

PEARL MEISTER GREENGARD PRIZE

An International Award Recognizing Outstanding Women in Biomedical Science

2010 Award Presentation and Reception

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

6:00 p.m. Registration 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Award Presentation 7:30 – 8:00 p.m. Reception Caspary Auditorium The Rockefeller University York Avenue at 66th Street

Awardees:

Mary-Claire King, Ph.D.

American Cancer Society Professor of Medicine and Genome Sciences University of Washington

Janet D. Rowley, M.D.

Blum Riese Distinguished Service Professor of Medicine University of Chicago

Today, the understanding of cancer as a genetic disease is fundamental to biology. This year's recipients of the Pearl Meister Greengard Prize have made vital contributions to the attainment of this basic knowledge. Their work has advanced the science of genetics and improved medicine for the benefit of humankind.

Mary-Claire King was the first to show that breast cancer is inherited in some families as the result of mutations in the gene that she named BRCA1. This discovery and her influential research on the genetics of schizophrenia and of hearing loss have transformed the understanding of complex disease inheritance. Dr. King is also recognized as a pioneer in the use of DNA sequencing for human rights investigations.

Janet Davison Rowley provided the first compelling evidence that genetic abnormalities are a critical factor in cancer. Her discoveries of chromosomal translocations in leukemia and lymphoma have revolutionized cancer research and treatment. The successful cancer drug Gleevec is a stunning outcome of Dr. Rowley's seminal findings.

The **Pearl Meister Greengard Prize**, awarded annually by Rockefeller University, was established by Dr. Paul Greengard, the University's Vincent Astor Professor, and his wife, the sculptor Ursula von Rydingsvard. Dr. Greengard donated his monetary share of the 2000 Nobel Prize in Medicine to Rockefeller and, in partnership with generous supporters of the University, created this major international prize. Named in memory of Dr. Greengard's mother, who died giving birth to him, the Pearl Meister Greengard Prize provides recognition of the accomplishments of women in science.

Special Guest Speaker:

Andrea Mitchell

Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent NBC News

Andrea Mitchell has been an NBC News correspondent for more than 30 years. She reports on political and international news and hosts a daily program on MSNBC, *Andrea Mitchell Reports*.