



ISMMS 5th Annual  
**Postdoc Symposium**

***SCIENCE POLICY***

Icahn School  
of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai

~ September 26th, 2014 ~



Please See the Final Pages of the Program For:

- ◆ A list of useful resources for postdocs
- ◆ Exciting upcoming events for postdocs
- ◆ Raffle prizes - tickets given out before workshops and the data blitz; winners drawn before the keynote talk
- ◆ A list of our guests at the networking reception tonight - many interesting companies will be represented

# Your Postdoc Executive Committee

Eric Sweet  
Kamila Sip

Co-Chair  
Co-Chair

Nicole McKnight  
Merina Varghese  
Kate Seip-Cammack  
Hannah Schreier  
Mustafa Siddiq  
Audrey Au  
Nebosja Kezunovic  
Abigale Lade  
Alison Sanders  
Ricky Joshi  
Jessica Levingston Macleod  
Michael Oropallo  
Giovanna Collu  
Mirela Matokanovic  
Astrid Stoker  
Ryan Cummings  
Katie Nolan





The afternoon program is open to all Mount Sinai employees, New York area postdocs and invited guests

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 2:30 - 3:30 | Postdoc Data Blitz<br><i>Hatch Auditorium</i>  |
| 3:30 - 4:00 | Coffee Break<br><i>Hatch Auditorium Reception Area</i>   |
| 4:00 - 4:15 | Introduction to Keynote Talk & Raffle Draw<br><i>Hatch Auditorium</i>  |
| 4:15 - 5:15 | Keynote Talk: Dr. Bruce Alberts, UCSF<br><br>The Future of Biology: Keeping Science Healthy<br><i>Hatch Auditorium</i> |
| 5:15 - 7:15 | Networking Reception<br><i>Annenberg West Lobby</i>  |

# Science Policy

What drives us to investigate our chosen scientific discipline? What mechanisms provide funding to pay for us and our supplies? What restrictions are put on research? The answer to these and many other questions lies in a mixture of scientific curiosity and science policy. 'Science Policy' refers to the guidelines, regulations, methods, and practices that guide the way science is performed. The policies that regulate how science is done are integral to our daily professional lives.

As postdocs, we engage in science on a practical level every day but we often neglect to think about the larger context in which we work. Decisions in policy making can substantially hinder the progress of science or, conversely, help us achieve things we didn't think possible. To develop into effective leaders in our fields, we need to be aware of the impact science policy has not only on how we perform science but also on how we can shape the best policy to ensure the continuing process of scientific discovery.

Getting involved in policy can take the form of working with a politician to pass a law, starting an initiative to get kids interested in science, promoting diversity in hiring practices, or deciding how much money individual areas of research receive. The postdoc committee has put together a great program of talks and workshops to help you learn about science policy and how you can get involved.

Welcome and enjoy the day!

The Postdoc Executive Committee

# Detailed Program

9:00 - 10:00am      Registration & Breakfast  
*Hatch Auditorium Reception Area*

10:00 - 10:05am      Welcome & Workshop Introduction  
*Hatch Auditorium*

**Eric Sweet**, PhD and **Kamila Sip**, PhD  
Chairs of the Postdoctoral Executive Committee

10:05 - 10:30pm      Talk: Robin Chemers Neustein Award Winner  
*Hatch Auditorium*

**Sonja Schmid**, PhD, ISMMS

“Drosha as an interferon-independent antiviral factor”

Utilization of antiviral small interfering RNAs is thought to be largely restricted to plants, nematodes, and arthropods. To determine if a physiological interplay exists between the host small RNA machinery and the cellular response to virus infection in mammals, we evaluated antiviral activity in the presence and absence of Dicer or Drosha, the RNase III nucleases responsible for generating small RNAs. Although loss of Dicer did not compromise the cellular response to virus infection, Drosha deletion resulted in a significant increase in virus levels. We demonstrate that diverse RNA viruses trigger exportin 1 (XPO1/CRM1)-dependent Drosha translocation into the cytoplasm independent of de novo protein synthesis or the canonical type I IFN system. Additionally, increased virus infection in the absence of Drosha was not due to a loss of viral small RNAs but, instead, correlated with cleavage of viral genomic RNA and modulation of the host transcriptome. Taken together, we propose that Drosha represents a unique and conserved arm of the cellular defenses used to combat virus infection.

# Detailed Program ctd.

## Concurrent Workshops

10:30 - 12:00pm Workshop 1: Communicating with Policymakers  
*Location: TBA*

Workshop led by: **Megan Anderson Brooks, PhD** - *Former Policy and Advocacy Fellow for the Society for Neuroscience*

Summary: This interactive workshop will take you through tips for successfully translating your research to policymakers and the general public. You will have the opportunity to develop your own short, but informative, “pitch” about your research and also learn strategies for how to transition from describing your research interests to making specific policy requests.

