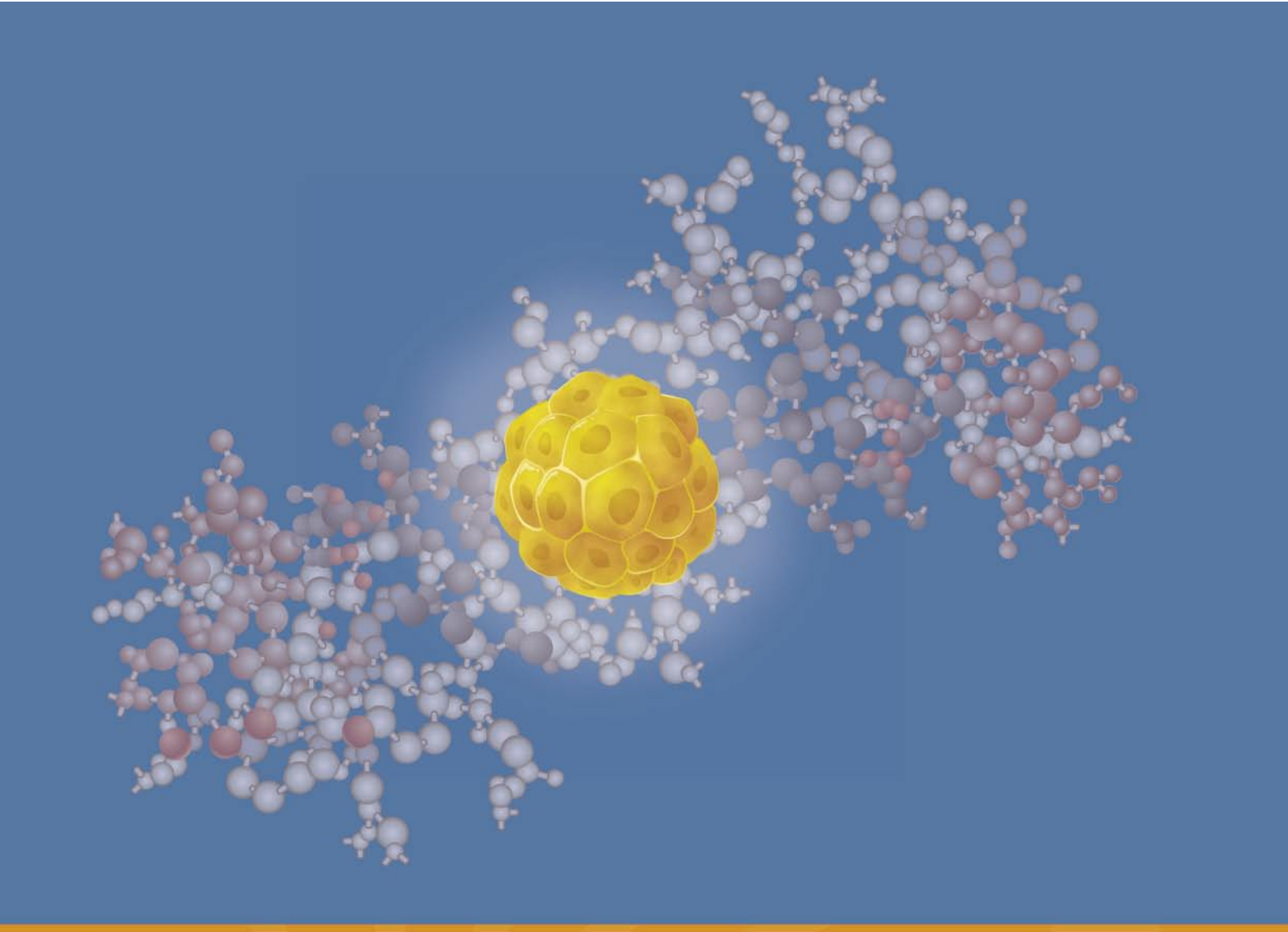

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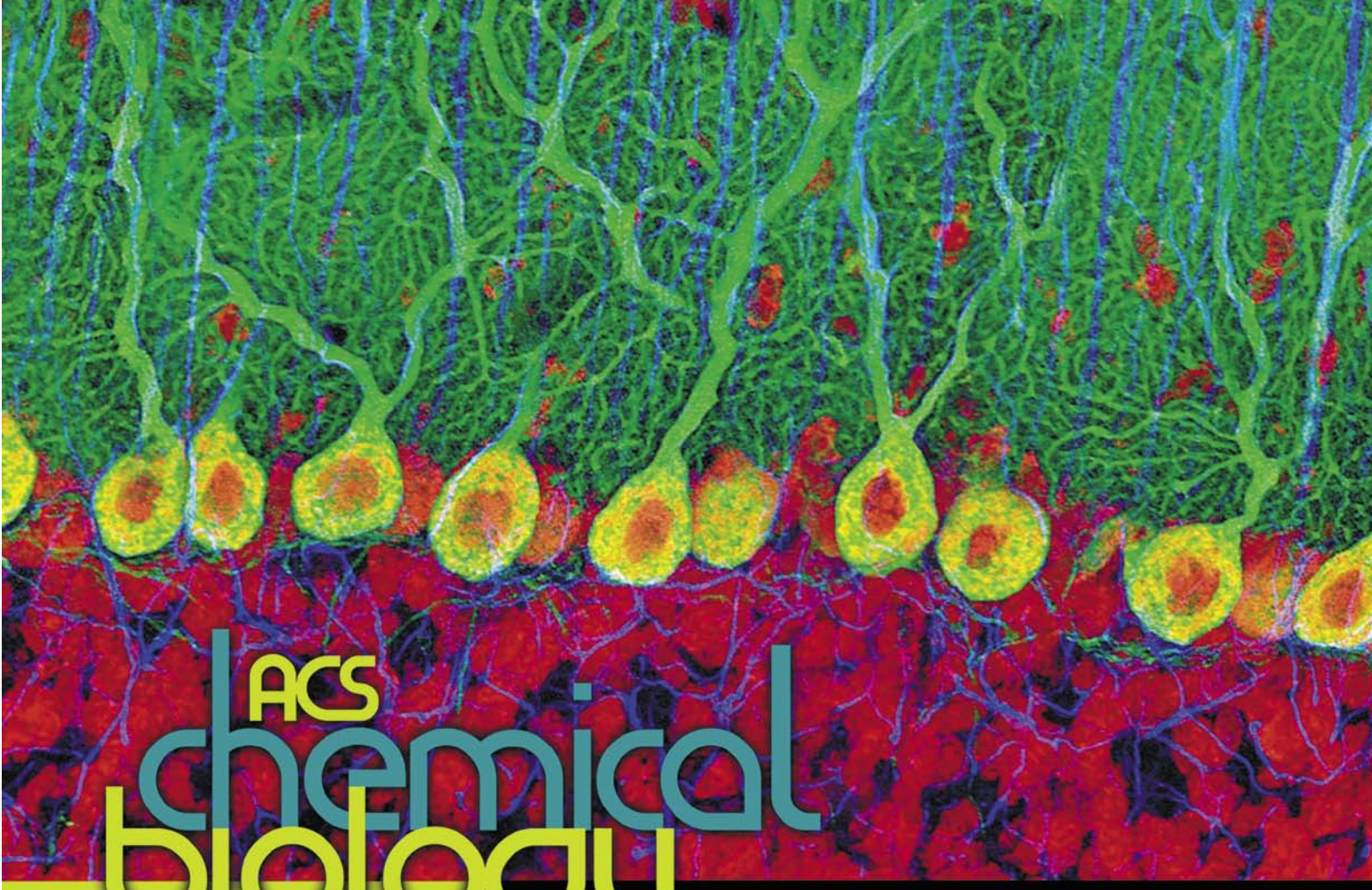

