

MBL SPECIAL LECTURE SERIES

Monday, June 20, 2011 • Speck Auditorium 8:00 PM



The Edward Kravitz Lectureship

"Flies and booze: Genes, circuits and their modulation by social experience"

ULRIKE HEBERLEIN, *University of California, San Francisco*

Ulrike Heberlein is Professor of Anatomy at the University of California, San Francisco, where she has worked since 1994. She received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in biochemistry at the Universidad de Concepción, Chile. Her Ph.D. work and postdoctoral fellowship were carried out at the University of California, Berkeley. Her laboratory's pioneering work on developing the fruit fly, *Drosophila*, as a model for drug addiction is nationally and internationally recognized. Dr. Heberlein received, among others, the prestigious Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (1999), the McKnight Scholar Award (1999), and the Soloway Lecture Award from NIH (2005), and is a member of the National Academy of Sciences (2010). She has served on numerous national and international committees and editorial boards, and is an author of more than 70 publications.

ABOUT THE EDWARD KRAVITZ LECTURESHIP

Edward A. Kravitz is the George Packer Berry Professor of Neurobiology at Harvard Medical School. He is a graduate of the City College of New York (B.S. in biology and chemistry) and The University of Michigan (Ph.D. in biological chemistry). His postdoctoral studies were at NIH with Drs. Earl Stadtman and P. Roy Vagelos. He went to Harvard Medical School in 1961, becoming a professor in 1969. Dr. Kravitz's research interests have centered on neurotransmitters and neuromodulators, and now focus on explorations of the role of such substances in aggression using the fruit fly, *Drosophila melanogaster*, as a model organism. In earlier studies, Dr. Kravitz and his colleagues (Kuffler, Potter, Otsuka, Iversen, and Hall) were the first to demonstrate that GABA was a neurotransmitter, and with Tony Stretton was the first to demonstrate that an intracellular fluorescent dye could be successfully used to determine neuronal geometry. The Kravitz laboratory has published over 100 papers in first rank journals. Presently, Dr. Kravitz is supported by grants from NIGMS for his research on aggression.

In addition to being a member of many professional societies including the International Society for Neuroethology where he became president in August 2004, Dr. Kravitz is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine, is a fellow of the AAAS, and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Among his awards and honors, Dr. Kravitz is most proud of his Lifetime Achievement in Mentoring Award from Harvard Medical School, and the Education Award from the Association of Neuroscience Departments and Programs.

Dr. Kravitz has long-standing interests in education. He has served as the director of the MBL's Neurobiology course, was the co-founder of the Neurobiology of Disease Teaching Workshops at the Society for Neuroscience, and the first director of the graduate program in neuroscience at Harvard University. He is committed to the education of minorities in the sciences and medicine.



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