

Faculty & Friends

CSHL Ranked #1 Globally in Research Impact

Published research in molecular biology and genetics performed by scientists at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory has been more influential over the last decade than research performed anywhere else in the world, according to a survey compiled by Thomson Reuters, which is well known for its Essential Science Indicators. It places CSHL atop a list of 20 “heavy hitters” selected from a database comprising over 42,000 institutions worldwide. At its heart, the survey attempts to measure

the impact of research performed at an institution based on how frequently the work produced by its scientists is cited by their peers. It favors influence over sheer number of research papers generated. Over the last decade, papers by CSHL scientists were cited an average of 95 times each, while those of the nearest two peer institutions, MIT and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, drew an average of 82 and 70 citations, respectively. Per-paper citation figures for Rockefeller, Harvard and Stanford ranged from 62 to 52.



New CSHL Trustees are Elected

At the February meeting of the CSHL Board of Trustees, Chairman Eduardo Mestre presided over the election of two new members: Tania Baker, Ph.D., E.C. Whitehead Professor in MIT's Department of Biology and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator; and Howard Lee Morgan, Ph.D., President of Arca Group Inc. and a Director of Idealab, a Pasadena-based creator and operator of internet companies.

Harold M. Weintraub Graduate Student Award

Yaniv Erlich, a 2010 graduate of the Watson School, won this year's Harold M. Weintraub Graduate Student Award for outstanding achievement during graduate studies in the biological sciences, sponsored by the Basic Sciences Division of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. As a student in Professor Greg Hannon's lab, Erlich worked at the interface between biology and computation. He developed a novel method based on the logic of the popular Sudoku puzzle, which harnesses the power of next-generation DNA sequencing to analyze tens of thousands of human DNA samples simultaneously.

Alexander Krasnitz named Assistant Professor, Head of Functional Genomics

Alex Krasnitz was recently promoted to Assistant Professor at CSHL. His research focuses on: the genomics of cancer; machine learning for biology; inference from 'noisy' biological data; and large-scale numerical computing. Notably, Krasnitz has developed a comprehensive method to analyze multiple-genome data sets for breast, lung, colon and liver cancer. It is widely used at CSHL among cancer biologists engaged in studies involving mouse models and RNAi.

