

Contact: Linda Stricker
(301) 634-7092
lstricker@faseb.org

FASEB ANNOUNCES RECIPIENT OF THE 2009 EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE AWARD

Bethesda, MD – The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) is pleased to announce that Susan L. Lindquist, PhD, will be the recipient of the FASEB 2009 Excellence in Science Award. The award recognizes women whose outstanding career achievements in biological science have contributed significantly to further our understanding of a particular discipline by excellence in research. Dr. Lindquist was one of over 50 women nominated for this prestigious award. The award, sponsored in total by Eli Lilly and Company, carries with it an unrestricted research grant of \$10K. Dr. Lindquist will receive her award and present an award lecture at the 2009 Experimental Biology Meeting, to be held in New Orleans, LA, April 18-22, 2009.

Dr. Lindquist's focus on protein folding mechanisms has led to paradigm-shifting discoveries in stress tolerance, gene regulation, evolution, and human protein folding disease. She is a pioneer in the molecular analysis of the heat shock response, providing definitive evidence that each heat-shock protein solves a different aspect of stress tolerance and protein folding, has changed our notions of formation, and created model systems for studying amyloid disease in yeast.

Dr. Lindquist has also provided the molecular framework to understand the protein-based inheritance that occurs in response to prions. Her work provides critical evidence in support of the revolutionary concept that infectious prions transmit disease using proteins rather than DNA or RNA. The insight resulting from this work could lead to new strategies for preventing or treating prion-triggered neurologic diseases such as Huntington's disease. Dr. Lindquist's studies utilize multiple experimental methods including biochemical, cell biological and genetic. She also uses multiple organisms including *Drosophila*, yeast, *Arabidopsis* and mice to make paradigm-shifting discoveries.

Professor Lindquist is a member, and former Director, of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, where she guided it through the formation of the neighboring Broad Institute. She is also an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Professor of Biology at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She received her PhD in Biology from Harvard in 1976 and was a postdoctoral fellow of the American Cancer Society. She was named the Albert D. Lasker Professor of Medical Sciences in 1999 at the University of Chicago. Professor Lindquist was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1997 and the Institute of Medicine in 2006. Her honors also include the Dickson Prize in Medicine, the Sigma Xi William Procter Prize for Scientific Achievement, designation by Scientific American as one of the top 50 leaders in business, policy, and research for 2006, and the Centennial Medal of the Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Lindquist has mentored many highly successful young scientists and has been particularly active in her efforts to support talented young women scientists.

For more information, please visit the FASEB Excellence in Science website:
<http://www.faseb.org/excellenceinscience>.

FASEB is composed of 21 societies with more than 80,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB enhances the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. FASEB's mission is to advance biological science through collaborative advocacy for research policies that promote scientific progress and education and lead to improvements in human health.