

Biophysical Society NEWSLETTER

May 2011

National Lecture on YouTube



Arthur Horwich
*Chaperonin-mediated
Protein Folding*

[www.youtube.com/
user/biophysicalsociety](http://www.youtube.com/user/biophysicalsociety)

BPS Carbon Mitigation Efforts

The Biophysical Society (BPS) has again provided donations to two initiatives that help mitigate the Society's Annual Meeting carbon footprint. This year \$24,800 will be divided equally between The Climate Trust and University Park Solar.

At The Climate Trust, BPS funds will support an Innovative Offset Sectors Program that is developing protocols for implementing biochar technologies in ways that maximize environmental benefits, including long-term carbon sequestration. At University Park Solar, a community organization in the Baltimore area, BPS funds will support the purchase and installation of solar panels. In addition, University Park Solar is developing ways to spread its novel community model for building solar power plants to other communities nationally and internationally. The programs were selected by a committee, established by the Executive Board, whose members include *Joseph Falke*, Chair, *Mark Arsenault*, *Henry Lester*, *Ralph Nossal*, *Jason Otterstrom*, and *Francesco Vanzi*. For full descriptions of the two programs, visit their websites at www.climatetrust.org/offset.html and www.universityparksolar.com.



Correction

The headline on the front page of the April Newsletter was incorrect. It should have stated that *Finzi* and *Jayaraman* were elected to the Executive Board joining Council members *Andersen* and *Bahar*.

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Biophysicist in Profile

ALEXANDRA ZAHRADNÍKOVÁ

There's a certain stick-to-itiveness about Alexandra Zahradníková, who leads the Laboratory of Molecular Biophysics in the Institute of Molecular Physiology and Genetics at the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava, Slovakia. Whether overcoming gender bias, raising a family while building her scientific career, or finding ways to keep doing science in the face of adversity, Zahradníková has beaten the odds time and again.

The daughter of a biology teacher (her mother) and the top editor of *Cinema and Theater Journal* (her father), Zahradníková grew up in a household that “valued science, art and knowledge very much,” she says. It was her grandparents, though, who taught her perseverance by example. Her grandmother, though blind, performed the family's daily domestic chores with relish, while her grandfather, though not formally educated, was a jack-of-all-trades and self-motivated inventor. “They made me sure that one can handle anything with sufficient determination,” she says.

This lesson definitely sunk in. By junior high, Zahradníková knew she wanted a career in science. She started by attending the Košická Junior High School, which specialized in math, and ended up with a PhD in inorganic, physical, and analytical chemistry from the Slovak Technical University. After graduating in 1982, the job search began for

Zahradníková, now wife and mother of two. “University positions were rarely open for people who were not members of the communist party,” she says. “For positions in industry or in governmental institutions I was either overqualified,

“It is the multidisciplinary that gives biophysics the power to find out how things work. In fact, I loved biophysics before I even knew it existed. For me, it is the science of life.”

—ALEXANDRA ZAHRADNÍKOVÁ

or of wrong gender, or with too many kids.” A lucky break came in the form of *Jozef Zachar*, then director of the Center of Physiological Sciences of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and the boss of Zahradníková's husband, *Ivan Zahradník*. Zachar hired Zahradníková to join the team of a new department. “My assignment was to develop a sensor for fast measurement of glucose in blood plasma,” she says. “In one year I worked out a real prototype and, maybe for this success, I was transferred to work on a completely new project, this time the real biophysics.” She and four electrical engineers were assigned to a team headed by Zahradník and charged with establishing Slovakia's first patch-clamp lab. “It was a great challenge for us, since working behind the Iron Curtain was neither simple nor easy,” she says. Nine months later, with some help from *Láda Vyklický* and *Yuri Osipchuk* in Prague and Kiev respectively, the team had their first single channel recordings, and Zahradníková officially began her biophysics career.

Zahradníková researches the mechanism of calcium signaling that mediates transduction of electrical

excitation into contraction in cardiac myocytes, with a special interest in the function of the calcium-releasing channel known as the ryanodine receptor (RYR2). “I am mostly involved in deciphering the RYR function inside the myocytes, where it is subjected to rapid changes of cytosolic conditions during rhythmic contractions,” she says. “More specifically, I study the regulation of RYR activity by calcium and magnesium ions binding to its activation sites, which seems to be allosterically coupled to channel gating.” This wasn’t an area Zahradníková ever envisioned herself working in, however. When she and her husband arrived at the University of Texas Medical Branch as postdocs in *Phil Paladé’s* lab, the project agenda changed. “As an alternative, I was asked to implement the planar lipid bilayer technique and to study RYRs in vitro,” she says. After a rocky start, Zahradníková found something in the project that grabbed her interest. “I was not happy with that at the beginning, since this huge protein behaved so weirdly that it seemed to defy understanding,” she says, “but when I got the key I really liked it.”

