

The background of the entire page is a complex, abstract design. It features numerous thin, flowing white lines that create a sense of movement and depth, resembling a topographical map or a network of veins. Overlaid on these lines are several irregular, elongated shapes that resemble biological structures, possibly neurons or cells. These shapes are filled with a vibrant, multi-colored pattern of red, blue, and green, suggesting a microscopic view of tissue or a complex molecular structure. The overall effect is one of scientific elegance and dynamic energy.

2021–2022

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

Graduate Program in Bioscience

The David Rockefeller Graduate Program

The Rockefeller University is dedicated to improving human health through transformative discoveries and advanced education in the life sciences.

We are a vibrant, collaborative scientific community of approximately **69** faculty members, **240** graduate students, **215** postdocs, and **1,325** research and support staff.

Each of our laboratories is led by a Rockefeller scientist who reports directly to the president. We have **10** broad areas of research, but **0** formal departments and a lean administration with minimal bureaucracy.

Our **16**-acre campus on Manhattan's Upper East Side is the site of **565,000** square feet of lab space, as well as faculty and administrative offices, event facilities, and housing.

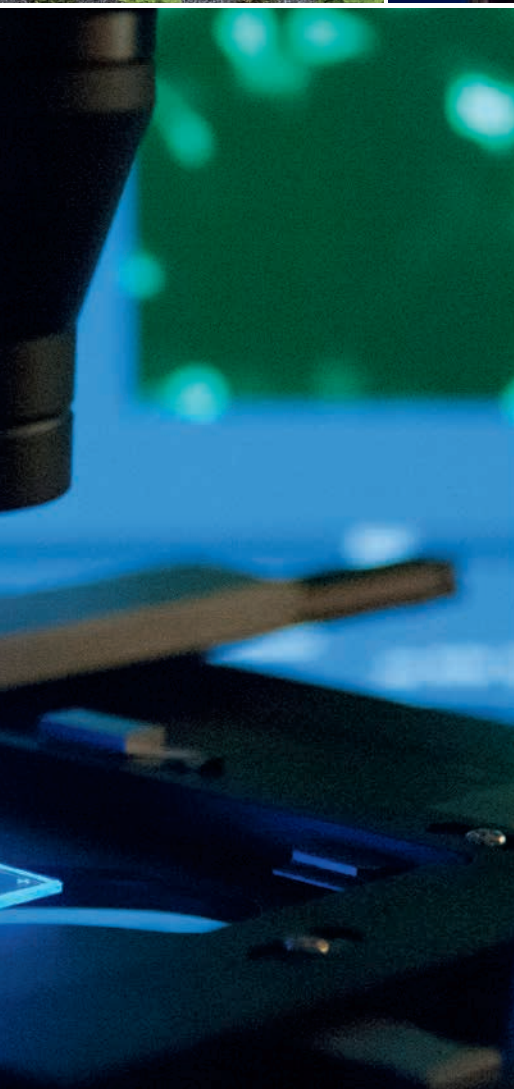
Rockefeller scientists have won **26** Nobel Prizes since our founding in 1901. **40** percent of our current faculty are members of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences.

We are a modern, thriving institution: We have an annual research budget of over **\$245** million and have invested over **\$1** billion in new facilities and scientific equipment over the past decade.

Our graduate program attracts exceptional Ph.D. students from around the world. They pay **\$0** in tuition.

Images: Liling Wan, Alexandra Rowley, Mario Morgado, Mario Morgado, Zachary Veilleux, Zachary Veilleux, Mario Morgado





