



## RFS Briefings

November 15, 2016

**Susan Lindquist, Scientist Who Made Genetic Discoveries Using Yeast, Dies at 67**, nytimes.com, October 28, 2016

The Rosalind Franklin Society is deeply saddened by the death of Susan Lindquist, PhD, a founding Board Member. Dr. Lindquist, Member and former Director of the Whitehead Institute, Professor of biology at MIT, and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, was recognized around the world for her ingenious and instrumental contributions to science. [Read more.](#)

**2016 Pearl Meister Greengard Prize Recipient: Bonnie L. Bassler, PhD**, greengardprize.rockefeller.edu, October 27, 2016

Dr. Bonnie L. Bassler will be awarded the 2016 Pearl Meister Greengard Prize, which is awarded annually to extraordinary women scientists, at Rockefeller University on November 16, 2016. She is recognized for discoveries related to a molecular mechanism that allows bacteria to communicate with each other. Dr. Bassler is a molecular biologist at Princeton University and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. [Read more.](#)

**Keystone Symposia on Molecular and Cellular Biology**, keystonesymposia.org, October 24, 2016

The 2016-2017 Keystone Symposia conference season is ongoing, with extensive meetings and conferences scheduled. Keystone Symposia is a member of the Rosalind Franklin Society Council of Academic Institutions. For conference and meeting details: [Read more.](#)

**Women Need to be Seen and Heard at Conferences**, nature.com, October 19, 2016  
Women continue to be underrepresented in academic positions in science. They are less likely to be invited to speak at conferences and meetings and there are fewer women mentors for young female scientists. So, what is the solution to break down this gender gap? A new initiative, BiasWatchNeuro. Discouraged by the fact more men are invited to speak at meetings, a group of successful neuroscientists (women and a few men), started the initiative to increase the number of female invited speakers at science meetings. [Read more.](#)

**2016 Nobel Laureates**, nobelprize.org, October 19, 2016  
The 2016 Nobel Laureates were announced on in early October. The 11 recipients are all male. [Read more.](#)

**Grace Hopper Conference Spotlights Women in Technology**, usnews.com, October, 18, 2016  
The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing took place on October 19-21, 2016 in Houston, Texas. This is the world's largest gathering of women technologists. [Read more.](#)

**David Rall Award Recipient: Donna E. Shalala**, nam.edu, October 17, 2016  
Donna E. Shalala, President of the Clinton Foundation, was the recipient of the 2016 David Rall Medal, given to a member of the National Academy of Medicine for outstanding service. Her many accomplishments include chairmanship of the Committee on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing. Dr. Shalala is also a Rosalind Franklin Society Board Member. [Read more.](#)

**The Misleading Promise of I.V.F for Women over 40**, nytimes.com, October 17, 2016  
Many women are putting childbearing on hold as they pursue their educational and career goals, despite the risk of “advanced age” in female infertility, pregnancy loss, and other complications. Since 1978, the fertility industry has been celebrating its ability to help women have children at older ages but, at 39, Miriam Zoll and her husband decided to start a family and had four unsuccessful I.V.F. cycles. “What the industry didn’t say is that the success rate for older women is consistently low,” said Zoll, who found after her own research that the data focus on the 20 percent of women who succeed in I.V.F. treatments, rather than the 80 percent failure rate. Disappointed and shocked by her experiences, Zoll wrote a book, “Cracked Open: Liberty, Fertility, and the Pursuit of High-Tech Babies,” to detail the more realistic picture of I.V.F. treatments. [Read more.](#)

**Biobetters and Next-Generation Biologics: Innovative Strategies for Optimally Effective Therapies**, keystonesymposia.org, October 2016  
Join Keystone Symposia for a four-day conference, from January 22-26, 2017 in Snowbird, Utah. The goal of the conference is to examine various approaches for treatment of cancer and other diseases. Conference organizers are Cherié L. Butts, Amy S. Rosenberg, Amy D. Klion, and Sachdev S. Sidhu. Discounted registration deadline is November 21, 2016. [Read more.](#)

**Keystone Symposia on Molecular and Cellular Biology**, keystonesymposia.org, October 10, 2016

The Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology was awarded to Yoshinori Ohsumi for his ground-breaking work discovering mechanisms of autophagy. Learn more about autophagy and the future of the field from four leading experts who sat down at the 2015 at Keystone Symposia's autophagy conference in Keystone, Colorado and at the 2016 conference in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada. Ana Maria Cuervo, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, was one of the panelists and also spoke at a recent Rosalind Franklin Society Board Meeting. [Read more.](#)

**Nobel Prize: What Will it Take to Have More Women as Winners in Science?**

csmonitor.com, October 7, 2016

Between 1901 and 2015, only 49 of the 870 Nobel prizes won by individuals were women and most of the female winners were in the categories of peace, physiology or medicine, and literature. The gender and equity gaps in the workplace create a continuous barrier for women in STEM fields to be recognized for their achievements. [Read more.](#)

**António Guterres to be the Next UN Secretary General**, theguardian.com, October 5, 2016

Two capable female leaders were passed over for the UN Secretary General position: Irina Bokova, the head of UNESCO and Christiana Figueres, a Costa Rican diplomat. [Read more.](#)

**NIH Common Fund announces 2016 High-Risk, High-Reward Research awards**,

nih.gov, October 4, 2016

The High-Risk, High-Reward Research (HRHR) program, supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Common Fund, awarded 88 grants to inspired and extraordinary scientists with forward-thinking approaches to challenges in biomedical research. Over 30 recipients were women. [Read more.](#)

**Update the Nobel Prizes**, nytimes.com, October 3, 2016

In 1985, Alfred B. Nobel declared those who made great benefits to mankind in the fields of physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature and peace would be awarded, annually. But, as the world of science continues to grow, with discoveries being made in ecology, engineering, astronomy and more, is it time to update the Nobel Prizes and recognize the wealth of talent in the world? [Read more.](#)

**Female Astronomers Report Sexual Harassment in Labs**, cnn.com, September 30, 2016

Three female astronomers detail their experiences being sexually harassed by male counterparts throughout their academic and career journeys. The actions of these men were covered up by the institutions. To combat women being driven out of STEM fields because of sexual harassment, Congresswoman Jackie Speier announced that she is sponsoring a bill that would force institutions that receive federal grant money to report harassment investigations. [Read more.](#)