It was fortunate that Zahradníková had found this passion for her work. Back in an economically depressed Bratislava in 1991, her passion was tested and her perseverance was called on in full. After considering career changes, Zahradníková and her husband decided to stick to science. Without funding, they turned to their computer, which they had purchased in the States, and got to work. “We developed sophisticated theoretical methods for computer analysis and modeling of channel gating,” she says. Their results were published in *Biophysical Journal*, and funding began to pour in. An HHMI International Research Scholar Award later, Zahradníková found herself back in Texas, this time in *Sandor Gyorke’s* lab at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, looking at the responses of RYR2



Zahradníková on top of Olympos Mountain on the Greek island Lesbos, with Iwar Klimeš (left) and his son.

channels in bilayers to fast, brief calcium concentration changes for the first time. “From the very beginning, Alexandra impressed me with her ability

to see hidden patterns in piles of confusing data and bring them to light almost like magic by elegant mathematical analysis,” says Gyorke. “Her research of local calcium signaling during cardiac excitation-contraction coupling is at the forefront of science and spectacular.” Zahradníková’s work with Gyorke earned them additional funding, and Zahradníková returned to the lab she shares with her husband in Bratislava and outfitted it with state-of-the-art patch-clamp, confocal microscopy, and bilayer setups, which she maintains today.

Not only did Zahradníková produce a solid career practically out of thin air, but she built both a personal and professional relationship with her husband. “She is beautiful, clever, and spontaneous ... and loves science as I do,” says Zahradník of his wife. “Sasha is my nearest collaborator. We are very different persons but complementary by way of thinking, skills, and attitudes.” The couple married young, and have since weathered the dynamic lifestyle of two scientists pursuing research careers while raising a family. “Our life was hectic, with little room for rest, but when we found it, it was always within the family and with the closest friends,” he says. In addition to spending time with their two daughters, the couple loves to explore new places with best pals *Iwar Klimeš* and *Zuzana Jezerská*, also of the science community.

“Mom is a very principled, honest, strong-willed person and an incorrigible idealist,” says Zahradníková’s grown daughter, *Ivana Vlachova*. “She is the example that all this is really possible, in spite of the well known difficulties that professional women encounter,” Zahradník adds. Though the path isn’t always easy, for Zahradníková the way is clear. “For happiness, it is important that we pursue things we consider important,” she says. “The important things can be achieved by patient and perseverant work, one day at a time.”



Zahradníková with her grandson, Timur.



Linda Kenney

Treasurer's Update

At the end of each BPS fiscal year, which runs from July 1–June 30, the Society's finances undergo an audit. The fiscal year ending 2010 (FYE10) audit was conducted in August 2010 and presented to the Executive Board at its October 2010 meeting. The full audit is available online at <http://www.biophysics.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=cmN%2f%2bvsRNNM%3d&tabid=472>.

After deducting revenue from interest and dividends, which do not come from operations, the audit showed that the Society's operations resulted in net revenue of \$937,071. This reflects growth in membership and meeting attendance, as well as efficient control of overall costs. The Society's net assets grew from \$5,441,988 in FYE09 to \$6,802,361 at the end of FYE10. That growth was due in part to the movement of FYE09 operating net revenues into reserves as well as to the overall gains in the stock market.

Society Nears 9,400 Members

The Society has continued to grow even in financially challenging times. Membership reached an all-time high of 9,396 in 2010. This is an increase of more than 8% over 2009. Over the last four years membership growth has been mainly fueled by student and early career members, who represent the future of biophysics, and we've also seen an increase in membership from outside the US, which now stands at nearly 35%.