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Historically Bad Budget for NIH

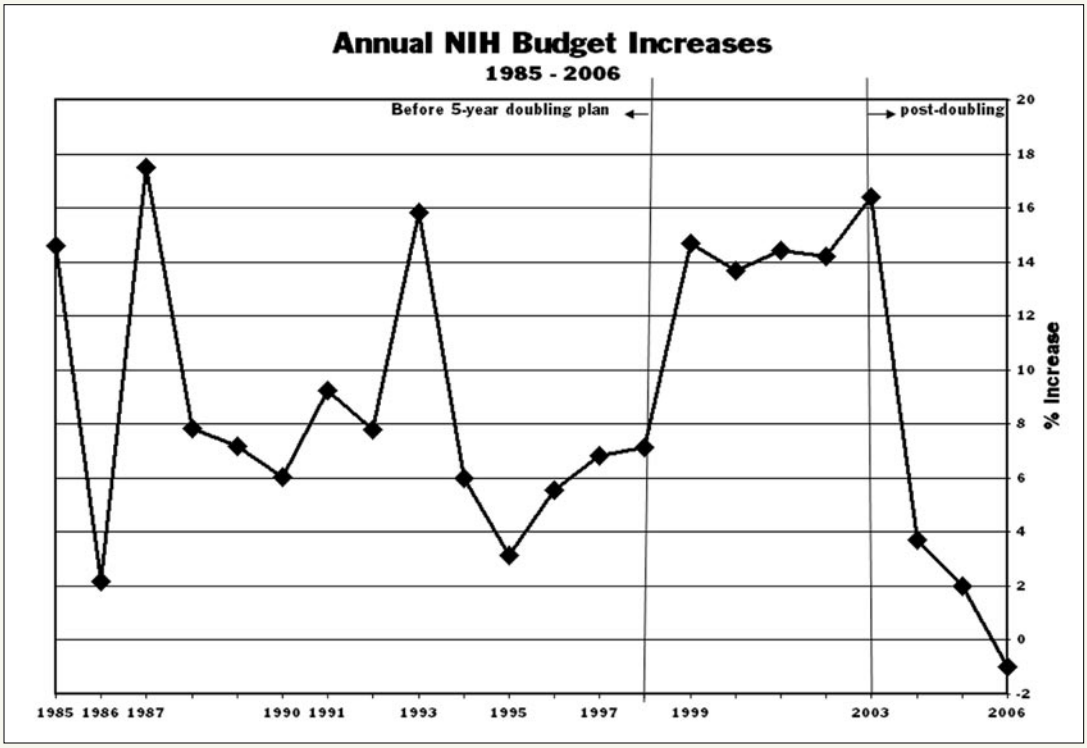
In the final hours before U.S. Congress adjourned for 2005, Congress completed its work on the FY 2006 Departments of Labor, Health & Human Services and Education Appropriations bill. This bill includes funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Unfortunately, the budget does not include good news for the NIH. A small funding increase in the Appropriations bill combined with a 1% government-wide budget cut will result in a 2006 NIH budget that is $33 million less than the 2005 budget. The NIH has not seen a cut in its budget since 1970 when President Nixon cut the budget by $48.8 million.

President Bush's original budget proposal included a request of $28.418 billion for the NIH which was $144 million or .5% more than the final 2005 NIH budget. The House of Representatives budget included $28.515 billion, an increase of $241 million or 0.8% above the 2005 NIH budget. The Senate bill included $29.323 billion for NIH, $1.049 billion or 3.7% more than last year's budget.

The growth of the NIH budget has steadily decreased in each of the three federal budgets since the 2003 completion of the five-year doubling of the NIH budget.

A Conference Committee of both House and Senate members included a budget of $28.526 billion for the NIH in the final version of the budget bill. This is $252 million or 0.9% above the 2005 NIH budget. In an unusual move, however, the Conference Report was rejected by the full House of Representatives. After making changes to the bill not connected with the NIH, a second Conference Report was narrowly approved by the House by only two votes and later by voice vote in the Senate. After the government-wide 1% reduction, the final NIH budget will end up at $28.241 billion.

The growth of the NIH budget has steadily decreased in each of the three federal budgets since the 2003 completion of the five-year doubling of the NIH budget. In each of those years, the increase has been below the Biomedical Research and Development Price Index (BRDPI), an index intended to provide a more precise gauge of the resources necessary to keep up with inflationary costs particular to biomedical research. ■



Court Says ID Is Not Science

A U.S. District Court judge has ruled that "Intelligent Design" cannot be taught in Dover, Pennsylvania, biology classes. The ruling is the result of a court case filed against the Dover Area School Board by parents of 11 students after the Board voted to amend the school biology curriculum. The new policy required that a statement be read in each ninth grade biology class stating that Darwin's Theory of Evolution is "not a fact" and has inexplicable "gaps." ASCB member Ken Miller was the first witness for the plaintiffs.

In his ruling, U.S. District Court Judge John E. Jones III wrote that, "In making this determination, we have addressed the seminal question of whether ID is science. We have concluded that it is not, and moreover that ID cannot uncouple itself from its creationist, and thus religious, antecedents."

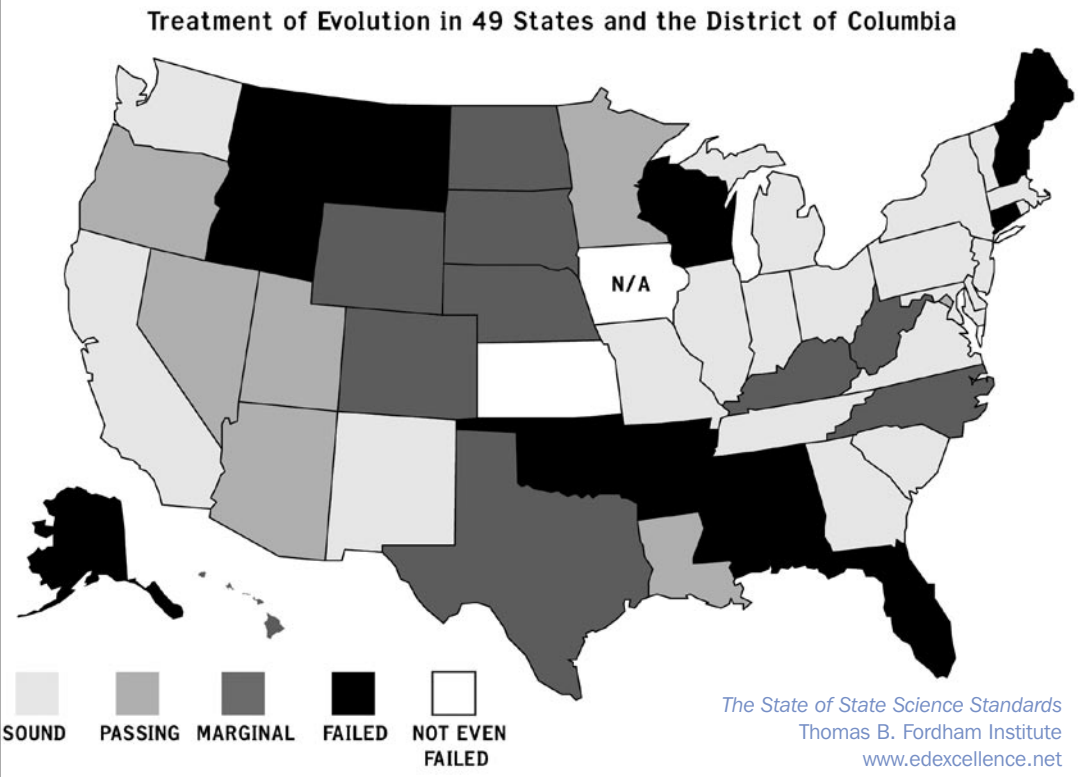
Judge Jones continued, "To be sure, Darwin's theory of evolution is not perfect. However, the fact that a scientific theory cannot yet render an explanation on every point should not be used as a pretext to thrust an untestable alternative hypothesis grounded in religion into the science classroom or to misrepresent well-established scientific propositions."

