

Professor Hannon elected to U.S. National Academy of Sciences

Gregory Hannon, Ph.D., a CSHL Professor and an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), one of the highest honors conferred upon scientists in America. The body was formed by an act of Congress, signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 at the height of the Civil War, calling upon the NAS to provide independent advice to the government on matters related to science and technology. Hannon is recognized the world over as among the foremost authorities on small RNA biology and RNA interference. RNAi, as it's called, is a natural cellular mechanism implicated in genome defense, in which small RNA molecules act to regulate gene expression. It has been used to hunt for cancer genes, to stop viral infections, and most recently, for treating diseases in clinical trials.

Hannon's lab strives to understand the biology of cancer cells, with a focus on breast and pancreatic cancer, and on the biological mechanisms of resistance to targeted cancer treatments.



Professor Joshua-Tor elected AAAS Fellow

CSHL Professor and HHMI Investigator Leemor Joshua-Tor, Ph.D., has been named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

(AAAS). Election is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers in recognition of their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications. As a member of the Section of Biological Sciences, Joshua-Tor was cited for contributions to the field of nucleic-acid enzymes, particularly in the fields of RNA interference and DNA replication. Her lab studies the molecular basis of cell regulatory processes by using the tools of structural biology and biochemistry to examine proteins and protein complexes associated with these processes. Efforts largely center on nucleic-acid regulation including the process of RNA interference (RNAi) and DNA replication initiation in papillomaviruses. Joshua-Tor was the Dean of CSHL's Watson School of Biosciences from 2007–2012 and is a member of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) external working group on the future biomedical workforce.

CSHL contributes to online Codebreakers archive

Francis Crick's preliminary sketches of the double helix. James Watson's February 1953 letter to Max Delbrück reporting that he has "a very pretty model" for DNA. Rosalind Franklin's famed x-ray diffraction "photo 51." These and a million other primary-source documents telling the amazing story of the biological revolutions of the 1950s and 1960s are now freely available to the public on the World Wide Web thanks to an effort led by the Wellcome Library of Great Britain. Entitled *Codebreakers: Makers of Modern Genetics*, the portal provides access to first-hand notes, letters, sketches, lectures, photographs and essays from the circle of brilliant minds responsible for uncovering the structure of DNA. CSHL's Library & Archives collections, which include the papers of Nobel laureates James Watson and Sydney Brenner among others, are a key source for *Codebreakers*. "CSHL was very happy to participate in the project with partners Churchill Archives Centre Cambridge, the University of Glasgow, King's College London and University College London," says Ludmila Pollock, Executive Director of CSHL's Library & Archives.