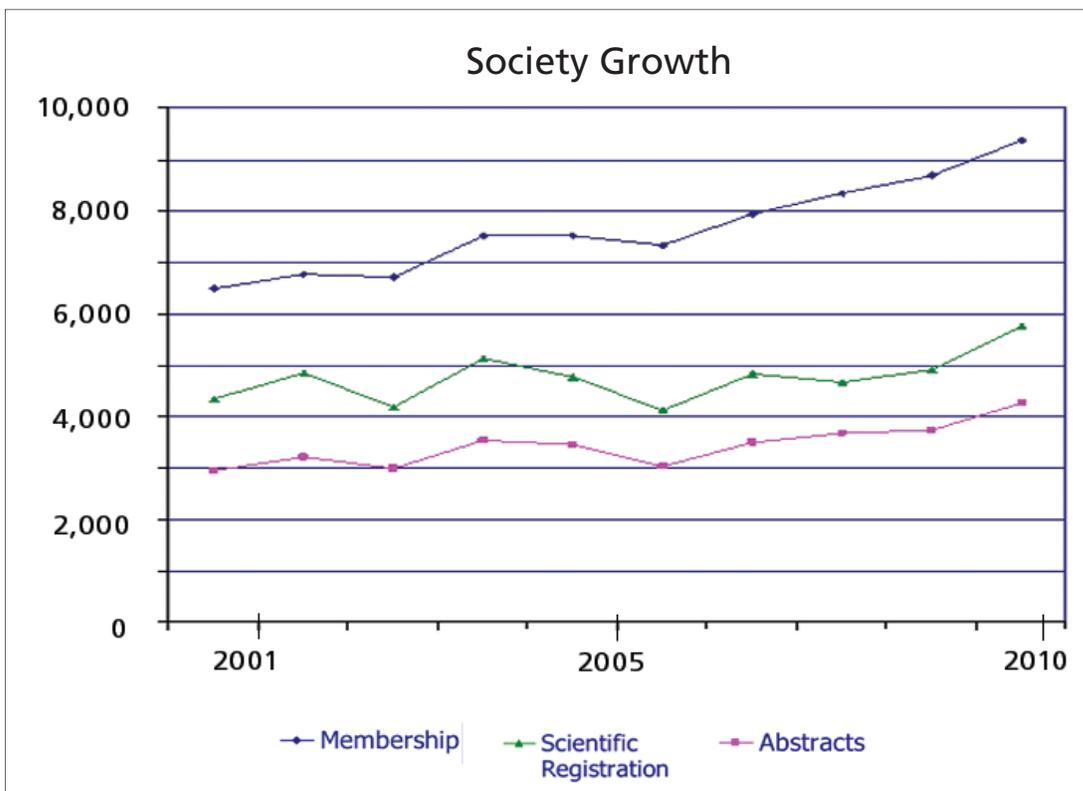
Society Reserves

As has been done in past years, the net revenues from FYE10 are being moved to the Society's reserves to ensure that those funds continue to build toward the prescribed level of 100% of one year's operating expenses. Such a level is needed to ensure that the Society can withstand a catastrophic event, such as a precipitous decline in meeting attendance due to a blizzard. The reserves level at the end of 2010 stood at \$6,490,464, or 93% of the projected FYE12 operations expenses level. The Executive Board and Council have appointed a Committee that

is reviewing current programs and considering future programs that could be funded when reserves exceed 100% of expenses.

Ongoing Efforts

During difficult economic times, members turn to their professional societies for greater support services. The Biophysical Society is continually updating its website (www.biophysics.org) to help members better learn about the Society's programs and more easily take advantage of the opportunities it offers. We have been working with Cell Press to make *Biophysical Journal* read by more people throughout the world, and we offer members free online color and lower publication charges.

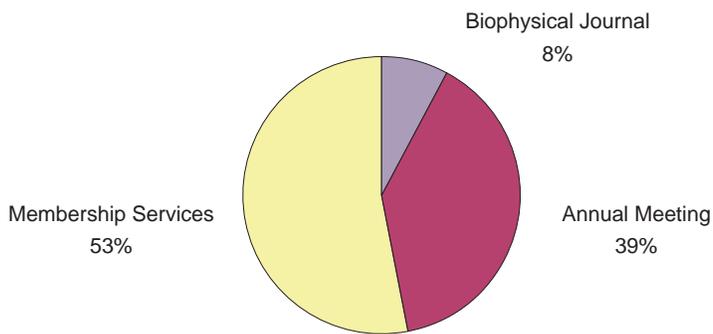


More travel and poster awards were given in 2010 to students, postdocs, and minorities than in any previous year. BPS supported several member-organized meetings outside the US and is sponsoring a thematic meeting in Asilomar in 2011. The Society's public policy efforts helped expand the funding opportunities for those conducting research in biophysics. The Baltimore meeting saw a record number of abstracts and registrations for an east coast meeting, with 3,879 abstracts and 6,200 attendees. The Annual Meeting will continue to be the greatest networking opportunity for anyone doing research in biophysics.

