

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

Eleventh Annual *Women & Science* Spring Lecture and Luncheon

UNDERSTANDING ADDICTION

Genes, Behavior and New Treatment Insights

Thursday, May 15, 2008

The Rockefeller University
York Avenue at East 66th Street
New York City

Lecture Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Luncheon 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Featured Speaker

Mary Jeanne Kreek, M.D.

Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Professor



As a woman who chose a career in medical research in the mid-1960s, **Mary Jeanne Kreek** displayed a pioneering spirit. As a physician-scientist studying heroin addiction in New York at that time, she demonstrated something more—a rare commitment to help patients suffering from a condition that was considered a sign of flawed character, rather than a disease with significant biological causes. Dr. Kreek played a central role in establishing addiction studies as a vital branch of biomedical science, and she continues to provide leadership and inspiration in the field to this day.

At The Rockefeller University, Dr. Kreek conducts basic and clinical research to understand how genetic factors and non-hereditary influences, such as stress, combine to raise the risk of opiate addiction, cocaine dependency, and alcoholism. She and her colleagues also explore the connections between addiction and such conditions as depression and chronic anxiety, while providing insights that are contributing to the improvement of medical pain management.

On May 15, at the *Women & Science* luncheon program, Dr. Kreek will discuss some of the latest findings in addiction research, focusing on such key questions as: Why does alcohol or drug use lead to dependency in some people, while others never become addicted? Are men or women more vulnerable to addiction? Are teenagers at greater risk today than in the past? How safe are those prescription opiates and sleep aids in the medicine cabinet? What new addiction treatments are on the horizon?

An alumna of Wellesley College, Mary Jeanne Kreek earned a medical degree from the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. She joined Rockefeller in 1964, working with Drs. Vincent Dole and Marie Nyswander to develop methadone maintenance as a treatment for heroin addiction. Today, as head of Rockefeller's Laboratory of the Biology of Addictive Diseases, Dr. Kreek directs a major research center funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Her many honors include a Betty Ford Award and an honorary doctorate from Tel Aviv University.

For ticket information, please call Ms. Laurel Birch at (212) 327-8963
or contact her at birchl@rockefeller.edu