



# THE GUILD NEWSLETTER

## 2010 Bressler Prize Awarded to Leader in New Approaches to Treatment of Neovascular Eye Diseases

In October, The Guild awarded its Alfred W. Bressler Prize in Vision Science to Martin Friedlander, MD, PhD. Dr. Friedlander is Professor in the Department of Cell Biology and in the Graduate Program in Macromolecular and Cellular Structure and Chemistry at The Scripps Research Institute. He is also Staff Ophthalmologist and Chief of Retina Service at Scripps Clinic and Green Hospital in La Jolla, CA. The 2010 Prize was presented at a luncheon held at the Asia Society.

The luncheon was preceded by a series of presentations by vision professionals, including prize winner Dr. Friedlander, who was introduced by Günter Blobel, MD, PhD, Professor at The Rockefeller University, New York, and recipient of the Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology, 1999.

### Stem Cells, Health Policy and Eye Diseases

At The Scripps Research Institute, Dr. Friedlander's interests focus on stem cell approaches to understanding the basic underlying mechanisms of ocular angiogenesis and to identifying therapeutic approaches to treating ocular neovascular and neurodegenerative diseases such as age-related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy.

Dr. Friedlander received his MD from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center, his PhD from The University of Chicago and his AB from Bowdoin College. He completed his residency in ophthalmology followed by a retina fellowship at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Before joining the staff at The Scripps Research Institute in 1993, Dr. Friedlander served on the faculties of The Rockefeller University and UCLA.



*Guild President Alan R. Morse, JD, PhD (right), presenting Martin Friedlander, MD, PhD, winner of the 2010 Bressler Prize in Vision Science, with an engraved commemorative crystal prism.*

### INSIDE STORIES

- ▶ **Young Visionaries** ..... page 3
- ▶ **Orientation & Mobility** ... page 4
- ▶ **Guild Students' Art Exhibit** ..... page 6

Lois Smith, MD, PhD, Professor of Ophthalmology at Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School and win-

*Continued on page 2* ▶

ner of the Bressler Prize in 2006, made introductory remarks. In addition to Dr. Friedlander, whose presentation was entitled *Adult and induced pluripotent stem cells for retinal vascular and neurodegenerative diseases*, the speakers were:

**Eyal Banin, MD, PhD**, Professor, Center for Retinal and Macular Degeneration, Department of Ophthalmology, Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center, Jerusalem, Israel: *Embryonic stem cells for retinal diseases*

**Stanley Chang, MD**, Chairman and Professor of Ophthalmology, Department of Ophthalmology, Columbia University; Director of the Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute, New York, NY; Member of the Bressler Prize Selection Committee: *Retinal vascular and neurodegenerative diseases*

**Joseph Hammang, PhD**, Senior Director,



*Joseph B. Walsh, MD, (left) receives a commemorative crystal prism from Dr. Alan R. Morse. Both Dr. Walsh and John G. Clarkson, MD, who also received the commemorative prism, are stepping down from active involvement on the Bressler Prize Selection Committee.*

Worldwide Science Policy and Public Affairs, Pfizer Global Research and Development, New London, CT: *Stem cells and the pharmaceutical industry: an eye to therapeutics*

**John Callahan, JD**, Partner, Health Care Law Group, McDermott Will & Emery, Chicago, IL: *Health Care Reform Act: Impact on new technologies*

**David Friedlander, AB**, Medical Student, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine; Chair, Organization of Student Representatives, American Association of Medical Colleges: *Federal stem cell policy*

For more information on The Alfred W. Bressler Prize in Vision Science, call Gordon Rovins, Guild Director of Special Programs, on 212-769-7801 or e-mail [bressler@jgb.org](mailto:bressler@jgb.org). ◀



*2010 Bressler Symposium Speakers: Lois Smith, MD, PhD (left); John Callahan, JD; Joseph Hammang, PhD; Günter Blobel, MD, PhD; Martin Friedlander, MD, PhD; David Friedlander, AB; Eyal Banin, MD, PhD; and Stanley Chang, MD.*