



## **RFS Briefings**

### **February 29, 2016**

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#### **Dana-Farber appoints Cornell Dean Dr. Laurie Glimcher as First Female CEO**, bizjournals.com, Feb. 23, 2016

Dr. Laurie Glimcher, renowned immunologist, current dean of Cornell University's medical college, and RFS Board member has been appointed the first female CEO of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dr. Glimcher enters an exclusive club of female hospital executives, which currently includes Boston Children's Hospital CEO Sandra Fenwick; Boston Medical Center CEO Kate Walsh; and Brigham and Women's Hospital President Dr. Elizabeth Nabel. She will replace Dr. Edward Benz in January 2017. [Read More](#)

#### **Breaking Barriers in Science: Women in International Collaborations**, cvent.com, Feb. 23, 2016

CDRF Global presents the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Breaking Barriers in Science: Women in International Collaborations reception on March 8, 2016 in Arlington VA. The reception celebrates women who have inspired with their contributions in science and technology. Speakers include Kellina

Craig-Henderson, PhD, Deputy Assistant Director for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) for the National Science Foundation and Lauren Paige, L’Oreal Vice President, Public Affairs & Strategic Initiatives. [Read More](#)

**Women in Science AUSTRALIA’s International Women’s Day Event: “Celebrating Remarkable Women in STEM,”** veski.com.au, Feb. 23, 2016

To mark International Women’s Day, Women in Science AUSTRALIA welcomes Dr. Anne-Sophie Dielen, who developed the Remarkable Women in Science Exhibition. Dr. Dielen will introduce the Exhibition following which invitees can enjoy learning more about Australian women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. [Read More](#)

**Researchers Find Female Vendors on eBay Receive Fewer bids and Lower Final Price,** sciencemag.org, Feb. 19, 2016

Tamar Kricheli-Katz and Tali Regev, researchers studying inequality, found that when the seller of popular items on eBay was self-identified as female, the auction got fewer bids and a lower final price. For used items, the gender gap was small, with female sellers getting 3% less money on average. But for new products, women received only 80 cents for every dollar that men got for auctioning a similar product on eBay. [Read More](#)

**Foundation for the NIH to Award Lurie Prize in Biomedical Sciences to Dr. Jeannie Lee for Pioneering Work in Epigenetics,** fnih.org, Feb. 16, 2016

The Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) has selected Jeannie T. Lee, M.D., Ph.D. as the 2016 winner of the Lurie Prize in Biomedical Sciences for uncovering the functions of long, noncoding RNA (lncRNA) in epigenetic regulation. Her work has accelerated the understanding of mechanisms driving epigenetic regulation, which involves changes in gene function without changing the DNA sequence. Specifically, Dr. Lee's work investigates how a whole sex chromosome can be shut down and how "X-chromosome inactivation" can be leveraged to treat congenital diseases, such as Rett, CDKL5 and Fragile X Syndromes in addition to numerous cancers such as breast, ovarian, blood, intestinal and male germ cell tumors where there is often an extra x- chromosomal copy. The Lurie Prize will be presented to Dr. Lee on May 18, 2016 in Washington, D.C. [Read More](#)

**Graduate Women International 32<sup>nd</sup> Triennial Conference: August 24-26, 2016**, gwiconference.org, Feb. 15, 2016

Graduate Women International (GWI) 32<sup>nd</sup> Triennial Conference offers a diverse range of subjects. The conference is organized around three themes central to GWI's mission: education, gender, and human rights. These three areas affect girls' and women's lives around the globe and are deeply intertwined. The Conference aims to bring together all stakeholders in these broad areas of concern, to foster dialogue, plans and exchanges, and place girls and women firmly at the center of education. Proposals for seminar papers, workshops, and poster presentations are being accepted now through April 15, 2016. [Read More](#)

**Wellesley College Announces the Appointment of Dr. Paula A. Johnson as College's 14th president**, Wellesley.edu, Feb. 11, 2016

Wellesley College announced that Paula Johnson, MD, MPH, a professor and faculty member at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, has been named the 14th president of Wellesley College. Dr. Johnson, an internationally renowned and innovative leader, currently serves as chief of the Division of Women's Health at Harvard Medical School and Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital, where she founded and is executive director of the Connors Center for Women's Health and Gender Biology. She will be the first African American to serve as president of Wellesley College. [Read More](#)

**RFS Board Member Prof. Huda Zoghbi to Receive the Inaugural Nemmers Prize in Medical Science**, [wiareport.com](#), Feb. 11, 2016

Huda Y. Zoghbi, director of the Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute at Texas Children's Hospital and a professor of molecular and human genetics at the Baylor University College of Medicine in Houston, has been selected to receive the inaugural Mechthild Esser Nemmers Prize in Medical Science from Northwestern University. Dr. Zoghbi is being honored for her work on Rett syndrome and other neurological disorders. As the winner of the Nemmers Prize, she will give a public lecture and participate in other scholarly activities at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago during the coming year. [Read More](#)

**Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) Opens Nominations for the Third Annual Rosalind Franklin Award**, [bio.org](#), Feb. 10, 2016

The Award will again be sponsored by the Rosalind Franklin Society whose goal is to support and showcase the careers of eminent women in science. The Rosalind Franklin Award is given annually to an outstanding woman in the industrial biotechnology sector who has

made significant contributions to the advancement of the biobased economy and biotech innovation. Nominations are open for The Rosalind Franklin Award. The award will be presented and the winner will deliver remarks at the 2016 World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology in San Diego, California, which will be held April 17-20, 2016 at the San Diego Convention Center. [Read More](#)

