

NEWS

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Susan Lindquist Receives the 2008 Genetics Society of America Medal

The Genetics Society of America is pleased to announce Susan Lindquist, Ph.D., The Whitehead Institute/MIT, and HHMI, Cambridge, MA, as the recipient of the 2008 Genetics Society of America medal given for outstanding contributions in the field of genetics in the last 15 years.

Dr. Lindquist is widely recognized for her work in protein folding and the consequences of misfolding, which has important implications for understanding some neurodegenerative diseases and cancers. Through this research she has also worked on heat shock proteins, prions and amyloids. Her work has provided evidence for a new paradigm in genetics based upon the inheritance of proteins with new, self-perpetuating shapes rather than new DNA sequences.

Secretary of the GSA Board from 1998-2000, Dr. Lindquist served as director of the Whitehead Institute from 2001-2004, has received numerous awards and honors, including election to National Academy of Sciences in 1997 and the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies in 2006.

The GSA Medal will be presented to Dr. Lindquist later this year at a GSA-sponsored model organism meeting.

The Genetics Society of America is a membership society representing nearly 5,000 scientists and educators in the field of genetics. The Society promotes communication of advances in genetics through its journal, *GENETICS* and by sponsoring scientific meetings on organisms widely used in genetic research including the Drosophila Research Conference, the Yeast and Molecular Biology Meeting, the International *C. elegans* Meeting, the International Conference on Cell and Molecular Biology of *Chlamydomonas*, the Fungal Genetics Conference, and the Zebrafish Development and Genetics Meeting. The Society's newest meeting, Genetic Analysis: Model Organisms to Human Biology enables investigators working on model organisms and those working in human genetics to exchange ideas in genetic research.

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