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Subject Institute of Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery

To: University Community

From: Robert McGrath, Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs
Gail Habicht, Vice President for Research
Norman Edelman, Vice President for Health Sciences

We are very pleased to announce the creation of a university-wide, interdisciplinary institute for chemical biology and drug discovery. The founding director of the institute is Distinguished Professor Iwao Ojima of the Department of Chemistry, and the institute headquarters are on the seventh floor of the Chemistry building. Individual faculty based in the departments of Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Medicine, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, Pharmacological Sciences, Physiology and Biophysics, and from the Institute for the Conservation of Tropical Environments (ICTE) and the Centers for Molecular Medicine are members of the new ICB&DD.

We expect that bringing together disciplinary experts from many parts of our campus will be important in attracting major Program Project and National Center for Research Resources Grants from the NIH. Because the overarching goal of the new institute is to have outstanding scientists collaborate in developing practical drugs, strong support from the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries are also expected.

Development funds to help launch this initiative have come from each of our vice presidential areas. The New York State Office of Science, Technology, and Academic Research (NYSTAR) also contributed substantially through a Faculty Development Award grant for Professor Ojima. We thank the chairs of departments with faculty associated with the institute, and also the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA) of the University Senate, for valuable recommendations on aspects of setting up the structure and policies for the new ICB&DD.

More information about ICB&DD can be found at the web site
<http://www.stonybrook.edu/icbdd/>