Jones was equally blunt in his criticism of the Dover School Board and the proponents of Intelligent Design. He charged that the citizens of Dover "were poorly served by the members of the Board who voted for the ID Policy." In his harshest words, the judge said, "It is ironic that several of these individuals, who so staunchly and proudly touted their religious convictions in public, would time and again lie to cover their tracks and disguise the real purpose behind the ID Policy."

While this ruling applies only to the Dover Area schools, it may have a major impact on efforts to include ID in the science classes of other school systems around the U.S.

To read the complete ruling, go to *http://coop.www.uscourts.gov/pamd/kitzmiller_342.pdf.* ■

Creationism Monitor



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DEAR Labby

Dear Labby,

I am writing to you in an anxious state of mind. I am a 36-year-old Assistant Professor of Cell Biology and this is my tenure review year. I am at a pretty good institution, though not one of the real Ivory Towers. Things have gone quite well for me but my Department Chair told me last summer that my tenure decision could be a close call because my publication record is "just a bit short." Her comment refers to the fact that although I have published an average of 2.5 papers a year in two leading cell biology journals (*MBC* and *JCB*), I have yet to publish in one of the so-called "elite" journals.

I don't want to get into the controversies about Impact Factors, etc. I have a more specific question. Last year, I submitted what I consider my most important paper so far to one of the "elite" journals and received what I regard as very positive reviews. Nonetheless, the editor turned my paper down. I appealed but the editor dug in her heels.

When I assembled materials for my tenure review, I wanted to include the two referees' enthusiastic reviews on the aforementioned manuscript, but my Chair advised me not to do so. Now I wonder if that was the right decision. If the Tenure and Promotions Committee saw how close my paper came to being accepted in the "elite" journal, maybe that would be an influential factor—perhaps a decisive one? By the way, on the other tenure criteria, teaching and service, my Chair said I am fine.

—Worried

Dear Worried,

Labby would have recommended inclusion of the referee reports—why not? There is no apparent downside. Did your Chair think members of the committee would be turned off knowing that an "elite" journal turned down your paper? It sounds like she was trying to protect you but it may have been overdone. It is likely that every member of the committee has had this experience (Labby certainly has)

It might also have been useful to include the editor's letter, explaining the rejection. The editor must have pulled out a major issue in order to traverse two very positive reviews. (But bear in mind that you have not seen the referees' confidential comments to the editor, and these can sometimes be very different from the tone of the reviews—a totally corrupt practice but it happens.)

You have high marks in two other categories, teaching and service, and at most good institutions these do count. And your research productivity sounds extremely good, more like A- (at least) than warranting your Chair's "close call" remark. The two journals you are publishing in (at a frequency higher than many established, famous labs) are extremely well regarded.

To paraphrase a line from the great reggae song: "Everytin's almost certainly gonna be all right." But your experience does raise an interesting issue, and hopefully airing it here will be helpful to ASCB members (either pre-tenure faculty or Chairs, as there are teachings for both). Labby looks forward to the news of your grant of tenure.

—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.

Peter Satir

"It came to me as I was walking down Second Avenue," Peter Satir recalls. It was 1959. Satir was on his way back to work as a graduate student in Keith Porter's electron microscopy laboratory in what was then called the Rockefeller Institute in New York. The problem on Satir's mind was cilia and whether they moved by contracting or by sliding the structures we now call microtubules. Satir's experimental epiphany was the idea of stopping a metachronal wave in its tracks. The cilia that line the gills of freshwater mussels beat in metachronal waves, each cilium just out of phase with its neighbor. If Satir could "fix" a wave instantaneously, he would capture cilia in every stage of the beat cycle from the effective to the recovery position. A blast of OsO4 fixative would do it, Satir calculated. It would chemically freeze the wave and preserve each cilium for serial cross-sectioning and close study under the electron microscope. "Or at least that was my idea," Satir says.

His Eureka moment on Second Avenue took five years to unfold. The fixative flash-freezing worked like a charm, Satir recalls, yielding a bountiful supply of samples. "I was able to describe some ultrastructural changes but when you look carefully at ultrastructure, it's actually much more difficult to know what is going on. I didn't really figure it out until 1964 when I realized that by studying the tips of cilia, I could actually see whether the microtubules contract or slide when they bend."

We know today that microtubules do slide along and so much more about the ultrastructure underpinning cell motility because of Peter Satir's pioneering work, according to Win Sale. An early Satir graduate student, Sale is now at Emory University Medical School. Satir's proof of sliding was especially elegant, says Sale. Satir hypothesized that, "If microtubules were inextensible, then based simply on the geometry, microtubules on the inside edge of a bent axoneme (one of the nine doublet microtubules bundled around the cilium perimeter) must extend beyond those on the outside. Peter reasoned that microtubule

Peter Satir

displacement could be identified in the pattern of microtubules at the tips of cilia." Satir used a geometric model of a circular bending arc to predict the angle between inside and outside axonemes, that is, if microtubules did slide. Satir's model, the EM images and the measurements matched precisely, says Sale. That work and Satir's subsequent discovery of the minus-end polarity of the dynein protein were critical to the cell motility revolution that continues to this day, says Sale.

"Satir has … had a tremendous impact on cell biology through the generations of scientists he has trained."

Satir has also had a tremendous impact on cell biology through the generations of scientists he has trained, Sale adds. "I took his cell biology class at Berkeley so I was still an undergraduate when I went to ask if I might be able to do some research work in his lab. And Peter said, 'By all means! Come in and we'll find you something to do.' That's how I started in electron microscopy but it was later as his graduate student that I really began to understand Peter's vision of what research could be about."

Soren Christensen was a Satir post-doc at Einstein from 1998 to 2000. "It was my best place ever," says Christensen who is now at the University of Copenhagen. "Peter is such a warm, gregarious person but he also knows how to grow scientists. He allows new students to think for themselves. He gives you a certain freedom and then he supports you in every way he can. So now I send my students to Peter's lab. He is not only a colleague but still a very important mentor for me."

Christensen says that Satir's scientific influence has been particularly strong in Denmark through Satir's fellowships in Copenhagen labs, his mentoring of Danish students in the Bronx, and his marriage to Birgit Hegner, who among many other things is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Science in her native land. Peter Satir's influence was recognized last November by an honorary doctorate from the University of Copenhagen and a reception by Queen Margrethe II. According to Christensen, "It was quite an event." A ceremony at the University was followed by a formal reception with the Queen and later by a performance at the new Opera House. "Peter speaks almost fluent Danish so he was able to converse with the Queen about his work," Christensen adds.

Driving everything was Satir's hunger for new data and new insights.