10:30 - 12:00pm Workshop 2: Careers in Science Policy  
*Hatch Auditorium*

Panelists: **Tahlia Rebello, PhD** - *Research Scientist, Global Mental Health Program, Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene & Project Coordinator, Global Clinical Practice Network, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, WHO*; **Meredith Lee, PhD** - *AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow; Co-Chair, AAAS Fellowship Big Data Group; Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (HSARPA) -Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security*; **Wes Brooks, PhD** - *Staff Assistant, Congresswoman Iliana Ros-Lehtinen (FL)*

Summary: Hear from PhD scientists who successfully transitioned into science policy! Panelists will describe their career path, a typical day in their current position, and the training and skills that allowed them to find and succeed in policy positions. The session will include moderated questions and Q&A.

# Detailed Program ctd.

12:00 - 1:00pm

Lunch

*Annenberg West Lobby*

Concurrent Workshops

1:00 - 2:30pm

Workshop 3: Communicating with Scientists

*Location: TBA*

Workshop led by: **Beth Schachter**, *PhD - Science Communications Consulting: Strategies/Tactics of Biomed Grantsmanship (NIH, NSF), Manuscript Writing/Publishing*

Summary: This workshop will cover tools for effective communication which will then be put to use in an interactive exercise. Participants will have time to draft a statement about their own research and review and revise it together with others. The best research statements will be selected and presented to the group.

1:00 - 2:30pm

Workshop 4: Fellowships in Science Policy

*Hatch Auditorium*

Workshop led by: **Yvette Seger**, *PhD - Director of Science Policy, Federation of American Societies For Experimental Biology*

Summary: Interested in obtaining a fellowship in Science Policy? Come hear Yvette Seger, as she discusses the current landscape of science policy fellowships, the availability of these fellowships for domestic and international students and postdocs, experiences to pursue while conducting a postdoc to increase the chance of landing a science policy fellowship, and finally, how to prepare a competitive application.

# Detailed Program ctd.

2:30 - 3:30pm Postdoc Data Blitz

*Hatch Auditorium*

Join us as six Mount Sinai postdocs give short presentations to showcase the breadth of research across ISMMS.

**Youngmin Lee**, PhD (Medicine, Liver Disease):

*Hepatic growth regulation and tumorigenesis is linked to autophagy via the hippo tumor suppressor pathway*

**Matthew Miller**, PhD (Microbiology):

*Learning from nature – Developing a “universal” influenza virus vaccine*

**Sara Violante**, PhD (Genetic and Genomic Sciences):

*Peroxisomal fatty acid beta-oxidation as a modifier and therapeutic target in mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation defects*

**Kamila Sip**, PhD (Psychiatry and Neuroscience):

*The role of contextual setting in risk-taking behavior in obsessive-compulsive disorder*

**Erin Bobeck**, PhD (Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics):

*When BigLEN met GPR171: A tale of a recently deorphanized neuropeptide/receptor system*

**Rachel Litke**, PhD (Neuroscience):

*Role of HAT on  $\beta$ -amyloid toxicity in *Caenorhabditis Elegans**

3:30 - 4:00pm Coffee Break

*Hatch Auditorium Reception Area*

# Detailed Program ctd.

4:00 - 4:15pm Introduction to Keynote Talk & Raffle Draw  
*Hatch Auditorium*

**Eric Sweet**, PhD and **Kamila Sip**, PhD  
Chairs of the Postdoctoral Executive Committee

4:15 - 5:15pm Keynote Talk: Dr. Bruce Alberts, UCSF  
*Hatch Auditorium*

“The Future of Biology: Keeping Science Healthy”

**Dr. Bruce M. Alberts** served as Editor-in-Chief of *Science* (2008-2013) and as a United States Science Envoy (2009-2011). Dr. Alberts holds the Chancellor's Leadership Chair in Biochemistry and Biophysics for Science and Education at the University of California, San Francisco, to which he returned after serving two six-year terms as the president of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). Dr. Alberts is noted as one of the original authors of *The Molecular Biology of the Cell*, a pre-eminent textbook in the field now in its fifth edition. He has earned many honors and awards, including 16 honorary degrees. He currently serves on the advisory boards of more than 25 nonprofit institutions, including the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and the Strategic Education Research Partnership (SERP).

5:15 - 7:15pm Networking Reception  
*Annenberg West Lobby*

Please join us and take this opportunity to network with our speakers, postdocs, and invited guests (see next page for guest list).