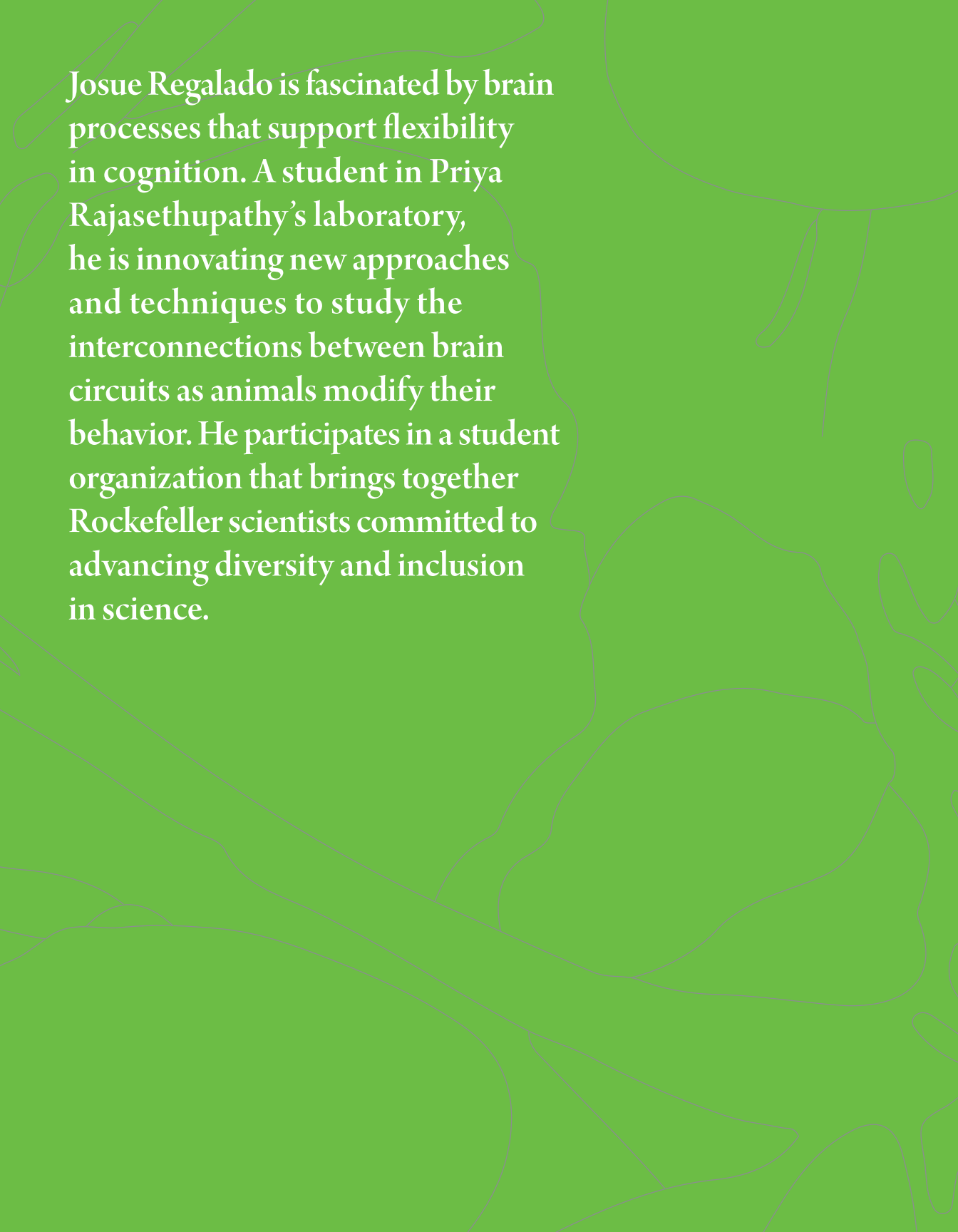


**“You can leave a
tremendous impact as
a Rockefeller student.
The graduate program
encourages you to ask
big-picture questions
and become a champion
for diversity and
inclusion.”**

Josue Regalado





The background of the image features a solid teal color with several thin, white, wavy lines that meander across the frame, creating an abstract, organic pattern. These lines vary in thickness and direction, some flowing horizontally while others curve more sharply.

Josue Regalado is fascinated by brain processes that support flexibility in cognition. A student in Priya Rajasethupathy's laboratory, he is innovating new approaches and techniques to study the interconnections between brain circuits as animals modify their behavior. He participates in a student organization that brings together Rockefeller scientists committed to advancing diversity and inclusion in science.

ROCKEFELLER'S
supportive, flexible
ACADEMIC PROGRAM IS DESIGNED
TO ENCOURAGE **exploration**
and independence.

To learn science, do science. It's the foundation of our educational program and the key to our students' success. The laboratory is the centerpiece of a Rockefeller education. With help from the Dean's Office and faculty, students choose a mentor and project, acquire relevant coursework, and plan and execute experiments designed to yield new knowledge.