The Finance Committee and Executive Board will continue to monitor closely the Society's fiscal health to ensure that the programs and services so many members depend on will continue to grow.

—Lindy Kenney, Treasurer

BPS FYE10 OPERATING EXPENSES BY COST CENTERS \$3,516,158



17th International Biophysics Congress (IUPAB)

October 30–November 3, 2011
Beijing, China



Abstract Submission: June 30, 2011

Notification of Abstract Acceptance: August 15, 2011

Early Registration: August 15, 2011

Hotel Reservation: August 16, 2011

International Travel Award Application: June 30, 2011

Exhibitor Booth Selection Opens: Sept. 10, 2011

Deadline for Cancellation: Sept. 20, 2011

Visit www.17ibc.org for detailed information

Careers

Bringing Home the Bacon: Funding Opportunities for the Early Career Scientist

The Early Careers Committee presented a panel entitled *Early Career Grant Opportunities* at the 55th Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, in March. Four diverse funding agencies and institutions known for their early-investigator grants were represented. This issue of the Newsletter highlights the Research Corporation and Burroughs Wellcome Fund (BWF). The June Newsletter will highlight the National Science Foundation and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health.

According to the panelists, here's what you need to know to get the most out of the opportunity that's right for you.

The Research Corporation boasts two grants aimed at scientists within the first three years of their careers. *Casey Londergan*, Early Careers Committee member and panel moderator, offered details and noted some differences between these grants:

- The Cottrell College Science Awards are single-investigator or multi-investigator grants where the proposed research project should add to fundamental scientific knowledge. This award is primarily directed towards teaching careers or investigators at institutions where teaching is the primary focus.
- The Cottrell Scholar Awards are for early career faculty members who are committed to excel at both research and teaching. This award is primarily directed towards careers that involved both research and teaching.

For more information on the Cottrell Awards, visit www.rescorp.org.

Nancy Sung, Senior Program Officer at BWF, explained BWF's Career Awards at the Scientific Interface (CASI), which are intended to foster the early career development of researchers with backgrounds in the physical, mathematical, and/or computational sciences and engineers whose work addresses biological questions. Typically about \$500,000 each, they're intended to bridge advanced postdoctoral training and the first three years of faculty service. CASI grants target people who've received their PhDs within 12-48 months of application time and who have picked a good biological question, are situated in a supportive environment, exhibit a high degree of innovation, and have hit two home runs (strong first-author papers showing good, solid work—one during graduate training and another during postdoc training). US permanent and temporary residents as well as Canadian citizens or permanent residents are welcome to apply. Visit <http://www.bwfund.org/pages/129/Career-Awards-at-the-Scientific-Interface/> for more information.

—*Bert Tanner*

Early Careers Committee Member

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www.facebook.com/biophysicalsociety



Student Spotlight

ANU RAMBHADRAN
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER, HOUSTON
VASANTHI JAYARAMAN LAB

What initially attracted you to biophysics?

I wanted to take an integrative approach to performing biomedical research. I knew more than just biochemistry would be needed to study proteins. I could combine my background in chemical engineering, along with the physical sciences, and my love for math to study the structure and function of ion channels.

What specific areas are you studying?

Structure and function of glutamate receptors.

What is your current research project?

We use ensemble and single molecule fluorescence resonance energy transfer coupled with electrophysiology to study the functional consequences and conformational changes due to ligand binding.

What do you hope to do after graduation?

Although I enjoy the challenges of lab work and research, I am also looking into alternate careers. Patent law in particular is very attractive to me. At this point I want to keep my options open.

What do you see as the biggest challenge as a student of biophysics?

Trying to get students not in the area of biophysics to share my passion for it. In particular I find it hard to convey the importance of doing basic biophysics to students and researchers doing applied drug discovery work.

Why did you join the Biophysical Society?

Networking. By attending the Biophysical Society meetings, I have had the chance to meet and discuss my project with some of the greatest minds in Biophysics today. Not only do I get to share my ideas, I also get to learn about other peoples' work and possibly form collaborations.

