



David C. Rubinsztein, PhD

Professor of Molecular Neurogenetics, Cambridge Institute for Medical Research, University of Cambridge

After completing his basic medical training, David Rubinsztein completed a BSc in Medicine with Honours and PhD in the Medical Research Council/University of Cape Town Unit for the Cell Biology of Atherosclerosis. He came to Cambridge in 1993 as a senior registrar in Genetic Pathology, During this period, he started working on Huntington's disease and developed an independent research group.

In 1997, Dr. Rubinsztein acquired his Certificate of Completion of Specialist Training and was awarded a six-year Glaxo Wellcome Fellowship. This was followed in 2001 by an MRC Programme grant and Wellcome Trust Senior Clinical Fellowship, both renewed in 2006.

Dr. Rubinsztein was elected as a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 2004, and Professor of Molecular Neurogenetics at the University of Cambridge (personal chair) in 2005. He was awarded the Graham Bull Prize for Clinical Science by the Royal College of Physicians in 2007.

Ana Maria Cuervo, MD, PhD

Professor, Department of Developmental & Molecular Biology, Marion Bessin Liver Research Center, Institute for Aging Research, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Ana Maria Cuervo is a Professor in the Departments of Developmental and Molecular Biology and of Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and co-director of the Einstein Institute for Aging Studies. She obtained her MD degree and a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular biology from the University of Valencia in 1990 and 1994, respectively, and received postdoctoral training at Tufts University. In 2002, she started her laboratory at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where she continues her studies in the role of protein-degradation in neurodegenerative diseases and aging.

Dr. Cuervo has been invited to present the Robert B. Konh Memorial Lecture and the NIH Director's Lecture, she was also the recipient of the 2005 P. Benson Award in Cell Biology, the 2005/8 Keith Porter Fellow in Cell Biology, and the 2008 Vincent Cristofalo Rising Start in Aging Award. She is currently co-Editor-in-Chief of Aging Cell and associate editor of Autophagy.

Beth Levine, MD

Professor of Internal Medicine & Microbiology, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Dr. Levine is the Chief of Infectious Diseases, Jay P. Sanford Professor in Infectious Diseases and Professor of Internal Medicine and Microbiology at UT Southwestern Medical Center, and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator. She received her BA from Brown University, her MD from Cornell University Medical College, and performed her post-doctoral training at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Her research focuses on understanding the molecular regulation and the biological functions of autophagy. Her laboratory identified the mammalian autophagy gene, beclin 1, and using a series of genetic, cell biology, biochemical, and molecular approaches in model organisms ranging from yeast to worms to mice, her laboratory has uncovered several important roles that beclin 1 and the autophagy pathway play in normal physiology and in protection against disease.

Dr. Levine has received numerous awards for her research, including election into the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the American Association of Physicians and the 2008 O'Donnell Award in Medicine from the Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas.

Closing: Alan Saltiel, PhD

Mary Sue Coleman Director of the Life Sciences Institute