Though Satir didn't mention this honor, he can be forgiven as his CV has a lot to cover. Among other things, Satir was at the first meeting of the ASCB in 1961 where he remembers giving a cilia paper at Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago. In the 1970s, Satir was involved in the formation of ASCB's Minorities Affairs Committee (MAC). Two years ago, Satir agreed to rejoin MAC. "There's a lot more activity on MAC and a much wider perspective on the issues today," says Satir."I originally got involved because of Winston Anderson," says Satir. "It was Winston who really got MAC going when he brought in the first grant to organize the Woods Hole minority program."

Peter Satir was born in Manhattan but grew up a proud product of the Bronx, educated in the public schools and a graduate of the famed Bronx High School of Science. As an undergraduate at Columbia, Satir fell under the influence of cell physiologist Teru Hayashi. "Of course, my parents wanted me to become a doctor but I had no interest in becoming a physician," Satir recalls. "Fortunately, Columbia had all incoming students take aptitude tests. My advisor called me in and said, 'Whatever you do, don't apply to medical school. You have absolutely no aptitude for medicine.' This was a great relief to me as I could call up my mother and tell her that my advisor strongly recommended against it."

Free to pursue his research interests, Satir followed his mentor, Hayashi, to Woods Hole in the summer after his senior year to audit the MBL Physiology Course and hear Keith Porter's Harvey Lecture on the wonders of electron microscopy. He joined Porter's lab at Rockefeller as a graduate student in 1956. In those early years, Rockefeller graduate program strongly urged (and underwrote) a year's fellowship in an overseas lab. Satir spent 1958 in Copenhagen as a fellow in Erik Zeuthen's lab, one of only a few in the world then studying the cell cycle, mainly by synchronizing cell division in Tetrahymena. Satir returned to the Rockefeller and his Second Avenue epiphany about the ultra structure of cilia the following year but his Danish connections flourished, especially after he convinced Birgit to see what American science had to offer. They married in 1962, soon after Peter took his first position at the University of Chicago.

In truth, American academic science had very little to offer married couples in the early 1960s. Fierce departmental "anti-nepotism" rules doomed one scientific spouse, usually the woman, to a non-salaried bench or an appointment elsewhere. Birgit and Peter Satir became career trailblazers in 1967, when the Physiology Department at Berkeley made them its first-ever double job offer. Birgit was not fully salaried, Peter remembers, but she had her own appointment, and eventually her own lab.

When the Satirs left Berkeley for the Bronx in 1977, Peter says that a major enticement was the full double appointment, salary and lab space offer from Albert Einstein. The move was also poetic revenge for Satir's mother. Her son with no aptitude for medical school was now Chair of Anatomy at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. The move also brought Satir full circle in the Bronx. His family's old apartment was only blocks from his new office.

The Satir labs have drawn a steady stream of talent to Einstein, including Jeff Salisbury who was finishing his doctorate at Ohio State in 1978 when he accepted an invitation from Satir to come see him in the Bronx. A long train, subway and bus ride later, Salisbury wondered if he'd ever find his way home. The journey was worth the effort, says Salisbury who is now at the Mayo Clinic Medical School. "I stayed there in the Bronx for six years and gained 30 pounds which I haven't lost since. Part of that was Peter. He loves life. Not only did he teach me a lot of great science, he taught me how to eat."

Driving everything was Satir's hunger for new data and new insights, Salisbury recalls. "Peter's office door was always open. No matter what he was doing, there was nothing he liked better than for you to come in there with a stack of new EMs. He'd drop everything, clear a space and go through them with you, one by one. He just couldn't resist."

Salisbury continues, "I can't emphasize this too much but a major part of Peter's strength as a scientist is that he has Birgit as a partner. The two of them have an interesting balance to life. They banter back and forth constantly but always in a very positive way. They are unique."

Today the Satirs live in Greenwich, Connecticut. The elder son, Jakob, is a computer programmer in Florida and the father of Anthony, their only grandchild, so far. Their other son, Adam, is a personal banker in Spain. The Satirs have no plans to retire anytime soon, says Peter Satir. He is especially energized these days by the "renaissance" in ciliary biology following recent discoveries linking mutations in primary cilia to polycystic kidney disease (PKD). "It's really taken off because of the disease relevance," says Satir, "but it's not just PKD and the kidneys. It seems to be involved as a growth control mechanism almost everywhere that there are primary cilia. There isn't any reason to retire. I'm having a great time." ■

"A major part of Peter's strength as a scientist is that he has Birgit as a partner .... They are unique."

memorandum

To: **Joe Melmian, Research Director**
From: **Sarah McChesney, Flow Cytometry Supervisor**
Subject: **New, Versatile ZebraFish Control**

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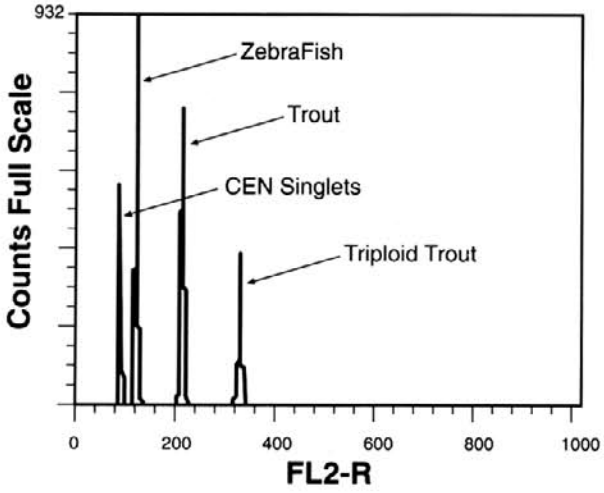
Our lab has conducted experiments using the ZebraFish Control along with other controls, including BioSure TENs (trout erythrocyte nuclei), Triploid Trout, and CENs (chicken erythrocyte nuclei). The genome sizes were 2.5, 3.4, 5.2, and 7.8 picograms (see histogram). These will be useful reference points when we monitor our tissue cultures over time.



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Women in Cell Biology

Science Education in America: What to Do?

Judge John Jones III released his eloquent verdict refuting the presentation of intelligent design creationism (IDC) in public-school science classes. And the brilliant testimony of Kenneth Miller, chair of the ASCB Education Committee, makes for particularly wonderful reading (www2.ncseweb.org/wp/?p=39). It does not follow, unfortunately, that U.S. K-12 science education is thereby out of the woods.

This year I joined five other scientists to review the 50 State Science Standards in a project funded by the Fordham Foundation. Our report, which includes a state-by-state assessment, can be found at www.edexcellence.net/foundation/publication/publication.cfm?id=352. More can be found in the Public Policy section of this Newsletter.

What we found was troubling to us, both as parents and as scientists. Only 19 states have produced standards that we would regard as meritorious (as parents, we would be satisfied to have our children educated in such contexts). Sixteen states' standards, however, were highly flawed, and 15 were flat-out unacceptable. In some cases a lackluster presentation of evolution contributed to a poor outcome. But the dominant and unsurprising pattern was that states with weak standards overall were also weak in evolution education. Moreover, we understand that teachers often tend to "skip over the evolution sections" so as to avoid conflict—in some cases, conflict with their own views.

"Sixteen states' standards ... were highly flawed, and 15 were flat-out unacceptable."

Probably like most of you, I had at best a vague notion that such standards existed and had certainly never read one. But I encourage curious American readers to go to www.edexcellence.net/sciencestandardslinks.html, click on your state, and discover how the teaching of science is presented.

If this exercise confuses, bewilders, and/or discourages you, you may wish to get involved. These documents undergo frequent rounds of revision. Moreover, the current version of the No Child Left Behind Act requires that states must test student knowledge of science starting in 2007-2008. While we did not quantify this impression, our panel noticed that the standards that were deemed meritorious were often ones that listed scientists as participants in their drafting. Should any of you wish to consider volunteering input for future drafts, please email me at ursula@biology.wustl.edu. I'll try to be of assistance.