When you're not studying biophysics, what do you like to do in your spare time?

I am an ardent reader; I love to read fictional novels by authors like Robin Cook, Jeffrey Archer and Michael Crichton. I also enjoy listening to music during my spare time.

Vasanthi Jayaraman, Rambhadran's PI, says:

"In my opinion Anu is a perfect role model for students. She is not only involved in her projects but actively participates in all the projects in the lab, troubleshooting and providing new ideas. Her success is evident from the fact that she has eight publications and is graduating with a PhD in three years. She also sets a good example for women students who are worried about work-life balance— she will be having her first child a month after she defends her thesis this summer. Who says you can't do it all!"

Suggest a Student to Spotlight

Pls, do you have a spotlight-worthy student in your lab? Send his/her name to society@biophysics.org.



Subgroups

IDP

Annual Symposium

Once again the IDP Subgroup's Symposium was highly successful with an overcapacity audience. This year the Subgroup jointly hosted two keynote speakers with the newly formed Biopolymers in Vivo Subgroup. The first keynote lecture was given by *Christopher Dobson*, University of Cambridge, who discussed the intrinsic properties of proteins to misfold and to form aggregates. In his lecture, Dobson described the mechanism of aggregate nucleation and their inhibition, from both the experimental and theoretical perspectives. The second keynote lecture was given by *Peter Wolynes*, University of California, San Diego, who discussed how water molecules could be directly involved in supporting protein folding and association. In particular, water-mediated interactions between polar and charged residues are likely to be common in IDPs that are rich with charged residues.

Collin Stultz, MIT, followed the joint keynotes with a description of work in his laboratory on the use of Bayesian statistics to describe IDPs in solution. *Rahul Das*, Washington University, gave a Postdoctoral Research Award presentation on the intrinsic alpha-helicity observed in disordered basic regions of bZIP transcription factors. This was followed by *Elizabeth Rhoades*, Yale, who talked about her work on evidence of allosteric control of interactions between alpha-synuclein and membranes. *Joan-Emma Shea*, University of California, San Diego, ended this session with a discussion of the aggregation properties of IAPP, an IDP implicated in type II diabetes.

After a short break, *Trevor Creamer*, University of Kentucky, described his work on the disordered regulatory domain of calcineurin and how this folds when calmodulin binds. This

was followed by *Terry Oas*, Duke University, who discussed his studies of the induced folding of RnaseP, including the application of his flux-based analysis to understand coupled folding and binding mechanisms. *Loren Hough*, Rockefeller University, gave the second Postdoctoral Research Award presentation on the intrinsically disordered FG Nups found in nuclear pore complexes. *Gerhard Hummer*, NIDDK/NIH, described work from his laboratory on computer simulations of IDPs. *Elizabeth Komives*, University of California, San Diego, finished the Symposium with a description of her work on intrinsic disorder in NFkB-IkB interactions and how it impacts function.

The subgroup officers would like to thank all of the speakers and the Co-Chairs for making the 2011 IDP subgroup symposium a big success. The detailed program can be found at the Subgroup website.

Subgroup Award Winners

The Subgroup is proud to announce the following winners of the Postdoctoral Travel Awards: *Vladimir Bamm*, University of Guelph; *Rahul Das*, Washington University; *Allan Ferreon*, The Scripps Research Institute; and *Loren Hough*, Rockefeller University.

The SRAA Poster Award winners from the Subgroup include *William Elam*, Johns Hopkins University; *Albert Mao*, Washington University; *Elizabeth Middleton*, Yale University; *Natasha Pirman*, University of Florida; and *Davit Potoyan*, University of Maryland.

New Subgroup Officers

David Eliezer and *Gary Daughdrill* completed their terms as Subgroup Chair and Secretary-Treasurer, and the Subgroup offers its thanks for their efforts during the past year. *Elisar Barbar* and *Jianhan Chen* took over as Subgroup Chair and Secretary-Treasurer. The Subgroup also elected *Doug Barrick* and *Steven Metallo* as the next Chair and Secretary-Treasurer. *Tanja*

Mittag and *Ashok Deniz* were elected as Co-Chairs for the 2012 IDP Subgroup Symposium. The new Council members include *Sarah Bondos* and *Alla Kostyukova*. The Subgroup is particularly excited about two junior officers, *Lisette Fred* from Georgetown University as the Graduate Student Representative and *Ryan Hoffman* from University of California, San Diego as the Postdoctoral Representative.