**Dr. Jan Vilcek’s Memoir, “Love and Science” Tells of Personal and Scientific Intertwined Stories**, vilcek.org, Feb. 9, 2016

The memoir of RFS Board Member, donor and past honoree, Dr. Jan Vilcek, tells of a childhood spent in hiding in Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia, completion of medical school, marriage to art historian Marica Gerhath, and their defection and immigration to New York City as penniless political refugees in 1965. Once in New York, the couple built successful careers: Marica at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Jan at NYU School of Medicine where his research led to the development of Remicade, the first in a new class of treatments for autoimmune diseases and now one of the world’s highest grossing drugs. [Read More](#)

**Boyalife, Science & Science Translational Medicine Award in Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine**, sciencemag.org, Feb. 2, 2016

Stem cell and regenerative medicine is the new frontier in life sciences. *Boyalife, Science* and *Science Translational Medicine* jointly established a global award to recognize significant contributions in advancing basic science to clinical applications in this field. The award recognizes and rewards scientists in the fields of stem cells and/or regenerative medicine with a focus on developing cell-based treatments for cancer, degenerative disorders, immunotherapy and stem cells transplantation. A Grand Prize of \$25,000 and a Runner-Up

Prize of \$5,000 will be awarded. The Grand Prize Winning Essay will be published in *Science*. [Read More](#)

**Two Women Awarded “Pre-Nobel” Prizes**, wolffund.org.il, Feb. 2016

The Wolf Prizes are awarded annually by the Wolf Foundation and have been uncanny predictors of future Nobel Prizes. The prizes are awarded based on achievement in the fields of agriculture, chemistry, mathematics, medicine, physics and the arts. Dr. Trudy F.C. Mackay at North Carolina State University was awarded the prize in agriculture for achievements in genetics. Phyllis Lambert of Canada was awarded the prize in architecture. [Read More](#)

**2016 Vilcek Prizes in Biomedical Science and Theater Announced**,

vilcek.org, Feb. 2, 2016

One woman was among the recipients of the 2016 Vilcek Prizewinners for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science. The female winner, Roberta Capp, MD, is Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Dr. Capp was recognized for her work uncovering barriers to health care access and delivery in the United States and exploring innovative methods to improve the accessibility and quality of health care. Three women were also awarded the Vilcek Prize in Theater: Blanka Zizka with Philadelphia’s Wilma Theater, Sarah Benson with New York’s Soho Rep, and Desdemona Chiang with Azeotrope, a theater company focusing on marginalized populations. The annual Vilcek Prizes recognize immigrant contributions to the American arts and sciences. [Read More](#)

**Women Account for Only 21% of Full Professors, according Latest AAMC State of Women in Academic Medicine Report,**

members.aamc.org, Feb. 2016

The 2013-2014 biennial report on the WIMS Benchmarking Survey has been redesigned to enrich understanding of the state of women in medicine by providing multiple AAMC data sources, referencing scholars in academic medicine, and highlighting actionable strategies from the field with the goal of helping to turn data into action to advance women. While academic medical centers are working toward increasing diversity among faculty and leadership positions, as well as in the student population, this report reveals that women remain underrepresented in key career stages. Some findings include: although the number of women applying to medical school has increased, their proportion of the applicant pool has decreased; women make up 38% of the full-time academic medicine workforce, but only 21% of full professors and 15% of department chairs; and new hires of women faculty are up 4%, but departures are up 5%. [Read More](#)

**Working Paper Series: Is Gender Diversity Profitable? Evidence from a Global Survey,** piie.com, Feb. 2016

Authors Marcus Noland, Tyler Moran, and Barbara Kotschwar present analysis of a global survey of 21,980 firms from 91 countries suggesting that the presence of women in corporate leadership positions may improve firm performance. “The presence of women in corporate leadership is positively correlated with some firm characteristics, such as size, as well as some national characteristics, such as girls’ performance on math assessments, the relative absence of discriminatory attitudes toward female executives, and the availability of paternal leave, among others. The data reveal considerable variation

in female representation across regions and countries as well as sectors of the economy.” [Read More](#)

**Chicago Professor of Molecular Biology Resigns amid Sexual Misconduct Investigation**, nytimes.com, Feb. 2, 2016

Professor Jason Lieb, a prominent molecular biologist at the University of Chicago, has resigned following a university recommendation that he be fired for violating the University’s sexual misconduct policy. Professor Lieb, a recipient of millions of dollars in federal grants over the past ten years, made unwelcome advances to several female graduate students at an off-campus retreat of the molecular biosciences division. Professor Lieb was hired by the University of Chicago despite potential warning signs and anonymous e-mails stating he faced allegations of sexual harassment or misconduct at previous jobs at Princeton and the University of North Carolina. [Read More](#)

**The James S. McDonnell Foundation (JSMF) Seeks Applications for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Science Initiative**, jfsm.org, Jan. 30, 2016

The James S. McDonnell Foundation has announced new application guidelines for its 21st Century Science Initiative Scholar Awards in Studying Complex System. The program aims to further the science of complex systems through the continued development of the theory and tools used in the study of complex research questions. Preference will be given to projects attempting to apply complex systems approaches to coherently articulated questions. Largely unrestricted, one-time grants of up to \$450,000 over a sufficient time period (four to six years) will be awarded to allow investigators to pursue and develop



new directions for their research programs. Applications can be uploaded beginning February 18, 2016. [Read More](#)