

**CSHL in the News**

**Bloomberg/Businessweek**  
[Biogen May Pay as Much as \\$299 Million for Isis Drug](#)  
 January 4, 2012

**Long Island Business News**  
[The 2011 Influentials](#)  
 December 30, 2011

**Newsday**  
[LI researchers make leukemia discovery](#)  
 December 20, 2011

**Genetic Engineering News**  
[Industry, Academic Professionals Offer Advice for President Obama's Bioeconomy Blueprint](#)  
 December 15, 2011

**The Wall Street Journal**  
[Cuomo announces top economic development projects](#)  
 December 8, 2011

**Nature Medicine**  
[Notable Advances 2011 Cancer biology: BET-ting on chromatin](#)  
 December 6, 2011

**Nature Reviews Drug Discovery**  
[Antisense therapeutics: Systematic reawakening of a silent gene to improve survival in SMA](#)  
 December 2, 2011

**Upcoming Events**

2012 Annual Giving Campaign  
[Science Never Sleeps](#)

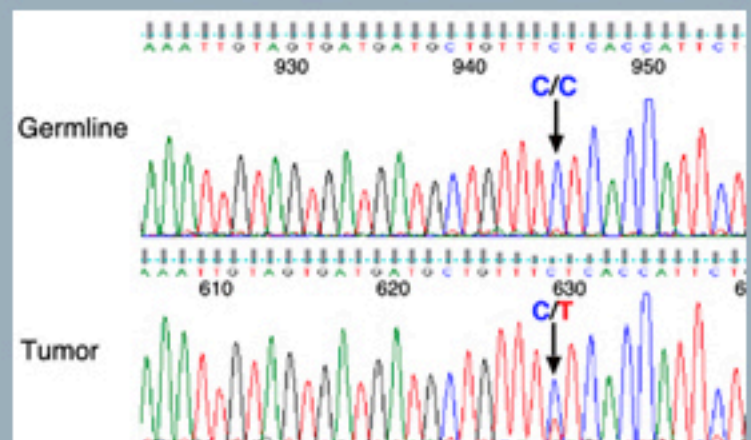
2012 Tour Schedule  
[CSHL Public Walking Tours](#)

2012 Concert Schedule  
[CSHL Cultural Series](#)

**An important CSHL first in study of mast-cell leukemia**

Cancer researchers at CSHL, working with a clinical team from North Shore-LIJ, have achieved another cancer milestone: the first comprehensive study of DNA changes in a patient with mast-cell leukemia (MCL), an extremely aggressive subtype of acute myeloid leukemia with a very poor prognosis.

CSHL Research Investigator Mona Spector, who led the study, said it "could directly benefit patients diagnosed with MCL." In the future, genomic data gleaned from individual samples might serve as a basis for designing patient-specific treatment strategies. Described in a paper published Dec. 16 in the journal *Leukemia*, the research was made possible by funding from the Don Monti Memorial Research Foundation and The Ryan Gibson Foundation.



Close study of one sample shows a single-letter DNA mutation in *MS4A2* gene that could lead to mast-cell leukemia.

**A surprising role for a smelly molecule**

Professor [Nick Tonks'](#) team has discovered that hydrogen sulfide ( $H_2S$ ) - a toxic gas often associated with the smell of rotten eggs in landfills - helps [regulate](#) a cell-signaling pathway implicated in biological malfunctions linked to Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, among others.



$H_2S$  is produced as part of the cellular response to what is called ER stress, which can cause newly synthesized proteins to fold improperly. By [showing](#)  $H_2S$  can serve as a mediator in switching an enzyme called PTP1B on and off, the team shed light on a previously unknown function of the smelly molecule: helping regulate the process by which a malfunctioning cell decides whether to compensate for ER stress or end its own life via apoptosis.

**High honor for DNALC's Micklos, Lauter, Nisselle**

In December, Executive Director [David Micklos](#) and two [DNA Learning Center](#) colleagues, Susan Lauter and Amy Nisselle, were [awarded](#) the SPORE prize (*Science Prize for Online Resources in Education*). It's a recognition by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for their authorship of an essay describing the creation of a science education portal at [www.dnalc.org](#) that attracts more than 7 million online visitors annually. The essay appeared in *Science's* Dec. 23 issue.



It explains how DNALC.org evolved, and offers a strategic blueprint for science organizations that share goals for science education online. [Read all about it!](#)

**2011 a 'truly exceptional' year for CSHL research**

That's how Laboratory President Bruce Stillman characterized [CSHL'S research achievements during 2011](#). The summing-up was part of Dr. Stillman's "State of the Lab" presentation to Laboratory staff during the waning days of December.



A comprehensive list of CSHL news releases for calendar year 2011, including news about research, can be accessed [here](#).

**Dick McCombie named AAAS Fellow**

Professor [W. Richard McCombie](#) has been [named a Fellow](#) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Election is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers in recognition of their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science. [A pioneer](#) in genomics and in the [technologies and methods](#) of genome sequencing, McCombie was cited "for distinguished contributions in the areas of molecular biology, computational biology and genomics, including high-throughput genome sequencing and as director of the [CSHL Genome Center](#)."



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Founded in 1890, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL) has shaped contemporary biomedical research and education with programs in cancer, neuroscience, plant biology and quantitative biology. CSHL is ranked number one in the world by Thomson Reuters for impact of its research in molecular biology and genetics. The Laboratory has been home to eight Nobel Prize winners. Today, CSHL's multidisciplinary scientific community is more than 350 scientists strong and its Meetings & Courses program hosts more than 11,000 scientists from around the world each year. Tens of thousands more benefit from the research, reviews, and ideas published in journals and books distributed internationally by CSHL Press. The Laboratory's education arm also includes a graduate school and programs for undergraduates as well as middle and high school students and teachers. CSHL is a private, not-for-profit institution on the north shore of Long Island.