

Faculty & Friends



Investigator update: Recognizing local partners who are supporting research in breast cancer at the Laboratory

Clinical Associate Professor Lora Weiselberg, M.D., of Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine, teamed up with CSHL Professor Nick Tonks and Assistant Professor Mikala Egeblad to update local cancer advocacy and support groups on the current status of breast cancer treatment and next-generation therapeutic possibilities. The CSHL scientists are using their expertise in

how enzymes influence communication signals in cells to address current obstacles to cancer treatment: metastasis and drug resistance. Advanced imaging technologies allow Dr. Egeblad to watch tumors grow *in vivo*. Dr. Tonks' understanding of proteins allows him to pursue new options for drugs targeting HER2-positive breast cancer tumors, a type that is particularly hard to treat.



Partners for the Future students are Intel semifinalists

Congressman Steve Israel (D-NY) joined CSHL in congratulating Long Island high school students who were this year's Intel Science Prize Semifinalists. Two of these 40 local semifinalists are currently participating in CSHL's Partners for the Future Program (PFF): Syosset High School seniors Priyanka Kumar and George Wang. A competitive program that selects participants based on a rigorous application process during their junior year, the PFF program invites participants to become members of one of CSHL's 52 investigator-led laboratories. Priyanka teamed up with cancer biologist Mikala Egeblad and George joined the lab of structural biologist and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator Leemor Joshua-Tor.

Kepecs wins McKnight Award

Associate Professor Adam Kepecs, Ph.D., received the Memory and Cognitive Disorders Award from the McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience for his work on the nucleus basalis (NB). NB is a vitally important but poorly understood part of the brain whose degeneration parallels the decline of cognitive functions in patients with Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's dementia and age-related cognitive decline. Using state-of-the-art behavioral electrophysiology, quantitative psychophysics and optogenetics, Kepecs hopes to identify fundamental principles of neural circuit function to develop therapeutic treatments for cognitive diseases.



Stillman wins Tabor Research Award

CSHL President and Cancer Center Director Bruce Stillman, Ph.D., is an active researcher with many honors recognizing his pioneering work on DNA replication. He has now won the 2014 Herbert Tabor Research Award from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and presented a lecture at its annual meeting. The award is given for excellence in biological chemistry and molecular biology and contributions to the community of scientists. Previous winners include Nobelist and CSHL alumnus Phillip A. Sharp (2009), whom CSHL recognized with a Double Helix Medal in 2006.



Herbert Tabor

Trustee Roy Zuckerberg endows cancer professorship

The first Roy J. Zuckerberg Lecture featured cancer physician and researcher Siddhartha Mukherjee, who won the 2011 Pulitzer Prize for *The Emperor of Maladies: A Biography of Cancer*. Introducing the event was David Tuveson, a fellow M.D./Ph.D.

who runs CSHL's Cancer Therapeutic Initiative and who has been named the Roy J. Zuckerberg Professor of Cancer Research. "We're grateful for the support of trustees who understand the importance of a strong institutional endowment, a key factor in

enabling innovative scientists like Dr. Tuveson to make progress in defeating the most deadly cancers," said CSHL President Bruce Stillman.



Dr. Tuveson was recently awarded the prestigious 2014 Jan Waldenstrom Medal by the Swedish Society of Oncology for outstanding contributions to cancer research. An expert in pancreatic cancer, Dr. Tuveson is also the Director of Research at the Lustgarten Foundation. At CSHL, the Lustgarten Foundation Cancer Research Laboratory is focused on early detection and finding a cure.





Mitra recognized by National Science Foundation and IEEE

Partha Mitra, the Crick-Clay Professor of Biomathematics at CSHL, takes both neuroanatomical and theoretical approaches to understanding structural and functional properties of the mammalian brain. He received two recent honors for his multi-disciplinary approach: the George S. Axelby Outstanding Paper Award of the Control Systems Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and the INSPIRE grant, awarded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Both recognize a common thread in Mitra’s research: an attempt to bring concepts from physics and engineering to bear on outstanding problems pertaining to the difficulty of understanding the mammalian brain.

