

An Evening Program co-sponsored by:
The Rockefeller University Council and *Women & Science*

OUTWITTING CANCER: THE PROMISE OF NEW VACCINE THERAPIES

Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2006

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m

Place: Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall

The Rockefeller University

York Avenue at East 66th Street



During the past ten years, advances in early detection and therapy have significantly improved survival rates for cancer patients. Nonetheless, cancer claims more than half a million lives a year in the United States alone. The search for more effective treatments remains one of medicine's greatest challenges.

Professor **Robert B. Darnell** of The Rockefeller University is rising to the challenge with a *vaccine* strategy that represents an entirely new approach to fighting cancer. Several years ago, the Darnell laboratory provided the first solid evidence that, in some cases, the human immune system can control tumors. Due to the close biological resemblance between diseased and normal cells, however, the immune system often fails to recognize cancer. Dr. Darnell's innovative approach is designed to overcome this failure by priming the immune system to specifically target and eradicate malignant cells.

On Tuesday, January 24, Dr. Darnell will discuss his cancer vaccine at a special "Not for Women Only" meeting organized by *Women & Science* and The Rockefeller University Council. Dr. Darnell's first vaccine trial, now under way at The Rockefeller University Hospital, is studying patients with prostate cancer. The fundamental principles guiding his work, however, are applicable to the treatment of other malignancies, including tumors of the brain, lung and breast.

Dr. Darnell, the University's Robert and Harriet Heilbrunn Professor in cancer biology, is associate director of clinical programs at The Rockefeller University Hospital. An Investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, he also holds appointments at Weill Medical College of Cornell University and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

For more information please call (212) 327-7168.