

## 50<sup>th</sup> Annual *Drosophila* Research Conference

The 50<sup>th</sup> Annual *Drosophila* Research Conference was held on 4-8 March 2009 at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers. This golden anniversary of the conference was celebrated with a special tee shirt and a roundtable discussion involving several “industry legends,” some of the early influential *Drosophila* geneticists moderated by Scott Hawley. The 2009 Organizing Committee was John Carlson (Yale School of Medicine), Lynn Cooley (Yale School of Medicine), and Rick Fehon (University of Chicago). The conference was sponsored by The *Drosophila* Board in association with the Genetics Society of America, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814-3998. The Program and Abstracts Volume lists 869 presentations, including 156 platform session talks and 713 posters ([www.drosophila-conf.org](http://www.drosophila-conf.org)).

### Historical Address Roundtable

Mel Green (University of California, Davis)  
Dan Lindsley (University of California, San Diego)  
Tony Mahowald (University of Chicago)  
Thom Kaufman (Indiana University)  
Ruth Lehmann (Skirball Institute and Howard Hughes Medical Institute, New York)

### Plenary Lectures

Michael Dickinson (California Institute of Technology, Pasadena). Ethomics: Progress toward an automated analysis of behavior.  
Jennifer Zallen (Sloan-Kettering Institute, New York). Shaping the embryo: Cellular dynamics in development.  
Daniel Barbash (Cornell University, Ithaca, New York). Heterochromatin divergence: A hidden cause of speciation.  
Nick Brown (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom). Integrin adhesion and morphogenesis.  
John Reinitz (University at Stony Brook, New York). Canalization of gene expression in the *Drosophila* blastoderm.  
Wu-Min Deng (Florida State University, Tallahassee). Cell-cell communication and proliferation control.  
David Schneider (Stanford University, California). Balancing tolerance and resistance during infections of the fly.  
Barry Ganetzky (University of Wisconsin, Madison). Autophagy regulates synaptic growth at the larval neuromuscular junction.  
Mariana Wolfner (Cornell University, Ithaca, New York). Battle and ballet: Interactions between male seminal proteins and mated female *Drosophila*.  
Tadashi Uemura (Kyoto University, Japan). Roles of organelle dynamics in shaping cells.  
Daniela Drummond-Barbosa (Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee). Stem cells, insulin, and the control of oogenesis by diet in the *Drosophila*.  
Steve Henikoff (Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Washington). Structure and evolution of centromeric chromatin.

## Workshops

### Ecdysone Workshop

Organizers: Randall Hewes (University of Oklahoma, Norman) and Deborah Hoshizaki (National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland).

### Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Sex

Organizers: Michelle Arbeitman (University of Southern California, Los Angeles), Mark Van Doren (Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland), and Artyom Kopp (University of California, Davis).

### Evolution and Causes of Codon Usage in the Genus *Drosophila*

Organizer: Jeff Powell (Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut).

### Proteomics in *Drosophila*

Organizers: Alexey Veraksa (University of Massachusetts, Boston) and Ernst Hafen (ETH Zurich, Switzerland).

### The Maternal to Zygote Transition: Deciphering the Ultimate Genetic Switch

Organizers: Howard Lipshitz (The University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada) and John C. Sisson (The University of Texas, Austin).

### Quantitative Modeling in Gene Expression, Development, and Cellular Processes

Organizers: Stas Shvartsman (Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey) and David Arnosti (Michigan State University, East Lansing).

### Modencode

Organizer: Susan Celniker (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, California)

### *Drosophila* Research and Pedagogy at Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUI)

Organizers: Mark Hiller (Goucher College, Baltimore, Maryland), Alexis Nagengast (Widener University, Chester, Pennsylvania), Janet Rollins (Mount Saint Vincent College, Riverdale, New York), and Don Paetkau (Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana).

### Gases in *Drosophila* Physiology and Development

Organizers: Gret J. Beitel (Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois) and Dan Zhou (Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, New York).