Of primary concern is that students come to understand and appreciate both how science is done and some of what scientific inquiry has discovered. But I have an ancillary concern as well. The ancillary concern is that science education, both as articulated in the standards and as practiced in our schools, basically fails to convey to students what can be called the scientific worldview -- a narrative account, with supporting empirical evidence, of our current understandings of the origins and evolution of the universe, the planet, and life (including humans) -- a worldview based on the findings of the historical sciences. One can find material on the Big Bang and stars in some physics classes, and material on plate tectonics in some geology classes, and (usually) some units on fossils and evolutionary theory in some biology classes. But no attempt is made to bring the historical sciences together into a comprehensive framework in the way that American History classes would offer an overview of 400 years of U.S. history.

It's my view that a presentation of such a comprehensive scientific framework could help ameliorate the epidemic of scientific illiteracy in our society. As things now stand, K-12 students in science classes hear about cells one day and atoms the next. But they lack opportunity or guidance to integrate these understandings into larger contexts. While this is not a problem for the "science types" who soak up cells and atoms no matter what, it's the others who concern me. Most students find science classes tedious and boring and drop out as soon as they've met the requirements.

"... our panel noticed that the standards that were deemed meritorious were often ones that listed scientists as participants in their drafting."

I've come to hold this view because I co-teach a course at the college level, with a physics and a geology professor, called the Epic of Evolution: Life, Earth, and the Cosmos. This class presents the scientific worldview to science-disaffected students who take it as a distribution-requirement option. They report that their interest in, and mastery of, scientific concepts is greatly enhanced when such larger contexts are provided. We've become convinced that a robust and mindful grasp of the scientific worldview generates a more abiding commitment to scientific inquiry, to environmental sustainability, and to societal responsibility. Many students report an appreciation for the scientific enterprise that was lacking when research was presented solely as the "engine" for technological advancement. They also report that an understanding of their own lives in the vast evolutionary context that made those lives possible instills a new and valuable framework for existential orientation and informed environmental awareness. Even our graduate-student teaching assistants invariably express appreciation for having been exposed to the "big picture" in a rigorous and memorable way for the first time.

Obviously, the introduction of such a perspective into K-12 education is a vast project that few of us can yet directly influence. But I warmly encourage you to consider offering such a course at your college or university. Please email me at ascbinfo@ascb.org if you'd like to learn more about what we do. ■

—Ursula Goodenough

MEMBER Gifts

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

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MEMBERS in the News

Wolfgang Baumeister of the Max Planck Institute, an ASCB member since 1997, was awarded the 2005 Harvey Prize in the field of Science and Technology.

Ronald Breaker of Yale University/HHMI, an ASCB member since 2004, received the Eli Lilly and Company Research Award from the American Society of Microbiology.

Guy Caldwell of the University of Alabama, an ASCB member since 1992, was named the state's 2005 Professor of the Year today by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

Brian Druker of Oregon Health & Science University/ HHMI, an ASCB member since 2002, won the 2005 Robert Koch Award from the Robert Koch Foundation.

William Green of the University of Chicago, an ASCB member since 1995, has received a 2005 Grass Faculty Awards at the MBL.

Liqun Luo

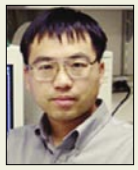
Joshuan Sanes

Ronald Schnaar

Liqun Luo of Stanford University/HHMI, an ASCB member since 2005, **Joshua Sanes** of Harvard University, an ASCB member since 1996, and **Ronald L. Schnaar** of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, an ASCB member since 1982, were among the researchers to receive the 2005 Senator Jacob Javits Award from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

Nedra Wilson, an an ASCB member since 1992, received an academic appointment at Oklahoma State University. Wilson joined the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine as Assistant Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology.

Elaine Bearer of Brown University, an ASCB member since 1981 was named a 2005 Dart Scholar in Learning and Memory, sponsored by a grant from the Dart Neuroscience Limited Partnership and was also named a Moore Distinguished Scholar at Caltech.



Guo-Qiang Bi

Robert Morris

Jason Swedlow

Guo-Qiang Bi of the University of Pittsburgh, an ASCB member since 1994, **Robert Morris** of Wheaton College, an ASCB member since 1990, and **Jason Swedlow** of the University of Dundee, an ASCB member since 1994, were among the 2005 fellows to conduct research at the MBL.

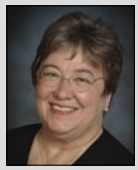
Stephen Elledge of the Brigham and Women's Hospital/HHMI, and ASCB member since 1993, received the Hans Sigrist Award from the University of Bern, Switzerland.

H. Robert Horvitz of the Massachuesetts Institute of Technology/HHMI, an ASCB member since 1988, won the 2005 Alfred Knudson Award from the National Cancer Institute.

Mark Warchol of Washington University, an ASCB member since 2004, has received a 2005 Grass Faculty Awards at the MBL.

ASCB Members Elected to the American Society for Microbiology

Claire Fraser
The Institute for Genomic Research
Member since 2005

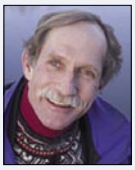


Kathryn V. Holmes
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center
Member since 1969

Craig B. Thompson
University of Pennsylvania
Member since 1997

ASCB Members Elected AAAS Fellows

Fourteen members of the ASCB were among those elected Fellows to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.



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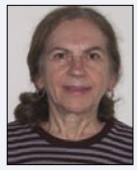
Duke University
Member since 1988

James Garrels
Garbrook Associates
Member since 1992

Leslie Leinwand
University of Colorado, Boulder
Member since 1988

Jim Jung-Ching Lin
University of Iowa
Member since 1980

Berl Oakley
Ohio State University
Member since 1979



Louise Prakash
University of Texas
Member since 2005

Satya Prakash
University of Texas
Member since 2005

Patricia Pukkila
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Member since 1976

Andrej Rotter
Ohio State University
Member since 1990

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Scripps Research Institute
Member since 1990

David Soll
University of Iowa
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University of New Mexico
Member since 1990

H. Steven Wiley
Pacific Northwest National Lab
Member since 1987

Meng-Cao Yao
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Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Member since 1978

The American Society for Cell Biology 2006 Call for Nominations

Bruce Alberts Education Award

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

How to Apply: Provide a letter of nomination, letters of support and CV.

Award: The winner is presented a plaque and will give remarks at the 46th ASCB Annual Meeting. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

Deadline: March 31.

Early Career Life Scientist Award

Who is Eligible: An individual who has received a doctorate since 1993 and has served as an independent investigator for no more than seven years. The primary nominator must be a member of the ASCB but the candidate and support letter authors need not be.

How to Apply: Provide the candidate's CV, a brief research statement and a nominating letter plus no more than three letters of support, at least one of which must come from outside the candidate's current institution.

Award: The winner gives a lecture at the 46th ASCB Annual Meeting. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

Deadline: March 31.

Public Service Award

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

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

Award: The winner gives the Public Service Award Lecture at the 46th ASCB Annual Meeting and receives a certificate. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

Deadline: March 31.

Merton Bernfield Memorial Award

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

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

Award: The winner speaks in a Minisymposium at the 46th ASCB Annual Meeting and receives an honorarium. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

Deadline: August 1.

Norton B. Gilula Memorial Award

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

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

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

Deadline: August 1.

E.E. Just Lectureship

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

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

Award: The winner gives the E.E. Just Lecture at the 46th ASCB Annual Meeting, and receives a plaque. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

Deadline: March 31.

