

ABOUT THE PANELISTS

Moses Chao, Ph.D.

Professor, Departments of Cell Biology, Neuroscience & Physiology and Psychiatry
Skirball Institute of Biomolecular Medicine, NYU School of Medicine

“Advocacy takes on many different forms, but at its basis is the effort to communicate science to the public and to local business and civic leaders and political institutions.”

For the past 30 years, Dr. Chao has studied the neurotrophin receptors, Trk tyrosine kinases and p75 receptors. His research interests have been to define the mechanisms used by trophic factors to change synaptic plasticity. He is particularly interested in identifying the adaptor proteins and enzymatic activities that are involved in Trk and p75 receptor trafficking and signaling. These mechanistic studies are fundamental to understanding psychiatric disorders, such as anxiety, depression and schizophrenia and several neurodegenerative disorders, such as Alzheimer’s and Huntington’s diseases. In addition, Trk receptor signaling has been implicated in the etiology of cancer and pain.

Dr. Chao is a former president of the Society for Neuroscience, longtime member of the Reeve Foundation Science Advisory Council, and a member of the Cancer Center Advisory Board of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Emanuel DiCicco-Bloom, M.D.

Professor, Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

“Science advocacy and relating the value of science occurs with single individuals and families, with the private foundations they create and support, and with their elected government representatives.”

Dr. DiCicco-Bloom’s research focuses on gene and growth factor regulation of neurogenesis during brain development, using cell and animal models of neurodevelopmental disorders, including autism, schizophrenia and environmental teratogens. His laboratory has defined mechanisms by which growth factors and genes, toxicants and therapeutic drugs affect proliferation, survival and fate of stem cells from cerebral cortex, hippocampus and cerebellum in culture and *in vivo*. They are defining the roles of autism-associated gene, *Engrailed-2*, in cerebellar/hindbrain development; secondary effects on forebrain structure and function, drug rescue of behavioral deficits, as well as schizophrenia related microRNAs in corticogenesis.

Dr. DiCicco-Bloom serves on several autism and brain disease related scientific panels, including the Autism Science Foundation, the International Rhett Syndrome Foundation, and SfN Government and Public Affairs committee.

Jed A. Levine

Executive Vice President - Director, Programs and Services
Alzheimer’s Association, New York City Chapter

“We have to apply the same advocacy and obtain equitable funding for brain diseases as we have for other major diseases such as cancer, heart disease, and HIV/AIDS.”

Jed A. Levine is Executive Vice President and Director of Programs at the Alzheimer’s Association, New York City Chapter. He is the author of numerous articles on Alzheimer’s and Alzheimer’s care and the co-author of a chapter on Hospital Care for Persons with Dementia, and co-author of a chapter on Disaster Preparedness for Persons with Dementia. Mr. Levine holds a Master’s degree in Applied Human Development with a specialization in Gerontology and Community Recreation Services from Columbia University’s Teachers College. He has post-graduate training in group process from the Center for the Advancement of Group Studies.

Mr. Levine has taught at Columbia Mailman School of Public Health and Hunter College, School of the Health Professions. He was appointed to the New York State Coordinating Council for Services Related to Alzheimer’s and Other Dementias, serves on Senator Gillibrand’s Working Group on Aging and was recently appointed to the Age-Friendly New York Commission at the New York Academy of Medicine.

Libby O’Hare, Ph.D.

Program Officer, Board on Higher Education and Workforce
National Research Council, The National Academies of Sciences

“Advocacy is fundamentally about effective communication--when scientists communicate clearly about the nature, processes, and outcomes of research, the public and policymakers can clearly see the value the scientific enterprise brings to the nation.”

Libby O’Hare is a Program Officer with the Board on Higher Education and Workforce at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine in Washington, DC. Prior to joining the Academies, she served as a Legislative Assistant for Representative Rush Holt (NJ-12), where she handled energy, science, and education policy issues and staffed Rep. Holt in his role as the Senior Democrat on the Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee, House Committee on Natural Resources. Dr. O’Hare started in science policy after being selected by the Society for Research in Child Development as a 2010 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Congressional Science Policy Fellow. Dr. O’Hare is a committed advocate for evidence-based policymaking and especially enjoys being able to bring her prior experiences as an academic researcher to bear on issues in science policy. She holds a Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of California, Los Angeles and an A.B. in Psychology from Bryn Mawr College.

