Hicks awarded $1m by Komen Foundation to study breast cancer genetics

Each year many thousands of women receive this report from their “Pap” test. No, it’s not called “colposcopy.” Despite the word “cancerous,” which is never a welcome diagnosis, a diagnosis of DCIS is, in fact, the best of all cancers as it is a non-invasive form of breast cancer, and in many cases the cancer can be successfully treated with a “rainless” stage, in which the prognosis becomes much worse. The difficult problem faced by women with the diagnosis is deciding whether to aggressively treat or not and see whether the cancer does to fact become invasive.

CSIHL Researcher Jim Hicks and colleagues have just received a generous grant from the National Institutes of Health. The NIH is using new molecular methods to study breast cancer, and because we want to know which genes, when mutated, may cause DCIS, they are focusing on DCIS. DCIS is considered a risk factor for breast cancer, with many women who are diagnosed with DCIS having a much higher risk of developing breast cancer. The NIH is a large grant that includes a long-term genetic study of DCIS.

4 early-career CSIL brain scientists win prestigious NARSAD awards

Among young neuroscientists, "getting a NARSAD" is in-group language for an honor that many neuroscientists consider to be a lifetime achievement. The CSIL brain scientists have been awarded a NARSAD grant by the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression (NARSAD), the world's largest and oldest private-sector funder of mental health research.

The CSIL winners are: Sandra Ahrens, Ph.D., the lab of Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience; Mary Beth O'connor, Ph.D., in the lab of Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience; and Chris Schuler, Ph.D., in the lab of Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience.

Other late-summer updates:

The Laboratory's Corporate Advisory Board has welcomed three new members: Rich Hummer, President and CEO of MediaWorks, Inc.; Jonathan E. Scudder, President and CEO of Weill Cornell Medical College; and Kevin Miller, President and CEO of the Advantage Group.

The laboratory also hosted a group of volunteers who came to the laboratory in July to help with the annual Plate Race. The volunteers were able to help with the race, which benefits the laboratory and the local community.

The laboratory is also hosting a group of volunteers who came to the laboratory in July to help with the annual Plate Race. The volunteers were able to help with the race, which benefits the laboratory and the local community.