

**THE 2021 ELKINS MEMORIAL LECTURE COMPETITION
COLD SPRING HARBOR NEUROBIOLOGY OF DROSOPHILA MEETING**

May 11, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

In 1991, with the approval and assistance of the *Drosophila* neurobiology community, Barry Ganetzky and Corey Goodman established a lecture to honor the memory of Tom Elkins, a student and colleague who was tragically killed by a drunk driver. Their aim was to award the honor of presenting this lecture to a student who conducted the most original and significant research in *Drosophila* neurobiology during the previous two years. The expenses of attending the CSH *Drosophila* meeting to present this lecture are fully reimbursed. Previous Elkins lecturers include William Zagotta (1991), Ilaria Rebay (1993), Troy Littleton (1995), Hongkui Zeng (1997), Peter Clyne (1999), Julie Simpson (2001), Greg Jefferis (2003), Mathias Wernet (2005), Richard Daniels (2007), Young Kwon (2009), Cory Root (2011), Jan Melom (2013), Philip Coen (2015), Raphael Cohn (2017) and Stephen Zhang (2019). The Elkins Lecture is always a highlight of the CSH *Drosophila* Neurobiology meeting and an opportunity to promote our graduate student colleagues.

On behalf of the *Drosophila* neurobiology community, I am soliciting your help in identifying outstanding students as candidates to present the 15th Elkins Lecture at the CSH Neurobiology of *Drosophila* meeting, which will be held from October 5 – October 9, 2021 (virtual or in person TBD). Graduate students working in any area of *Drosophila* neurobiology are eligible. Suitable candidates should be nominated by their thesis advisor on the basis of work that was carried out or completed since the last CSH meeting in October 2019. **A nomination letter outlining the qualifications of the candidate and the significance of the research, the student's CV and PDFs of relevant reprints or manuscripts should be submitted electronically to troy@mit.edu by July 16, 2021** (the abstract deadline for the meeting). The Elkins Award Committee will notify the recipient of the honor by the first week of September.

Thanks for your help in ensuring this lectureship will continue to recognize outstanding young members of our field and serve as a lasting memorial to Tom Elkins.

Sincerely,



J. Troy Littleton, M.D., Ph.D.
Menicon Professor of Neuroscience
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Nominations to: troy@mit.edu