

Contact: Linda Stricker  
(301) 634-7092  
[lstricker@faseb.org](mailto:lstricker@faseb.org)

## FASEB ANNOUNCES RECIPIENT OF THE 2010 EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE AWARD

*Bethesda, MD* – The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) is pleased to announce that Susan S. Taylor, PhD, will be the recipient of the FASEB 2010 Excellence in Science Award. The award recognizes women whose outstanding career achievements in biological science have contributed significantly to further our understanding of a particular discipline by excellence in research. Dr. Taylor was one of over 50 women nominated for this prestigious award. The award, sponsored in total by Eli Lilly and Company, carries with it an unrestricted research grant of \$10K. Dr. Taylor will receive her award and present an award lecture at the 2010 Experimental Biology Meeting, to be held in Anaheim, California, April 24-28, 2010.

Dr. Taylor is Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry and Professor of Pharmacology at the University of California in San Diego, and Investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. She is regarded by many as the world's expert on cAMP-dependent protein kinase (PKA), the archetype for all the protein kinases. Her work has led to identification of functional residues important for catalysis and subunit interaction and has provided critical insight related to cAMP binding. Her lab developed a robust expression system for PKA, initially focused on the catalytic subunit and subsequently on the regulatory subunits. Dr Taylor and colleagues reported the crystal structure of the catalytic subunit of cAMP-dependent protein kinase in 1991, thereby providing critical structure-function information. Her structure of the PKA regulatory subunit in 1995 described the first mammalian receptor for cAMP and recent structures of R:C complexes further illuminate the molecular basis for PKA signaling. Her laboratory discovered and characterized accessory proteins that anchor the type I regulatory subunit to specific locations within the cell and then crystallized anchored complexes. Her collaboration with Roger Tsien led to the development of the first molecules that could be used to non-destructively image the dynamics of cAMP signals in spatial gradients inside living cells. Subsequent studies using fluorescently labeled kinase subunits showed that a heat-stable protein kinase inhibitor shuttled along with the catalytic subunit of PKA from the nucleus to the cytoplasm. Analysis of elements that regulated this process led to her discovery of the first Nuclear Export Signal (NES). Thus, she has been at the forefront of many important discoveries on signal transduction and intracellular trafficking. She has received numerous awards, including the William C. Rose Award of the ASBMB, Wyeth Research Chemistry Award, the Garvin-Olin Medal of the American Chemical Society and the Forefronts of Large Scale Computation Award from IEEE. She was elected to the American Academy of Art and Sciences in 1992 and to both the Institute of Medicine and the National Academy of Sciences in 1997 and she was selected as a Howard Hughes Medical Investigator in 1997. Her scientific contributions have continued at a fast pace, with her having published over 300 peer reviewed articles, most in top tier journals. Her service contributions reflect a similar level of commitment, including service as President of the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB). Dr. Taylor also has been an outstanding mentor of medical students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty. Letters from trainees highlight that her commitment to excellence in training resembles her commitment to excellence in science.

Professor Taylor received her B.A. in Chemistry from the University of Wisconsin, and her PhD in Physiological Chemistry from The Johns Hopkins University. She was a postdoctoral fellow of the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology in Cambridge, England 1969-1970 and a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at the University of California, San Diego 1971-1972. Professor Taylor has been the recipient of numerous honors, fellowships and awards throughout her career, and has authored more than 300 publications.

**For more information, please visit the FASEB Excellence in Science website: <http://www.faseb.org/excellenceinscience>.**

*FASEB is composed of 22 societies with more than 95,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB enhances the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. FASEB's mission is to advance biological science through collaborative advocacy for research policies that promote scientific progress and education and lead to improvements in human health.*