# Detailed Program ctd.

Meet the second winner of the Robin Chemers Neustein Award

**Allyson Friedman, PhD, ISMMS**

Dr. Allyson K. Friedman works in the laboratory of Ming-Hu Han, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics, and is an alumna of Mount Sinai 's Graduate School. Dr. Friedman's research has demonstrated that resilience to chronic social stress is achieved through homeostatic mechanisms that stabilize midbrain dopamine activity, an important system in the brain that controls reward and motivation. Her work proposes that promoting these naturally occurring homeostatic mechanisms has antidepressant effects. This has provided a conceptually new avenue for exploring depression treatment. Her future studies will explore the beneficial role social support has on reward and motivation circuitry with the goal of developing novel therapeutics.

# Networking Reception



◆ Dale Yu

[Dale.Yu@roche.com](mailto:Dale.Yu@roche.com)

Clinical Pharmacologist, External Development Group

◆ Michelle DeSimone

[Michelle.Desimone@roche.com](mailto:Michelle.Desimone@roche.com)

Fellow, External Development Group

◆ Arlene Bartolome

[Arlene.Bartolome@roche.com](mailto:Arlene.Bartolome@roche.com)

◆ Peter Paciorek, PhD

[peter\\_m.paciorek@roche.com](mailto:peter_m.paciorek@roche.com)

Director, Academic Alliances



Dale Yu

## REGENERON

◆ Wen Fury, PhD

Director, Molecular Profiling

[wen.fury@regeneron.com](mailto:wen.fury@regeneron.com)

◆ Rachel Houghton

[rachel.houghton@regeneron.com](mailto:rachel.houghton@regeneron.com)

Coordinator, Postdoc Program



Wen Fury



Rachel Houghton

- ◆ Faical Miyara, PhD  
[Faical.Miyara@pfizer.com](mailto:Faical.Miyara@pfizer.com)
- ◆ Gadi Bornstein, PhD  
[Gadi.Bornstein@pfizer.com](mailto:Gadi.Bornstein@pfizer.com)
- ◆ Mark Kaplan, PhD  
[Mark.Kaplan@pfizer.com](mailto:Mark.Kaplan@pfizer.com)



## Say Strategic

- ◆ Linda Radosevich  
[lynda@saystrategic.com](mailto:lynda@saystrategic.com)  
Principal

## Taconic

- ◆ Sherry Swenson  
[Sherry.Swenson@taconic.com](mailto:Sherry.Swenson@taconic.com)  
Strategic Account Manager



- ◆ Victor Khangulov, PhD  
[victor.khangulov@bostonsp.com](mailto:victor.khangulov@bostonsp.com)  
Senior Consultant



- ◆ Kristian Jensen  
[kristian\\_jensen@merck.com](mailto:kristian_jensen@merck.com)
- ◆ Andrea Nawrocki  
[andrea\\_nawrocki@merck.com](mailto:andrea_nawrocki@merck.com)

# AWIS

ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE  
*New York Metropolitan*

- ◆ Bamini Jayabalasingham, PhD  
[baminij@gmail.com](mailto:baminij@gmail.com)  
President
- ◆ Amanda Weyerbacher  
[arweyerb@gmail.com](mailto:arweyerb@gmail.com)  
Secretary



B. Jayabalasingham

## SynchroPET



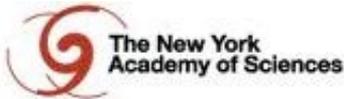
- ◆ Marc Alessi  
[marc@synchropet.com](mailto:marc@synchropet.com)  
CEO and Founder
- ◆ David Smith  
[sdsmith@synchropet.com](mailto:sdsmith@synchropet.com)



Marc Alessi



David Smith



Siobhan Gregg

- ◆ Siobhan Gregg  
[sgregg@nyas.org](mailto:sgregg@nyas.org)  
Program Manager of Life Science



- ◆ Mary Howard  
[mary.howard@elabnyc.com](mailto:mary.howard@elabnyc.com)  
Program Manager
- ◆ Eric Vieira, PhD  
Bio Science Practice Leader  
[eric.vieira@elabnyc.com](mailto:eric.vieira@elabnyc.com)  
[emvieira00@gmail.com](mailto:emvieira00@gmail.com)



- ◆ Eva Chmielnicki, PhD  
[e.chmielnicki@natureny.com](mailto:e.chmielnicki@natureny.com)  
Senior Editor