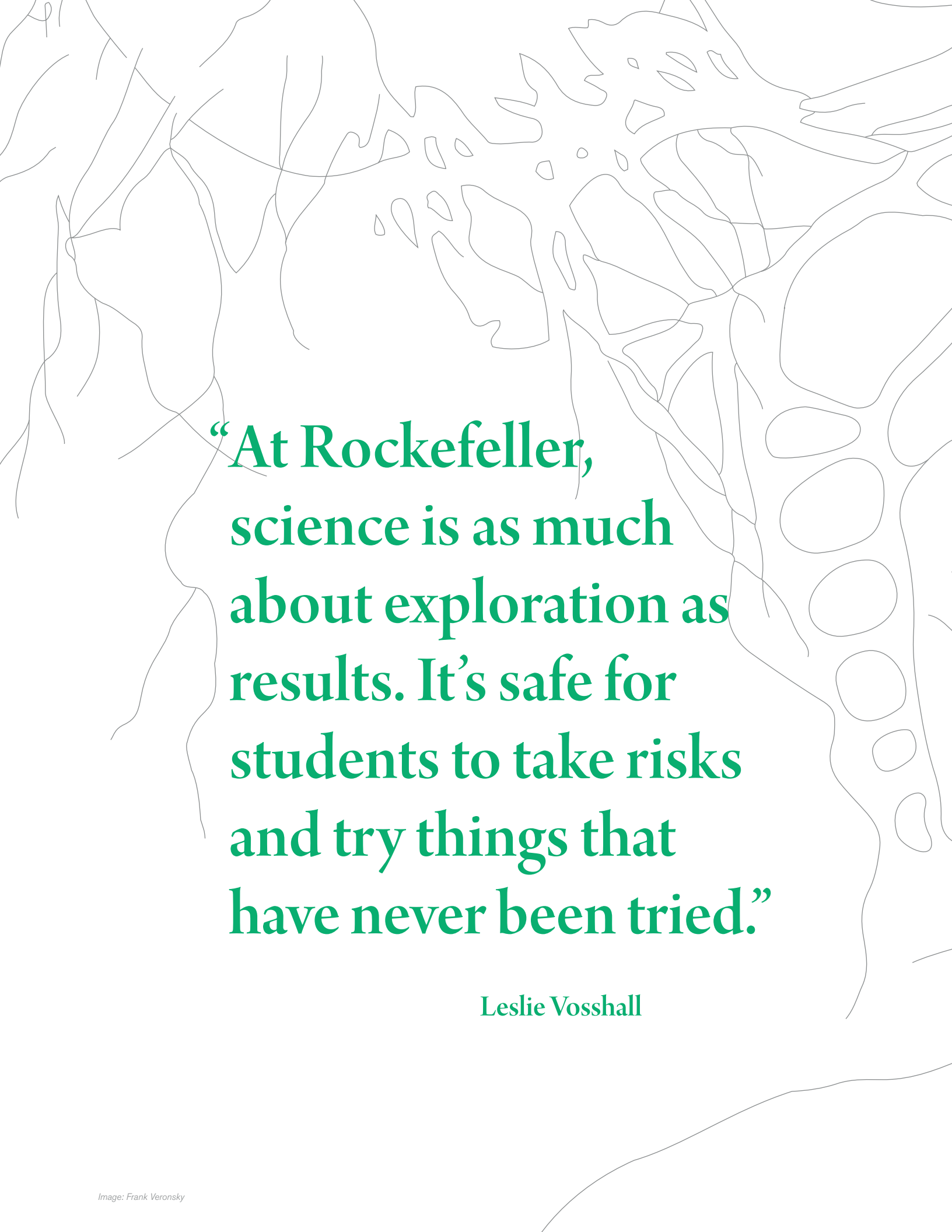


ROCKEFELLER IS
a diverse scientific village
WHERE FACULTY AND STUDENTS
work together as equals.





With no departments and a unique, collaborative culture, Rockefeller's structure is designed to stimulate interaction between researchers from different disciplines. Students are an essential part of the 2,000-member community and play a leading role in much of its ongoing research. Many thesis projects lead to first-author publications in top-tier journals.

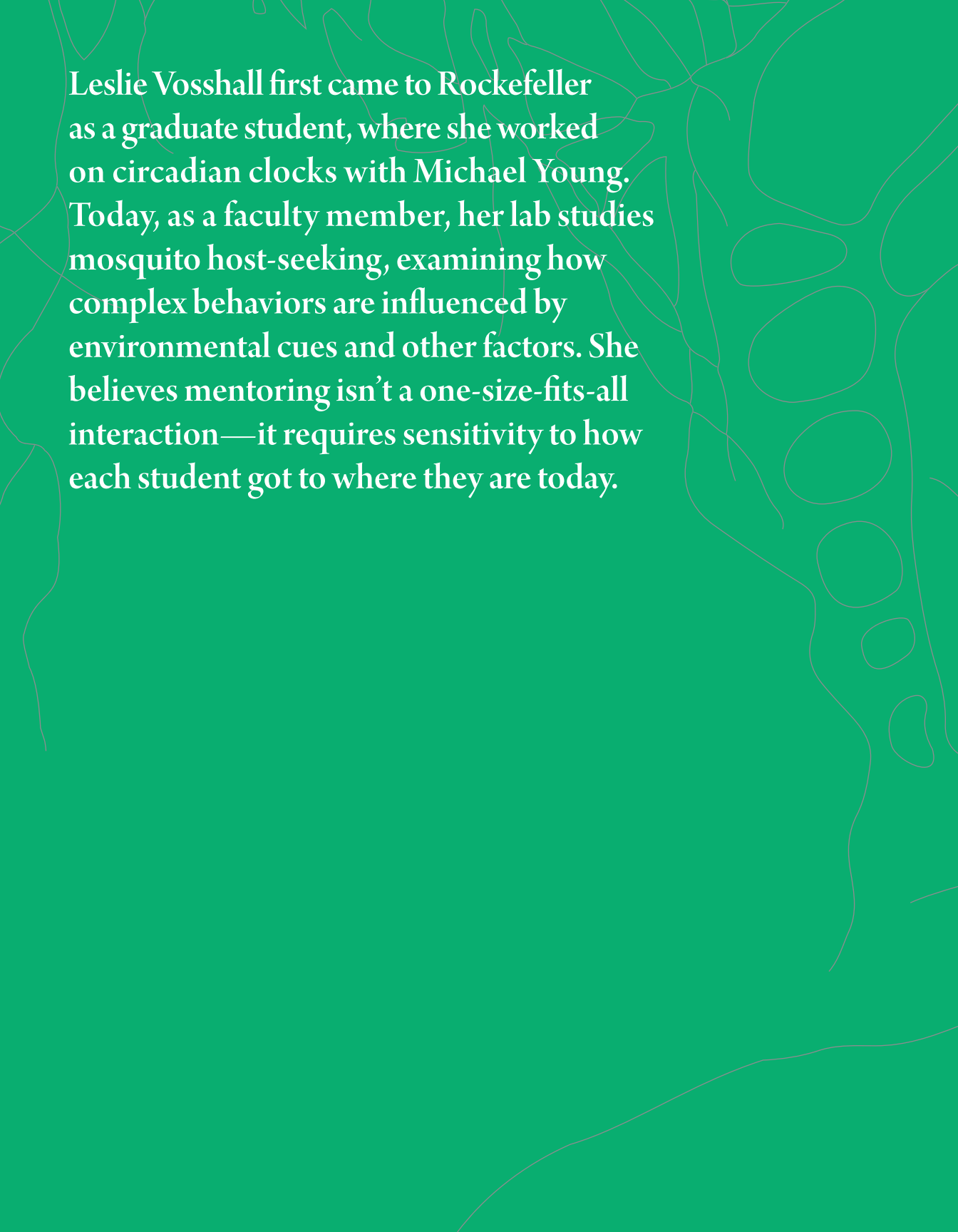
The background of the image is a light gray abstract line art. It consists of various thin, flowing lines that create organic, somewhat chaotic shapes, resembling a microscopic view of cells or a network of fibers. The lines are more dense in some areas and more sparse in others, creating a textured, layered effect.

