Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL) is grateful to philanthropic organizations and generous individuals who recognize the significance of its biomedical research and education programs to the community and society at large. In 2011, CSHL research supported by philanthropy made great strides in efforts to cure two deadly diseases: acute myeloid leukemia, an acute form of blood cancer, and spinal muscular atrophy, a deadly childhood neuromuscular disease. Research by CSHL scientists and their colleagues in industry has now advanced to the stage where a new drug is entering into human trials to treat each of these diseases.

Investments in CSHL are driving scientific and medical progress as well as economic development. With more than 1100 employees, the Laboratory is one of the largest employers in the region. Technologies developed at CSHL have sparked new companies, some of which have grown to be players in the global economy. One example is OSI Pharmaceuticals, which was acquired by Astellas Pharma, but importantly, it remains on Long Island at the Broad Hollow Bioscience Park. CSHL helped found Broad Hollow at the SUNY Farmingdale campus as an incubator for life science start-ups. The biomedical cluster that includes CSHL, Brookhaven National Laboratory, and Stony Brook University is a powerful engine for economic growth, and CSHL President Bruce Stillman is a leader in regional economic development initiatives.

With an eye to the future, CSHL in 2011 became a founding member of the New York Genome Center, a nonprofit organization leveraging the collaborative resources of leading academic medical centers, research universities, and commercial organizations. This collaboration will generate data essential for the advance of personalized medicine, accelerate the development of new diagnostics and treatments for human diseases, and promote life science commercialization.

President Stillman is supported in his efforts to execute the Laboratory’s mission by a Board of Trustees that periodically benefits from the infusion of new leaders. In 2011, the board elected George Sard, President of Sard Verbinnen & Co. But also during the year, the Laboratory community mourned the loss of Honorary Trustee Evelyn Lauder. Her leadership of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, which supports research conducted at the CSHL Cancer Center, has been invaluable to raising awareness and funds for research and treatment. Mrs. Lauder was remembered at the 6th Double Helix Medals Dinner (DHMD), which honored Dr. Temple Grandin, Dr. Harold Varmus, and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and raised over $3.3 million.

The CSHL Association, with its newly elected president Sandy Tytel, is the institution’s grassroots connection to the community. Events in 2011 included “Labapalooza,” a unique fundraiser featuring scientist rock bands and tastings from Long Island’s best restaurateurs, and the 10th annual “Women’s Partnership for Science” event, featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times journalist Amy Harmon. During the last decade, the Women’s Partnership has raised nearly $700,000 for the Laboratory.

The Honorable Patrick J. Kennedy, cofounder of “One Mind for Research,” opened the 27th annual President’s Council retreat, devoted to the “Science of Addiction,” for donors whose $25,000 gifts support CSHL’s most talented young scientists.

As part of the Laboratory’s broad education mission, the CSHL Library and Archives continued to promote open access to science history in 2011 through major digitization projects. Backed by a $600,000 grant from the Wellcome Trust, CSHL is systematically rendering its archive of Chancellor Emeritus Dr. James D. Watson’s papers, manuscripts, lectures, and photographs, in a high-resolution digital format. When completed in 2013, the effort will have made more than 250,000 Watson items available online and coordinated their access with the digitized archive of Francis Crick’s papers, at Wellcome.

In 2011, CSHL received major new gifts for the Cancer Therapeutics Initiative, which is aimed at accelerating the development of more effective cancer drugs, from Edith and Alan Seligson; The Mary K. Chapman Foundation; Edward P. Evans Foundation; David H. Koch; Lustgarten Foundation; and New York State. The Laboratory also received new awards from the Eleanor Schwartz Fund for neuroscience research and from the Simons Foundation and the Stanley Medical Research Institute for genomic research on autism and cognitive diseases.
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On November 15, the sixth Double Helix Medals Dinner was held at the Mandarin Oriental in New York City. CSHL Chancellor Emeritus Jim Watson (far left) and President Bruce Stillman (far right) appear with 2011 Double Helix Medals Dinner honorees Harold Varmus (middle left), Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (back), and Temple Grandin.

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CNSL Vice Chairman Marilyn Simons with her husband Jim Simons at the 2011 Double Helix Medals Dinner

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Meg Braff, Catherine Colley, Elizabeth Ainslie, Emily Johnson, and Lisa Eastman (left to right) at the Women’s Partnership in Science luncheon held on September 13, 2011 at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
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Carole Alexander, Fiona Whalley, and Elisa Paone of the Manhasset Women’s Coalition Against Breast Cancer presented CSHL researcher Dr. Mikala Egeblad (third from left, front row) and members of her laboratory with a check to support breast cancer research

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CSHL scientist Emily Hodges (center) and her band Jellyfish Explosion and friends performing at Labapalooza, a benefit held on April 9, 2011 to support research and educational programs.
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Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL) is a nonprofit research and educational institution chartered by the State of New York. Less than half of the Laboratory’s annual revenues are derived from federal grants and contracts, and thus, it relies heavily upon support from the private sector: foundations, corporations, and individuals. CSHL takes this occasion to sincerely thank each and every donor whose generous contributions have made possible the discoveries we report in this publication.

There are a variety of ways to give to the Laboratory:

**Capital and Endowment Campaign Support:** Donations help to secure the financial stability of CSHL and provide resources to expand the facilities and staff.

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For additional information, please contact Charlie Prizzi, Vice President for Development, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, One Bungtown Road, Cold Spring Harbor, New York 11724. Phone number: 516-367-6865. E-mail: prizzi@cshl.edu

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