MBC Paper of the Year Award

Who is Eligible: A student or post-doc first author who published the best paper in *Molecular Biology of the Cell* from June 2005 through May 2006.

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

Award: The winner speaks in a Minisymposium at the 46th Annual Meeting. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

Deadline: Associate Editors make recommendations by June 18.

E.B. Wilson Medal

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

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

Award: The winner gives the E.B. Wilson Lecture at the 46th ASCB Annual Meeting, and receives the E.B. Wilson Medal. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

Deadline: March 31.

All applications and nominations may be submitted to:

The American Society for Cell Biology
8120 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 750
Bethesda, MD 20814-2762
ascbinfo@ascb.org

For names of prior awardees or more information, see www.ascb.org or contact the ASCB at (301) 347-9300, or ascbinfo@ascb.org.

WICB Career Recognition Award

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

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

Award: The winners are presented an honorarium and plaque at the 46th ASCB Annual Meeting. Expenses to attend the Annual Meeting are paid.

Deadline: March 31.

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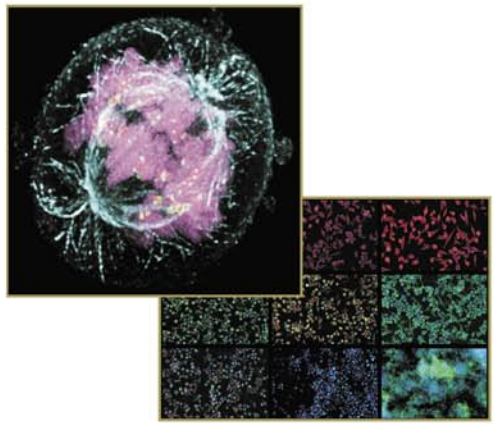

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The ASCB Council admitted 1,455 new members and granted Emeritus status to nine members of the Society last month:

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Suraj Abraham
Russell C. Addis
Amit Shrikant Adhikari
Nassiba Adjerid
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Nesar Ahmed
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Fumiko Aikawa
Lakkureddi Alagarsamy
Suresh K. Alahari
Nael H. Alami
Kristin L. Albert
Hector Aldaz
Bree Beardsley Aldridge
Stefano Alema
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Rajesh Arasada
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Ayelet Armon-Omer
Lourdes Andrea Arriaga-Pizano
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Arnaud Besson
Craig M. Betts
Jennifer P. Bharucha
Rajat Bhattacharya
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Xiaoning Bi
Sergei Bibikov
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Amber E. Bilak
Israel Biran
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Aims of the conference

The aims of this commemorative meeting are to highlight the recent advances in understanding the important and diverse roles played by Ras family proteins in multiple aspects of human tumour biology and also to demonstrate how these proteins can be exploited by translational research into novel therapies to control the disease.

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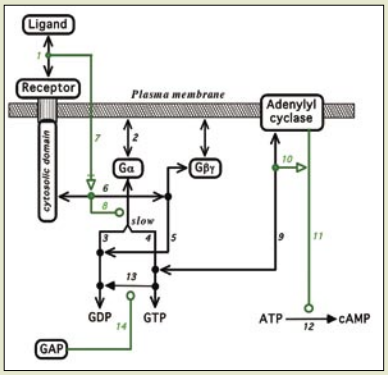
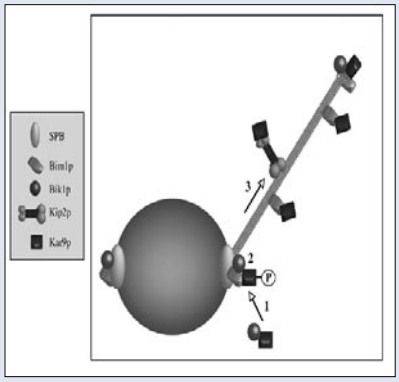


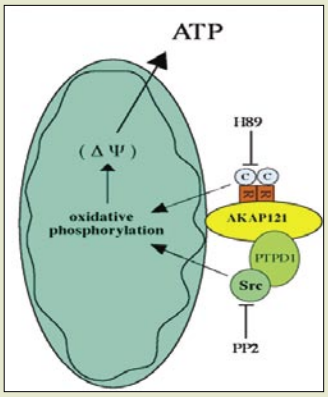
Molecular Interaction Maps of Bioregulatory Networks: A General Rubric for Systems Biology
Kurt W. Kohn, Mirit I. Aladjaem, John W. Weinstein, and *Yves Pommier*

As information regarding the protein interactions, posttranslational modifications, regulatory kinases, and GTPases associated with bioregulatory networks expands, their complexity becomes too great to be displayed by simple linear notation or understood by simple intuition. Thus, a new standard for bioregulatory network diagrams using common graphical notations is urgently needed to serve cell and developmental biologists in the same way as circuit diagrams serve electrical engineers. Here the authors describe a graphical notation for molecular interaction maps (MIMs), including protein interactions, posttranslational modifications, ligand binding, translocation, transcription, etc., which, from a biologist's perspective, is both intuitive and versatile. Generating initial "heuristic" MIMs (i.e., those in which all known interactions and their consequences are diagrammed) requires deep and critical thinking about the structure and function of a specific network. Once generated, MIMs can be annotated and made interactive (http://discover.nci.nih.gov/mim) and can serve as the basis for more "explicit" MIMs that are amenable to computer modeling and simulation.

The CLIP-170 Homologue Bik1p Promotes the Phosphorylation and Asymmetric Localization of Kar9p
Jeffrey K. Moore, Sonia D'Silva, and *Rita K. Miller*



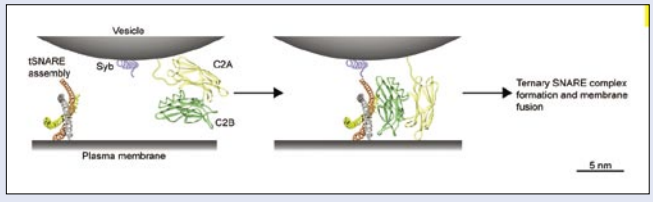
Accurate positioning of the mitotic spindle is critical for cell division in all eukaryotes. In the budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, the spindle pole bodies (SPBs) are embedded in the nuclear envelope and their accurate positioning requires two sequential microtubule (MT)-dependent processes. The first uses cytoplasmic MTs (cMTs) and actin cables to direct the nucleus to the bud neck and to orient the SPBs along the mother–bud axis. The MT-to-actin linker, Kar9p, is asymmetrically localized to the SPB destined for translocation into the bud and plays a critical role in this process. Kar9p is transported to the plus ends of cMTs where it interacts with Myo2p, attaching them to the bud cortex. The Kar9p-containing SPB is then drawn into the bud by dynein, which is targeted to the plus ends of cMTs by the CLIP170 homologue Bik1p. The authors have discovered that Bik1p also interacts with Kar9p and has a second, unrelated function of promoting Kar9p phosphorylation, thereby ensuring its asymmetric localization to one SPB and associated cMTs.