**“At Rockefeller,
science is as much
about exploration as
results. It’s safe for
students to take risks
and try things that
have never been tried.”**

Leslie Vosshall







Leslie Vosshall first came to Rockefeller as a graduate student, where she worked on circadian clocks with Michael Young. Today, as a faculty member, her lab studies mosquito host-seeking, examining how complex behaviors are influenced by environmental cues and other factors. She believes mentoring isn't a one-size-fits-all interaction—it requires sensitivity to how each student got to where they are today.

OUR **bright, creative faculty**
ARE AMONG THE BEST IN THEIR FIELDS
AND INCLUDE
INTERNATIONAL **prizewinners**
and pioneers.

Rockefeller faculty members are passionate, curious, and energetic. They are also highly decorated: Rockefeller has been home to 26 scientific Nobel Prize winners over the years. Faculty recruitment is an ongoing process designed to identify and attract the best bioscientists in the world, regardless of what they study.









WE INVEST HEAVILY IN OUR PEOPLE,

PROVIDING THE **infrastructure
and technology**

THEY NEED TO

EXPERIMENT AND EXPLORE.



Great people need great places to work. Our newest laboratory building, opened in 2019, spans nearly four city blocks on two levels. Built over Manhattan's FDR Drive, a busy six-lane highway, it houses 23 labs in 130,000 square feet of open-plan lab space, with stunning East River views. It's part of Rockefeller's 120-year tradition of investing in the tools and technology that make high-risk, high-reward science possible.

ROCKEFELLER STUDENTS LEARN

shoulder-to-shoulder

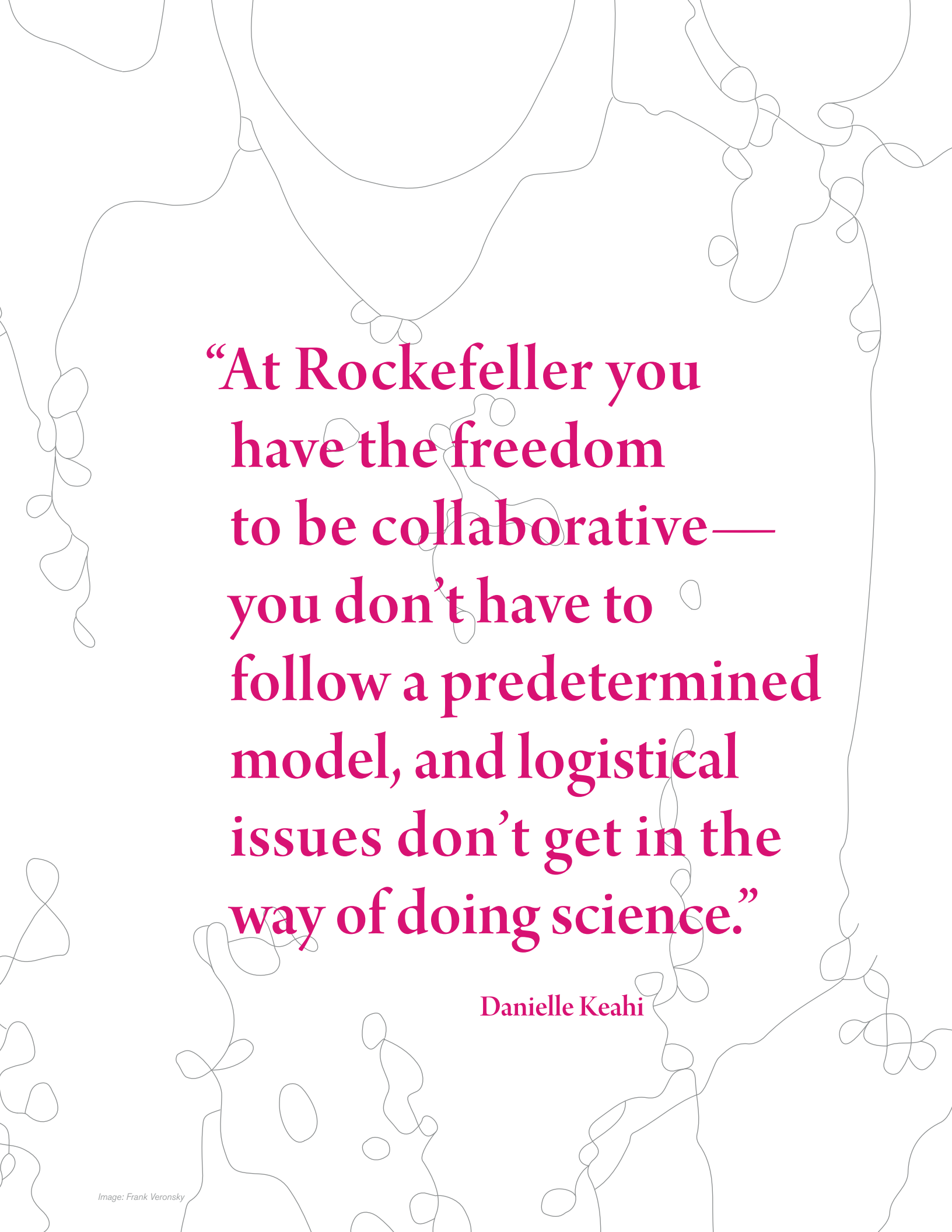
WITH DEDICATED, WORLD-RENOWNED MENTORS.

