

CSR News Flash

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## **Dr. Amy Rubinstein Named Chief of CSR's Oncology 1 – Basic Translational Review Group**

The NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR) has selected Dr. Amy Rubinstein to be the new Chief of its CSR Oncology 1 – Basic Translational (ONC-1) Integrated Review Group (IRG). Dr. Rubinstein has been the Scientific Review Officer for CSR's Gene and Drug Delivery Systems (GDD) study section. GDD reviews applications across several institutes, with over a third focusing on cancer research.



“We are pleased that Dr. Rubinstein will take charge of this key review group,” said CSR Director Dr. Richard Nakamura. “Since coming to CSR in 2008, she has proven to be a remarkable leader and mentor.” He noted that she excelled as CSR's coordinator for the review of Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer applications, Co-Chair of the trans-NIH SBIR Shorten the Cycle Committee, and leader of CSR's assessment of direct ranking and half-point scoring as alternatives to the current system for scoring grant

applications.

The OBT IRG reviews NIH grant applications that involve basic and translational investigations that encompass cancer initiation, promotion, progression, and metastasis. It specifically reviews applications related to chemical and environmental induced carcinogenesis, cancer genetics, tumor biology, oncogenic transformation, regulation of tumor metastasis and angiogenesis, mechanisms of interactions between tumor and host system, and pathological approaches to oncogenesis.

Dr. Rubinstein earned a Ph.D. in biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill studying the molecular genetics of pollen development in maize. She did her postdoctoral research at the Carnegie Institution of Washington, where she used the zebrafish model to advance research in multiple therapeutic areas, including angiogenesis in the context of cancer therapy. Dr. Rubinstein then helped form a start-up biotechnology company (Zygogen, LLC), which worked to design zebrafish assays for drug discovery. During her tenure there, she served as Director and Vice President of Research.

### **About CSR**

CSR organizes the peer review groups that evaluate the majority of grant applications submitted to NIH. These groups include experienced and respected researchers from across the country and abroad. Since 1946, CSR's mission has been to see that NIH grant applications receive fair, independent, expert, and timely reviews — free from inappropriate influences — so NIH can fund the most promising research. CSR also receives all incoming applications and assigns them to the NIH Institutes and Centers that fund grants. For more information, go to CSR's Web site— <http://www.csr.nih.gov> —or phone 301-435-1111.

**About NIH**

NIH — the Nation's Medical Research Agency — includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting basic, clinical and translational medical research, and it investigates the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit <http://www.nih.gov>