Mitochondrial AKAP121 Links cAMP and Src Signalling to Oxidative Metabolism
Alessandra Livigni, Antonella Scorziello, Savina Agnese, Annagrazia Adornetto, Annalisa Calucci, Corrado Garbi, Imma Castaldo, Lucio Annunziato, Enrico V. Avvedimento, and *Antonio Feliciello*

External signals are transmitted intracellularly by protein kinase signaling cascades. A-kinase anchor proteins (AKAPs) are a family of proteins that target kinases to distal cellular substrates, thereby enhancing the efficiency of signal propagation. Here it is shown that AKAP121, which binds protein kinase A (PKA) and the protein tyrosine phosphatase PTPD1, forms a signaling complex that also includes src kinase. In response to stimuli, AKAP121 targets these kinases to the mitochondria where they phosphorylate specific mitochondrial target proteins. The authors used co-expression, dominant-negative mutants, and siRNA approaches to establish that PKA- and src-dependent changes in mitochondrial membrane potential and ATP synthesis are enhanced by AKAP121. Thus, AKAP121 functions as a nodal point to integrate cAMP-dependent PKA activity with src-dependent tyrosine phosphorylation and efficiently adapt mitochondrial metabolism to changes in cell physiology.

Conserved Pre-fusion Protein Assembly in Regulated Exocytosis
Colin Rickman, José L Jiménez, Margaret E. Graham, Deborah A. Archer, Mikhail Soloviev, Robert D. Burgoyne, and *Bazbek Davletov*



Regulated secretion is mediated by ternary complex formation between the plasma membrane t-SNARES, syntaxin1 and SNAP-25, and the secretory vesicle-associated v-SNARE, synaptobrevin, and regulated by the Ca^{2+}-sensor synaptotagmin (SYT). The structural nature of the pre-fusion complex that docks secretory vesicles to the plasma membrane and the mechanism of rapid calcium-triggered fusion remain unknown. Guided by evolutionary conservation, the authors identified residues that demark the binding interface between SNAP-25 and SYT. Computer-based algorithms were then used to dock the known atomic structures of the C2B domain of SYT with the ternary t-SNARE/v-SNARE complex. A model is presented in which the C2B domain of SYT binds perpendicular to the helices of a binary SNAP-25/syntaxin1 t-SNARE assembly. This pre-fusion complex would provide a precisely organized "tethering" scaffold that limits t-SNARE diffusion, positions them for rapid engagement with synaptobrevin, and positions the C2 domains of SYT for optimal Ca^{2+} responsiveness. ■

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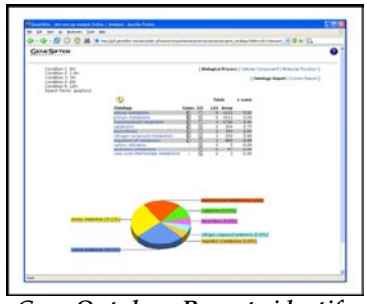
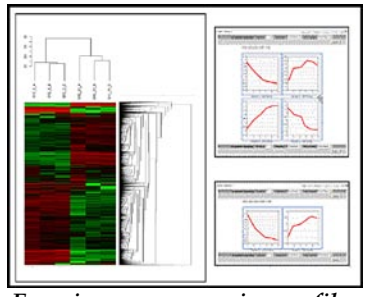


Gene Ontology Reports identify significant pathways and molecular functions



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GRANTS & OPPORTUNITIES

BWF/HHMI Lab Management Guide. *Making the Right Moves: A Practical Guide to Scientific Management for Postdocs and New Faculty* is available at www.hhmi.org/labmanagement.

The Human Frontier Science Program. Funding opportunities for team research projects in the basic life sciences. Deadline for letter of intent is March 30; potential applicants must pre-register by March 20. www.hfsp.org.

NIH Virtual Career Center. The NIH Office of Education offers resources for exploring employment options and career development opportunities in health sciences. See www.training.nih.gov/careers/careercenter/index.html.

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

NIH Re-entry Program. The NIH and Office of Research on Women's Health announce a continuing program for faculty who have taken time out for family responsibilities. See http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-04-126.html.

NIH Grants.

- Large-Scale Collaborative Project Awards, see http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-04-128.html. Deadlines: September 20, 2006, and June 21, 2007.
- Predoctoral Research Training in Biostatistics, see http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-04-132.html. Deadline: October 12, 2007.
- Tools for Genetic and Genomic Studies in Emerging Model Organisms, see http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-04-135.html. Deadline: November 2, 2007.
- National Technology Centers for Networks and Pathways, see http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-04-019.html. Deadline is February 22. ■

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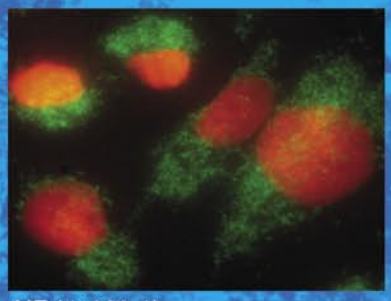
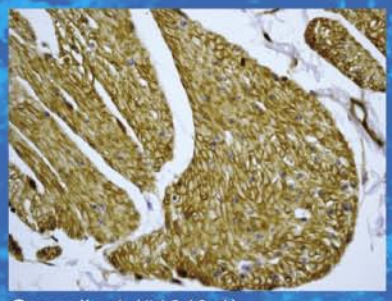
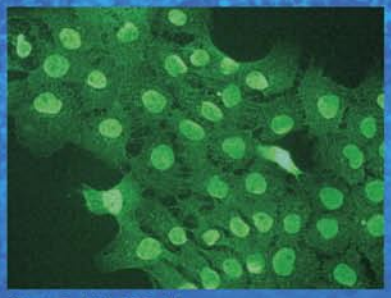


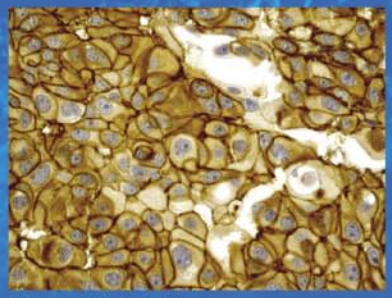
AIF (#1020-1)



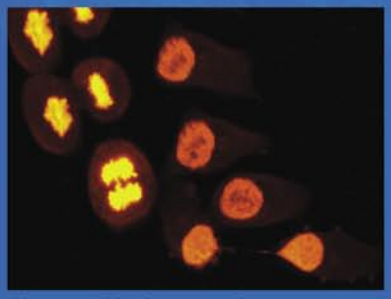
Caveolin-1 (#1249-1)



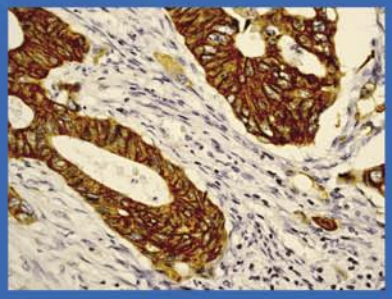
Stat-3 (#1122-1)



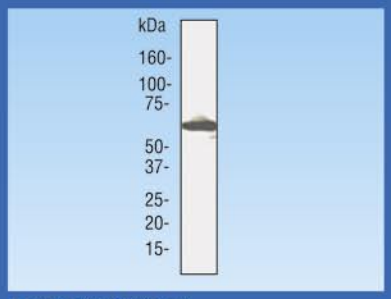
Her-2 (#1149-1)



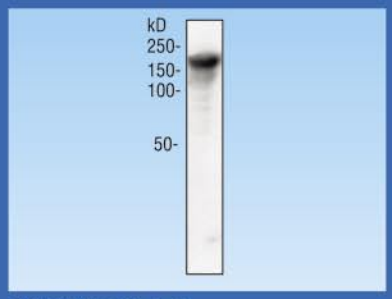
Histone H3 (#1326-1)



Keratin 18 (#1433-1)



AKT 1 (#1086-1)



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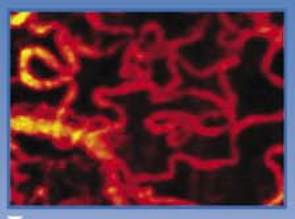
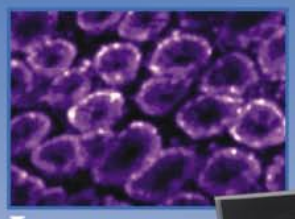


Tumoral vessels stained with FITC-Dextran 500 kDs.
Field of view 400 x 280 µm.