Image: Frank Veronsky



The world's brightest students should learn science alongside the best professors in the world. With 69 choices, there's a laboratory—and an advisor—for any interest. And since faculty administrative responsibilities are minimal, students and mentors have time for one-on-one interactions and impromptu learning.



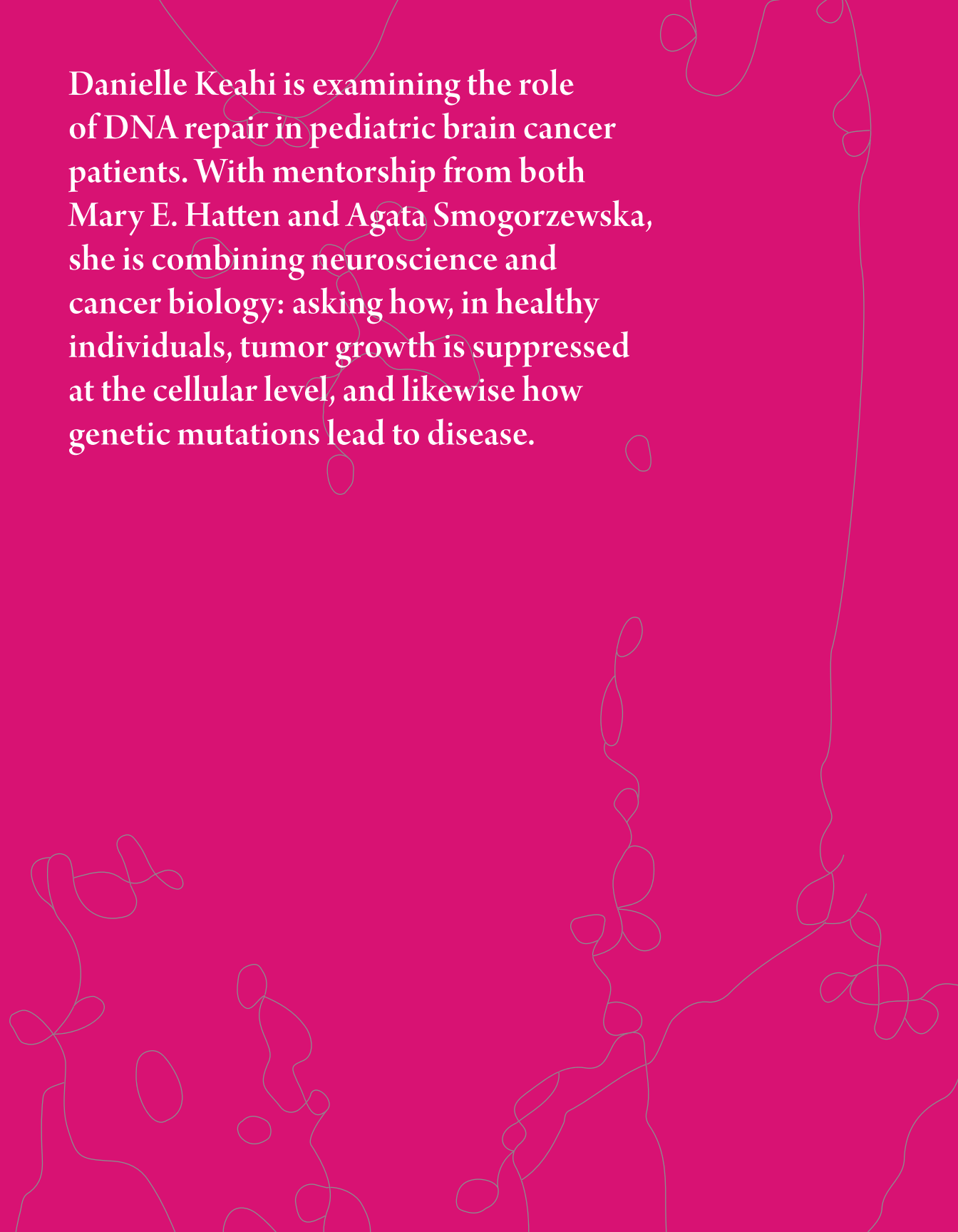
The background of the image is a white surface covered with intricate, thin, grey line art. These lines form a complex, organic web of loops, swirls, and elongated shapes, resembling a microscopic view of a network or a stylized botanical structure. The lines are of uniform thickness and are scattered across the entire frame, creating a textured, almost lace-like effect.

**“At Rockefeller you
have the freedom
to be collaborative—
you don’t have to
follow a predetermined
model, and logistical
issues don’t get in the
way of doing science.”**

Danielle Keahi





The background of the page is a solid dark teal color. It is decorated with intricate, white, hand-drawn line art. These lines form a complex network of loops, swirls, and organic shapes, resembling a microscopic view of cells or a neural network. The lines are of varying thickness and extend across the entire page, creating a textured and artistic backdrop for the text.

Danielle Keahi is examining the role of DNA repair in pediatric brain cancer patients. With mentorship from both Mary E. Hatten and Agata Smogorzewska, she is combining neuroscience and cancer biology: asking how, in healthy individuals, tumor growth is suppressed at the cellular level, and likewise how genetic mutations lead to disease.