—*Jianhan Chen*, IDP Secretary-Treasurer

BIV

First BIV Symposium Packed!

The inaugural symposium for the Biopolymer Biophysics in Vivo Subgroup (now officially named Biopolymers in Vivo or BIV) at the Baltimore Annual meeting in March was a great success. The room was overfull for the talks by the two keynote speakers we shared with IDP, *Chris Dobson* and *Peter Wolynes*, as well as for the subgroup's own following session. In the evening, we had a lively dinner party where student awards were handed out to *Antonios Samiotakis*, *Ankur Jian*, *Alexander Christiansen*, and honorable mention undergraduate *Megan Scoppa*.

At the 2011 business meeting the following officers were elected: Subgroup Chair (2011-2012), *Margaret Cheung*, University of Houston; Subgroup Chair-Elect (2011-2012), becomes Chair in 2012-2013), *Pernilla Wittung-Stafshede*, Umeå University; Treasury-Secretary (2011-2013), *Michael Feig*, Michigan State University; two Program Chairs (2011-2012): *Gary Pielak*, University of North Carolina and *Huan-Xiang Zhou*, Florida State University; three-year member-at-large (2011-2014), *Joan Shea*, University of California, Santa Barbara; two-year member-at-large (2011-2013), *Gerhard Grobner*, Umeå University; and one-year member-at-large (2011-2012), *Michael Raghunath*, National University of Singapore.

We thank speakers, officers, members, and everyone involved. Please, tell your friends to become members. Next year, our goal is to have a new stellar symposium!

—*Margaret Cheung*, Subgroup Chair and
Pernilla Wittung-Stafshede, Treasury-Secretary



SRAA Winners

The subgroups selected 20 students to receive the Student Research Achievement Award (SRAA) at the 55th Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland in March. They are listed below.

Bioenergetics

Marcela Gonzalez-Granillo
Ariel Lewis-Ballester
Albrecht von Hardenberg

Biological Fluorescence

Patrick Cutler
Ruoyi Qiu

Exocytosis & Endocytosis

Vimal Gangadharan
Prattana Samasilp

Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

William Elam
Albert Mao
Elizabeth Middleton
Natasha Pirman
Davit Potoyan

Membrane Biophysics

Paolo Lobo
Friedrich Roder

Membrane Structure & Assembly

Jason Perlmutter
Preston Moon
Cynthia Stanich

Molecular Biophysics

Monica Yun Liu

Motility

Zachary Wissner-Gross

Permeation & Transport

Kene Piasta



SRAA winners shown with Peter Moore, Society President.

Public Affairs

Congress Agrees to 2011 Budget

Avoiding a government shutdown by about an hour, Congress and the President agreed to a budget to fund the federal government for the rest of the 2011 Fiscal Year on April 8.

The cuts to science funding were far less than was proposed in HR 1, a bill passed by the House of Representatives in February. According to early reports on the budget deal, the following are the impacts to NIH, NSF, and the DOE.

- NIH will receive \$30.6 billion in FY 2011, a \$325 million (1.0%) reduction from FY 2010. \$210 million of that will be an across-the-board reduction for all Institutes, Centers, and the Office of the Director, \$50 million will come from the intramural buildings and facilities account, and another 0.2%, which applies to all nondiscretionary defense spending, has not been determined.
- NSF will receive \$6.8 billion for FY 2011, a cut of \$66 million or 1.0% from the FY 2010 budget. The research accounts will be hit with \$42 million of that cut and the Education and Human Resources Directorate with \$10 million.
- The DOE Office of Science will receive \$4.884 billion, which is \$866 million above HR 1 and \$20 million below FY 2010. With no earmarks included in the FY11 budget, compared to \$76 million worth of earmarks in FY10, the Office actually has an increase of \$56 million in unconstrained funds.

Prior to the budget deal, more than 14,000 patients, scientists, health care providers, and supporters of medical research signed an

e-petition asking Congress not to cut funding for life-saving research supported by the NIH. The petition, prepared by The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, of which the Biophysical Society is a member, was created to make Congress aware of public support for NIH funding. The Biophysical Society alerted members about the petition in its monthly legislative update email and on the Biophysical Society Facebook page.