Daniel C. Pollay, Jr.

Director Government & Community Affairs
Weill Cornell Medical College

“Advocacy means exercising the First Amendment right to voice one’s opinion. At the same time, advocacy can help us satisfy our need for community and enrich the human experience as citizens and groups rally around their causes, working together towards a common goal.”

Dan Pollay is the Director of Government and Community Affairs at Weill Cornell Medical College. In this capacity Mr. Pollay works with senior administration, faculty, staff and students to develop and implement advocacy strategies to guide outreach to elected officials to further the clinical, educational and research missions of the institution. This includes lobbying and advocacy on policy, budget matters and capital projects. Mr. Pollay has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hartwick College and a Master of Regional Planning degree from the University at Albany.

Haug (Ho) Yu, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology and Cell Biology
Taub Institute, Columbia University Medical Center

Dr. Wai Haug (Ho) Yu received his Ph.D. in Pharmacology from the University of Toronto and has been at Columbia University since 2006. His research includes developing novel neuronal assays to identify modulators of autophagic and lysosomal activity as therapies. Dr. Yu serves as Advisor/reviewer for several funding agencies including the Veteran's Administration, ADDF, Alzheimer's Association, WG Weston Foundation (Canada). Dr. Yu co-founded the Greater NYC SfN Chapter (braiNY) in 2003 and has been active in its development and continued growth. In 2015, Ho was asked to serve on the Society for Neuroscience Governance and Public Advocacy Committee which is responsible for Capitol Hill Day and lobbying efforts to support research funding. Ho has been active in the science community focused on raising public awareness to ensure continued funding for the neuroscience community and translationally relevant research, like Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases.

COMMUNITY LEADERS

Lou-Ellen Barkan

President & Chief Executive Officer
Alzheimer's Association, NYC Chapter

Paula Croxson, D.Phil

Asst Professor, Neuroscience and Psychiatry
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Yaihara Fortis Santiago, Ph.D.

Program Manager, Science Alliance
The New York Academy of Sciences

Ross A. Frommer

Assoc. Dean for Government & Community Affairs
Columbia University Medical Center

Alex Klein, Ph.D.

Vice-President, Scientific Affairs
CurePSP

Prashant Monian

Senior Marketing Officer
Oystir

Rick Remington

Outreach Manager
Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative

Tim Spencer, Ph.D.

Senior Editor
Nature Neuroscience

Upcoming event: The Society for Neuroscience is hosting a reception and networking event for its advocacy community at the upcoming meeting in Chicago, to be held on Saturday October 17 from 4:00-5:00 PM in the Convention Center room S504A. It will immediately follow the public outreach Brain Awareness Event, which will happen from 2:30-4:00 PM in Convention Center Room N427.

Special thanks to our sponsors: Columbia University Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, NYU School of Medicine Postdoctoral Program, Rockefeller University Career Resources & Professional Development, Sloan Kettering Institute Office of Career Services



The Greater NYC Chapter of the Society for
Neuroscience presents

Science Funding: What can we do about it?

September 24, 2015, 6:30 - 9 pm

The Rockefeller University



PROGRAM

6:30 – 7:45

PANEL DISCUSSION

Event Introduction by **Moses Chao, PhD**, NYU School of Medicine
Panel Introduction by Moderator **Haug (Ho) Yu, PhD**, CUMC
Moderated questions to Panelists

Emanuel DiCicco-Bloom, MD, Rutgers University

Jed A. Levine, Alzheimer's Association, NYC Chapter

Libby O'Hare, PhD, the National Academies of Sciences

Daniel Pollay, Weill Cornell Medical College

Questions from the audience

Closing remarks – Ho Yu and panelists

Introduction of VIP guests – Abby Kalmbach & Florence Chaverneff

8:00 – 9:00

RECEPTION – Rockefeller Faculty Club