WE PROVIDE GENEROUS

**professional and
personal support**

THAT ALLOWS OUR STUDENTS TO TAKE ON

learning, not debt.

Cells and genes, not dollars and bills,
are the focus of a Rockefeller education.
We take care of the finances, including a
stipend, health insurance, and an annual
research budget. Our on-campus Child and
Family Center provides affordable group
childcare for the entire community.

THE PROGRAM LEADERS GET TO KNOW

EVERY STUDENT ONE-ON-ONE, HELPING EACH

plan and execute

AN INDIVIDUALIZED COURSE OF STUDY.



In addition to mentorship from faculty advisors, students receive careful, thoughtful guidance from deans Sid Strickland and Emily Harms. Their job is to listen to what each student needs, and help create a strategy to achieve it.



CAREER DEVELOPMENT STAFF

HELP STUDENTS

explore options AND clarify goals.

Students have many opportunities to partner with Rockefeller's Assistant Dean and Director of Career and Professional Development, Andrea Morris, to build a rewarding career in science. From traditional academic appointments to jobs in biotech, pharma, business, and policy, students are supported to explore possibilities, and build appropriate skills and networks.

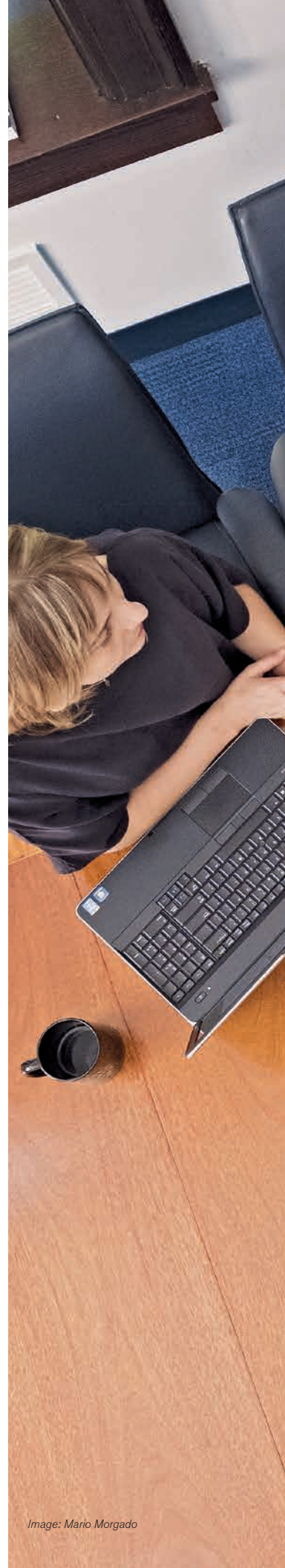
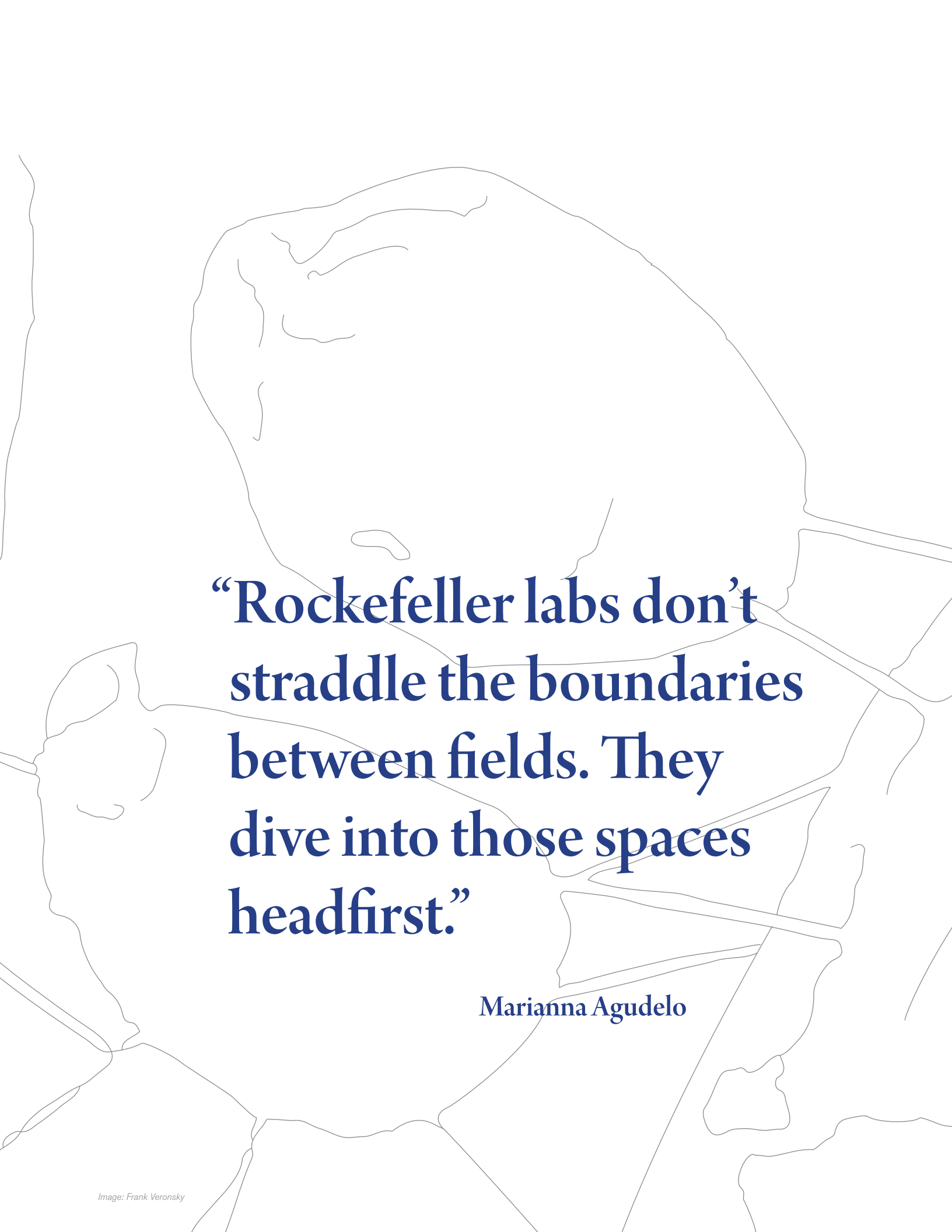