New NIH Diabetes Research Plan

On March 18, 2011, NIH announced a new strategic plan to guide diabetes-related research over the next decade. Developed by a federal work group led by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, the plan calls for continued emphasis on clinical research. The plan, entitled “Advances and Emerging Opportunities in Diabetes Research: A Strategic Planning Report of the Diabetes Mellitus Interagency Coordinating Committee,” focuses on the 10 areas of diabetes research with the greatest potential. These areas include:

- The relationship between obesity and type 2 diabetes, and how both conditions may be affected by genetics and environment;
- Autoimmune mechanisms at work in type 1 diabetes;
- The biology of beta cells, which release insulin in the pancreas;
- Development of artificial pancreas technologies to improve management of blood sugar levels;
- Prevention of complications of diabetes that affect the heart, eyes, kidneys, nervous system, and other organs; and
- Reduction of the impact of diabetes on groups disproportionately affected by the disease, including the elderly and racial and ethnic minorities.

For more information, see the announcement at www.nih.gov/news/health/mar2011/niddk-18.htm.

New NIH Science Policy Associate Director

Amy Patterson has been named NIH Associate Director of the Office of Science Policy after serving as acting Associate Director since the fall of 2008. Patterson had previously been a postdoctoral fellow at NIH, as well as Deputy Director of the Division of Cellular and Gene Therapies and Senior Medical Officer in the Center of Biologics Evaluation and Research at the Food and Drug Administration. Patterson also serves as Director of the Office of Biotechnology Activities within the NIH Office of Science Policy, a role that she will continue to fill.

Baltimore Meeting Survey Winners



Wade M. Borchers

Congratulations to *Wade M. Borchers* of the University of South Florida and *Christina Othon* of Wesleyan University for winning complimentary registrations to the 56th Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society in San Diego, California, February 25–29, 2012.



Christina Othon

Meeting attendees who completed the 2011 Annual Meeting Questionnaire by March 25 were placed in a drawing to receive complimentary registration for the 2012 Annual Meeting.

The feedback from all the surveys will be used to plan future meetings. Thank you to all attendees who took the time to complete the questionnaire!

Grants and Opportunities

Name: International Eppendorf & Science Prize for Neurobiology

Objective: The International Eppendorf & Science Prize for Neurobiology is awarded annually to one young scientist for the most outstanding neurobiological research based on methods of molecular and cell biology conducted by him/her during the past three years. Entrants who are not older than 35 years are invited to apply for the prize

Application Deadline: June 15, 2011

Website: <http://www.eppendorf.com/int/index.php?!=1&action=awards&contentid=3&sitemap=7.10.3>

Name: Nanoscience and Nanotechnology in Biology and Medicine

Objective: The purpose of this FOA is to provide support for cutting-edge nanoscience and nanotechnology research that can lead to biomedical breakthroughs and new investigations into the diagnosis, treatment and management of an array of diseases and traumatic injuries.

Application Deadlines: June 5, 2011; October 5, 2011

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-148.html>



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UPCOMING EVENTS

July

July 1–3, 2011

9th International Fröhlich's Symposium, Electrodynamical Activity of Living Cells, Including Microtubule Coherent Modes and Cancer Cell Physics

Prague, Czech Republic

<http://edalc11.ufe.cz/doku.php>

July 15–16, 2011

Structural Bioinformatics and Computational Biophysics

Vienna, Austria

<http://bc.med.usherbrooke.ca/3dsig11/Home.html>

August

August 6–9, 2011

BIT's 1st Annual World Congress of Molecular & Cell Biology

Beijing, China

www.bitlifesciences.com/cmcb2011/

August 23–27, 2011

8th European Biophysics Congress

Budapest, Hungary

www.ebsa2011.org/?nic=topics

September

September 2–8, 2011

The 7th Congress of the International Society for Theoretical Chemical Physics

Tokyo, Japan

www.chem.waseda.ac.jp/nakai/istcp7/

September 4–9, 2011

ESF-EMBO Symposium: Glutathione and Related Thiols in Living Cells

Sant Feliu de Guixols, Spain

www.esf.org/activities/esf-conferences/details/2011/confdetail356.html

October

October 16–18, 2011

Current Opinion in Structural Biology & DNA Repair

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

www.current-opinion-dnarepair-conference.com

October 23–28, 2011

Single Molecules Meet Systems Biology

Chevy Chase, Maryland

www.hhmi.org/janelia/conf-063.html