Eva Chmielnicki



**Mount  
Sinai**



Alan Belicha

- ◆ Felipe Araujo, PhD  
Director, Blue Mountain Technologies  
[Felipe.araujo@mssm.edu](mailto:Felipe.araujo@mssm.edu)
- ◆ Alan Belicha, Business Analyst Technology Programs, MSIP  
[alan.belicha@mssm.edu](mailto:alan.belicha@mssm.edu)
- ◆ Scott Friedman, Dean for Therapeutic Discovery  
[scott.friedman@mssm.edu](mailto:scott.friedman@mssm.edu)
- ◆ Christopher Frenz, PhD, Business Analyst  
[Christopher.Frenz@mssm.edu](mailto:Christopher.Frenz@mssm.edu)
- ◆ Marilyn Balamaci, Inside Mount Sinai  
[marilyn.balamaci@mssm.edu](mailto:marilyn.balamaci@mssm.edu)
- ◆ Louise Lammers, Senior Program Manager, 4D Technology  
Development Program, MSIP  
[louise.lammers@mssm.edu](mailto:louise.lammers@mssm.edu)
- ◆ Hamel Vyas, Director, International Personnel, HR  
[hamel.vyas@mountsinai.org](mailto:hamel.vyas@mountsinai.org)
- ◆ Carrie Gottlieb, Broadcast emails  
[carrie.gottlieb@mssm.edu](mailto:carrie.gottlieb@mssm.edu)
- ◆ Rama Iyengar, Associate Dean for Planning and Resource  
Management  
[Rama.Iyengar@mssm.edu](mailto:Rama.Iyengar@mssm.edu)
- ◆ Ravi Iyengar, Systems Pharmacology and Systems Biology  
[ravi.lyengar@mssm.edu](mailto:ravi.lyengar@mssm.edu)

- ◆ Loretta Beine  
[LBeine@esd.ny.gov](mailto:LBeine@esd.ny.gov)

Director, Industry Development for the Life Sciences

The logo for Empire State Development, featuring the text "Empire State Development" in a blue serif font, with a stylized silhouette of the Empire State Building behind the words "State" and "Development".

**Empire State Development**



Stefanie Mazlish

- ◆ Stefanie Mazlish  
[stefanie.mazlish@thesolutionlab.org](mailto:stefanie.mazlish@thesolutionlab.org)  
Co-Founder and CFO
- ◆ Eric Schafler  
Co-Founder  
[Eric.Schafler@nyumc.org](mailto:Eric.Schafler@nyumc.org)



Eric Schafler



Ben Bernstein

- ◆ Ben Bernstein  
[bbernstein@pnyc.org](mailto:bbernstein@pnyc.org)  
Associate



- ◆ Darlene Bressack  
[Darlene.Bressack@kp360group.com](mailto:Darlene.Bressack@kp360group.com)  
Human Resources Director



- ◆ Milena Adamian, MD  
[madamian@lsanfund.com](mailto:madamian@lsanfund.com)  
Director, Life Sciences Angel Network



Ke Cheng

- ◆ Ke Cheng, PhD  
[ke@histowiz.com](mailto:ke@histowiz.com)  
CEO
- ◆ Gargi Shastri



Yana Zorina

- ◆ Payal Patel  
[ppatel@acorda.com](mailto:ppatel@acorda.com)  
MSL
- ◆ Bagirathy (Bagi) Ravishankar  
[bravishankar@acorda.com](mailto:bravishankar@acorda.com)  
Associate Manager, Scientific Publications
- ◆ Yana Zorina  
[yzorina@acorda.com](mailto:yzorina@acorda.com)  
Scientist I – Cell Biologist



Sam Globus



Emlyn Parfitt

- ◆ Emily Lockhart  
[e.lockhart@celmatix.com](mailto:e.lockhart@celmatix.com)
- ◆ Sam Globus, PhD  
Manager of Scientific Operations
- ◆ Emlyn Parfitt, PhD  
Scientific Researcher

# Raffle Prizes

We thank the following businesses in our community that have contributed prizes to our raffle!

Pick up raffle tickets at the workshops and the data blitz. Winners will be announced before the keynote talk.

Best of luck!

~ Your Postdoc Executive Committee



- ◆ Bonjour Crêpes and Wine;  
94th and Lexington



- ◆ SRB Steep Rock Bouldering;  
97th and Lexington



- ◆ Jerome Florists;  
96th and Madison

# Upcoming Events

Be sure to check out the following upcoming events. We hope to see you there!

Grantsmanship for Graduate Students and Postdocs  
October 9th; New York Academy of Sciences

From Scientist to CSO  
October 21st - December 13th  
New York Academy of Sciences

Conflict Resolution Skills: In and Out of the Lab  
October 26th; New York Academy of Sciences

Postdoc Writing Group  
October 3rd; October 17th; November 7th

RCR Training Course  
October 2nd; October 9th; October 16th; October 23rd

Career Development Seminars  
October 8th, November 12th, December 10th

Postdoc Socials  
October 31st; November 21st

SinalInnovations  
November 18th/19th

# Postdoc Resources

Check out our website at

[www.mssm.edu/postdoc](http://www.mssm.edu/postdoc)



Visit our facebook page  
“Mount Sinai PostDocs”



Follow us on Twitter  
@MtSinaiPostdocs



Join our LinkedIn Group  
“Mount Sinai Postdoctoral Association”



Join our Alumni LinkedIn Group  
“MSSM Postdoctoral Alumni Network”

Visit [www.nationalpostdoc.org](http://www.nationalpostdoc.org) for additional resources

# Notes