Image: Mario Morgado



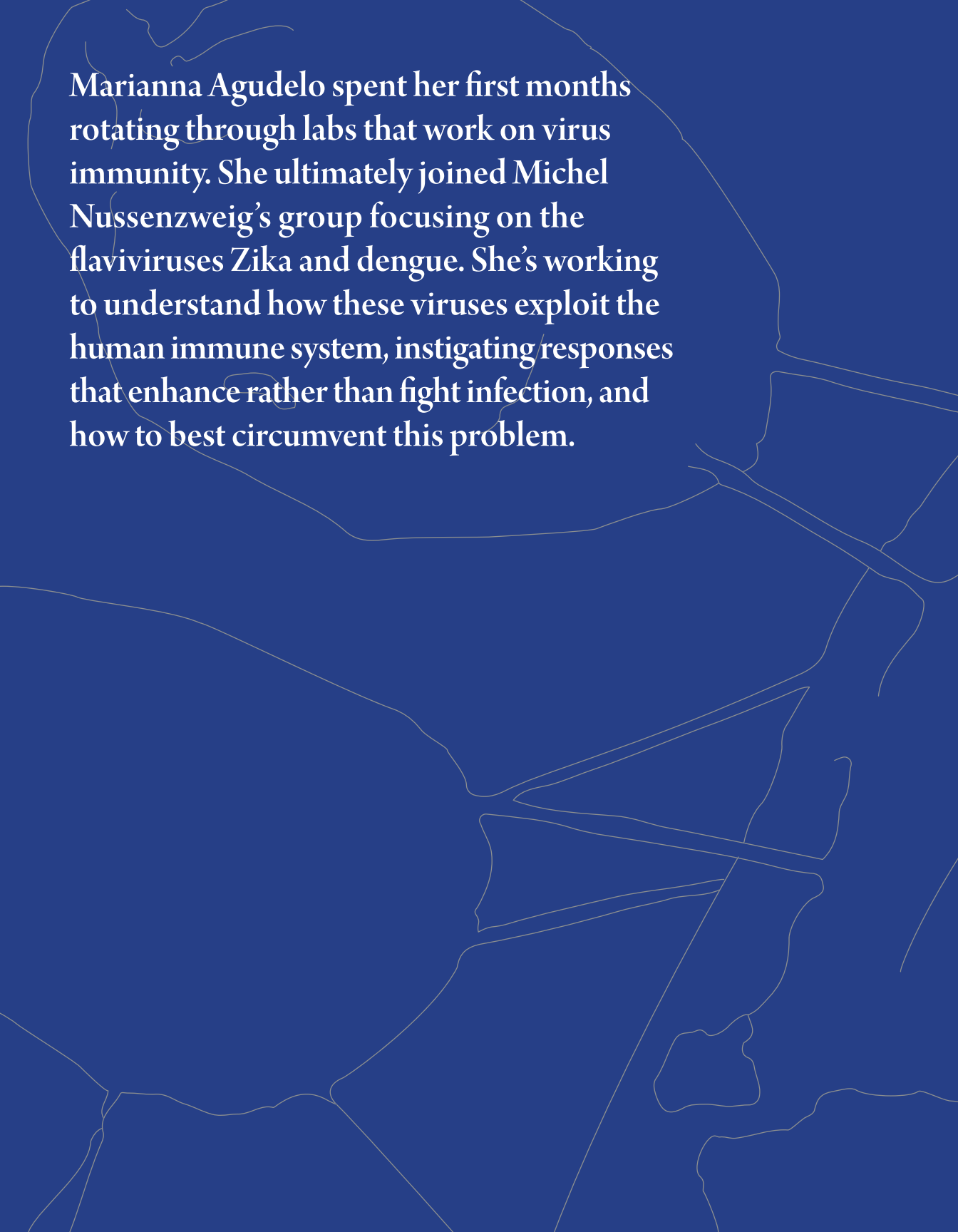


**“Rockefeller labs don’t
straddle the boundaries
between fields. They
dive into those spaces
headfirst.”**

Marianna Agudelo







Marianna Agudelo spent her first months rotating through labs that work on virus immunity. She ultimately joined Michel Nussenzweig's group focusing on the flaviviruses Zika and dengue. She's working to understand how these viruses exploit the human immune system, instigating responses that enhance rather than fight infection, and how to best circumvent this problem.