Mouse colonic crypts after instillation of Syto 13 and Cresyl Violet.
Field of view 400 x 280 µm.

Subcutaneous prostate tumor capillaries stained with FITC-Albumin.
Field of view 400 x 280 µm.

Courtesy of Dr M.A. D'Hallewin, Centre Alexis Vautrin, Nancy, France; Anne-Carole Duconseille and Olivier Clément, Descartes Image, Small Animal Imaging Facility, Université Paris V, Paris, France; Igor Charvet, Paolo Meda, Centre Medical Universitaire, Geneva, Switzerland; Nathalie Faye and Laure Fournier, LRI, Faculté Necker, Paris, France. Photo by A. Perchant©2004. Version200509

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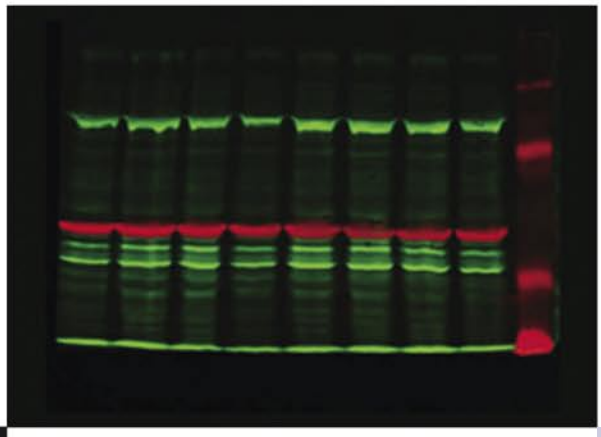
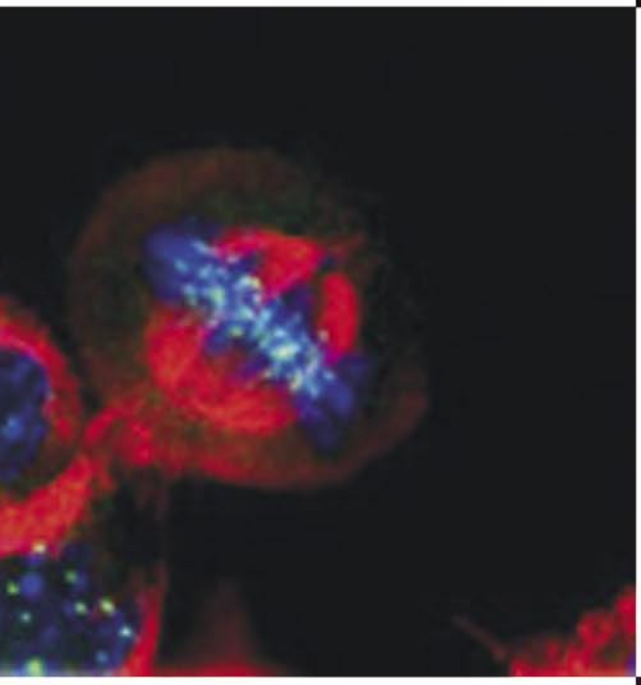




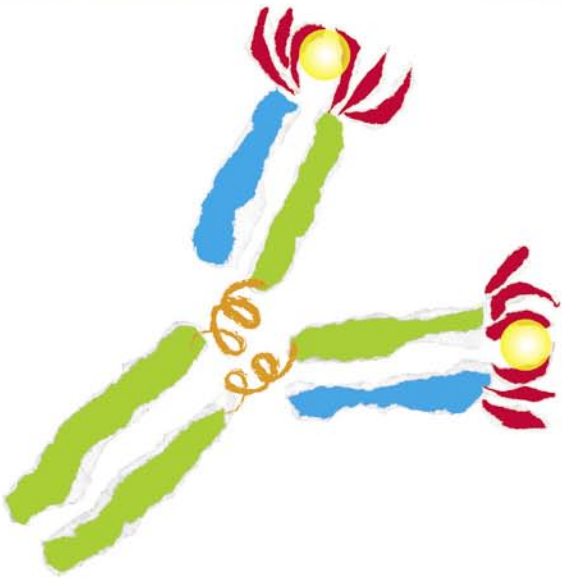
› two color westerns

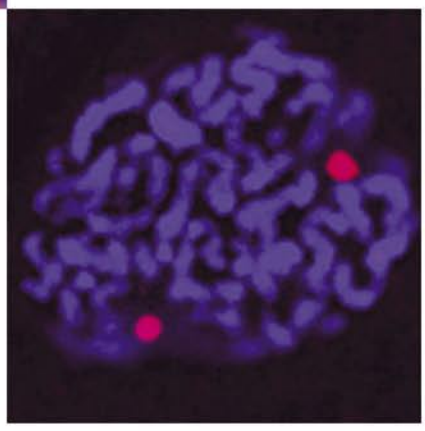
› immunohistochemistry

› two color in-gel westerns

› protein phosphorylation

› immunofluorescence





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ASCB Annual Meetings

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San Diego
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2007
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December 1-5

2008
San Francisco
December 13-17

2009
San Diego
December 5-9

2010
Washington, DC
December 11-15

2011
Denver
December 3-7

March 8-10,2006. Bethesda, MD
Cell Line Identification and Authentication lecture/lab course. Sponsored by Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences at the NIH. www.biotrac.com.

April 3-7, 2006. Bethesda, MD
Animal and Human Cell Culture lecture/lab course Sponsored by Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences at the NIH. www.biotrac.com.

March 15-19. Lake Tahoe, CA
Third International Conference on Structural Analysis of Supramolecular Assemblies by Hybrid Methods. www.burnham.org/hybridmethods2006/.

April 30-May 4. Barcelona, Spain
European Symposium of the Protein Society. www.proteinsociety.org.

May 2-3. Bethesda, MD
Bone Quality: What Is It and Can We Measure It? www.asbmr.org/bonequality.cfm.

May 16-17. Bethesda, MD
Cellular Niches Workshop sponsored by NIDDK/NIH/DHHS. http://cellularniche.niddk.nih.gov.

May 23-25. Charlottesville, VA
Morphogenesis and Regenerative Medicine Symposium at the University of Virginia. www.morphogenesis.virginia.edu.

June 5-9. Atlanta, GA
American Society for Microbiology General Meeting. www.asm.org.

June 10-22. Vancouver, BC
Eleventh Annual International 12-Day Short Course on 3D Microscopy of Living Cells. Applications due March 15. www.3dcourse.ubc.ca/application.htm.

June 24 -26. Vancouver, BC
Tenth, Post-course Workshop on 3D Image Processing. Applications due March 15. www.3dcourse.ubc.ca/application.htm.

July 13-17. New York, NY
Second International Symposium on Triglycerides, Metabolic Disorders and Cardiovascular Diseases. www.lorenzinifoundation.org/.

July 15-18. Boston, MA
Stem Cell Niches. ASCB Summer Meeting. www.ascb.org.

July 20-23. Atlanta, GA
The Cell Biology of HIV-1 and Other Retroviruses. ASCB Summer Meeting. www.ascb.org.

September 1-5. Muensterschwarzach Abbey, Germany
The Wilhelm Bernhard Workshop–19th International Workshop on the Cell Nucleus. www.zeb.biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de/. ■

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