James D. Watson Award established by Hope Funds

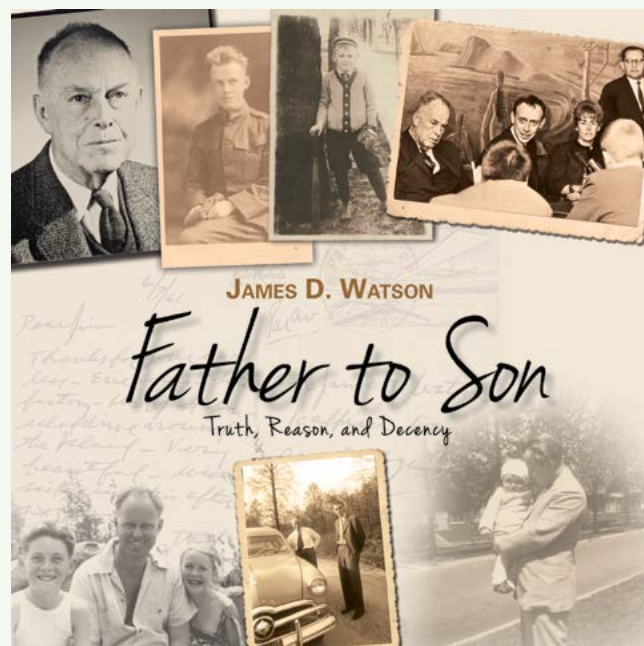
The Hope Funds for Cancer Research has created the James D. Watson Award, with Nobel laureate and CSHL Chancellor Emeritus Dr. Watson being the first recipient. The award honors

Watson for his unprecedented contributions to the field of biology and cancer research and will only be awarded to scientists who make comparable seminal discoveries. It was presented at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.



Father To Son, by James D. Watson published by CSHL Press

Always iconoclastic, in both science and literature, James D. Watson has written his autobiography in installments, beginning with the now classic *The Double Helix*, followed by *Genes, Girls, and Gamow* and *Avoid Boring People*. In *Father To Son*, the latest of his unsparing self-examinations, after a lifetime of exceptional accomplishments, Watson shows us that his heritage was remarkable and that “Most certainly I didn’t emerge from nowhere!”



Father to Son was first intended as a small, privately published collection of the writings of his father. What emerged was a more complex story—the chronicles of an archetypical American family from before the Civil War to Vietnam.

“In this poignant book, Dr. Watson savors the evidence he finds about his father’s life and values. It’s a perfect book for anyone who has ever learned something from a father.”

Walter Isaacson, author of *Einstein: His Life and Universe* and *Steve Jobs*



Jim Simons elected honorary trustee

The Board of Trustees elected James H. Simons an Honorary Trustee. Simons is founder of Renaissance Technologies and chairman of the Simons Foundation. “Jim Simons, who employed his mathematical genius to change the way the world thinks about financial markets, is now profoundly changing the world through philanthropy,” said CSHL President & CEO Bruce Stillman. Marilyn H. Simons, who serves as Vice-Chairman of CSHL’s Board of Trustees, leads the Simons Foundation, one of the nation’s leading private funders of basic scientific research. In recognition of their philanthropy, CSHL awarded the Double Helix Medal to Jim and Marilyn Simons in 2008.

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CSHL Association comprises some 1000 neighbors and friends of the Laboratory who contribute to the Annual Fund, an essential source of unrestricted support for outstanding young scientists. Association members get to know CSHL scientists at lectures, concerts, dinners and other social events that support the Laboratory. Membership levels start at \$100 per year. For more information please contact Karen Orzel, Director, Annual Giving and Donor Relations, at 516.367.6886 or orzel@cshl.edu.

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