



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bethesda, MD- The Biophysical Society congratulates members Martin Karplus, Michael Levitt, and Arieh Warshel, who were jointly awarded the 2013 Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2013 *"for the development of multiscale models for complex chemical systems,"* as well as member James Rothman, who received the 2013 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly with Randy W. Schekman and Thomas C. Südhof *"for their discoveries of machinery regulating vesicle traffic, a major transport system in our cells."*

Karplus, a professor emeritus at Université de Strasbourg, France and Harvard University, has been a member of the Biophysical Society since 2002. He received his PhD from the California Institute of Technology in 1953.

Levitt, a professor at Stanford University, has been a member of the Biophysical Society since 2011. He currently serves on the Editorial Board of *Biophysical Journal*. He received his PhD from the University of Cambridge, UK, in 1971.

Warshel, a professor at the University of Southern California, joined the Biophysical Society in 1982. He is the recipient of the 2014 Biophysical Founders Award and will be speaking at the Awards Symposium during the Society's Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California, February 15-19, 2014. He received his PhD from the Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel, in 1971.

Rothman, a professor at Yale University, joined the Biophysical Society in 2013. He received his PhD from Harvard Medical School in 1976.

Speaking about the significance of Karplus, Levitt, and Warshel's work to biophysics, Society President-Francisco Bezanilla noted, "The advances on computational chemistry by the chemistry Nobel Prize winners have had a significant impact in biophysics-- bridging the gap between experimental and theoretical biophysics and providing new insights on molecular mechanisms."

In regards to the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine, Society President-Elect Dorothy Beckett said, "James Rothman and colleagues are responsible for determining the mechanism of vesicle trafficking that

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forms the basis of intra- and intercellular transport of a broad range of substances including hormones, growth factors and neurotransmitters. The research has yielded molecular level understanding of numerous cellular processes including neural signal transmission, hormone transport, and nutrient uptake.”

The recipients will receive their awards on December 10th at the Nobel Banquet in Stockholm, Sweden.

The Biophysical Society, founded in 1958, is a professional, scientific society established to encourage development and dissemination of knowledge in biophysics. The Society promotes growth in this expanding field through its annual meeting, monthly journal, and committee and outreach activities. Its members are located throughout the U.S. and the world, where they teach and conduct research in colleges, universities laboratories, government agencies, and industry.