ROCKEFELLER STUDENTS
ARE PART OF A **tight-knit
community**
THAT'S SUPPORTIVE, RESPECTFUL,
DIVERSE, AND FUN.

Image: Jacob Pritchard





The vast majority of students, postdocs, and faculty live on or near campus. There are barbecues, concerts, lectures, and film screenings, not to mention opportunities for informal gatherings at the Faculty and Students Club.



A man and a woman are sitting on a brown couch in a modern apartment. The man, wearing a striped polo shirt and blue shorts, is looking towards the woman. The woman, wearing a blue t-shirt and jeans, has her back to the camera. In the background, there is a white shelving unit with various items, a glass coffee table with water glasses, and a doorway leading to another room.

STUDENT RESIDENCES ARE

**convenient, affordable,
and guaranteed.**

All Rockefeller students receive subsidized housing from arrival through graduation. Bring your own furniture or use ours—either way the apartments are clean, secure, and comfortable, and rents start at \$720.

STUDENT LIFE IS ALSO ABOUT THE
extracurriculars.
OUR STUDENTS PERFORM IN ORCHESTRAS,
PLAY LEAGUE SPORTS,
AND VOLUNTEER IN THE COMMUNITY.



A close-up, profile view of a young man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a red sweater, playing a double bass. He is looking down at the instrument. The background is a blurred lecture hall with blue seats.

Both scientific and nonscientific speakers fill the university's lecture calendar, and many make time for informal luncheons with small groups of students. And there are numerous options for the athletically or musically inclined, including a Tri-Institutional orchestra composed entirely of medical and scientific professionals.

ROCKEFELLER'S **New York City campus**

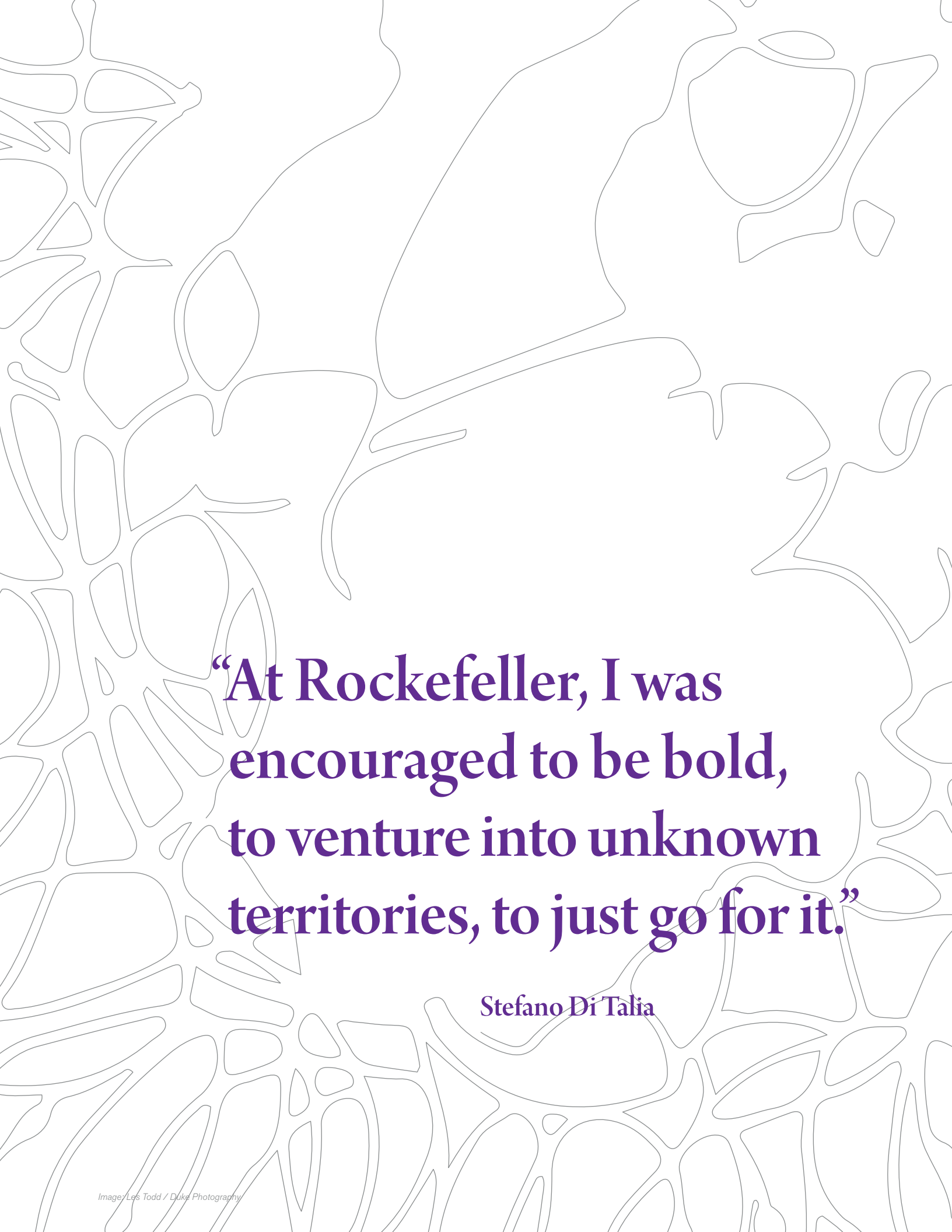
PUTS STUDENTS AT THE
global epicenter

OF CULTURE AND COMMERCE.



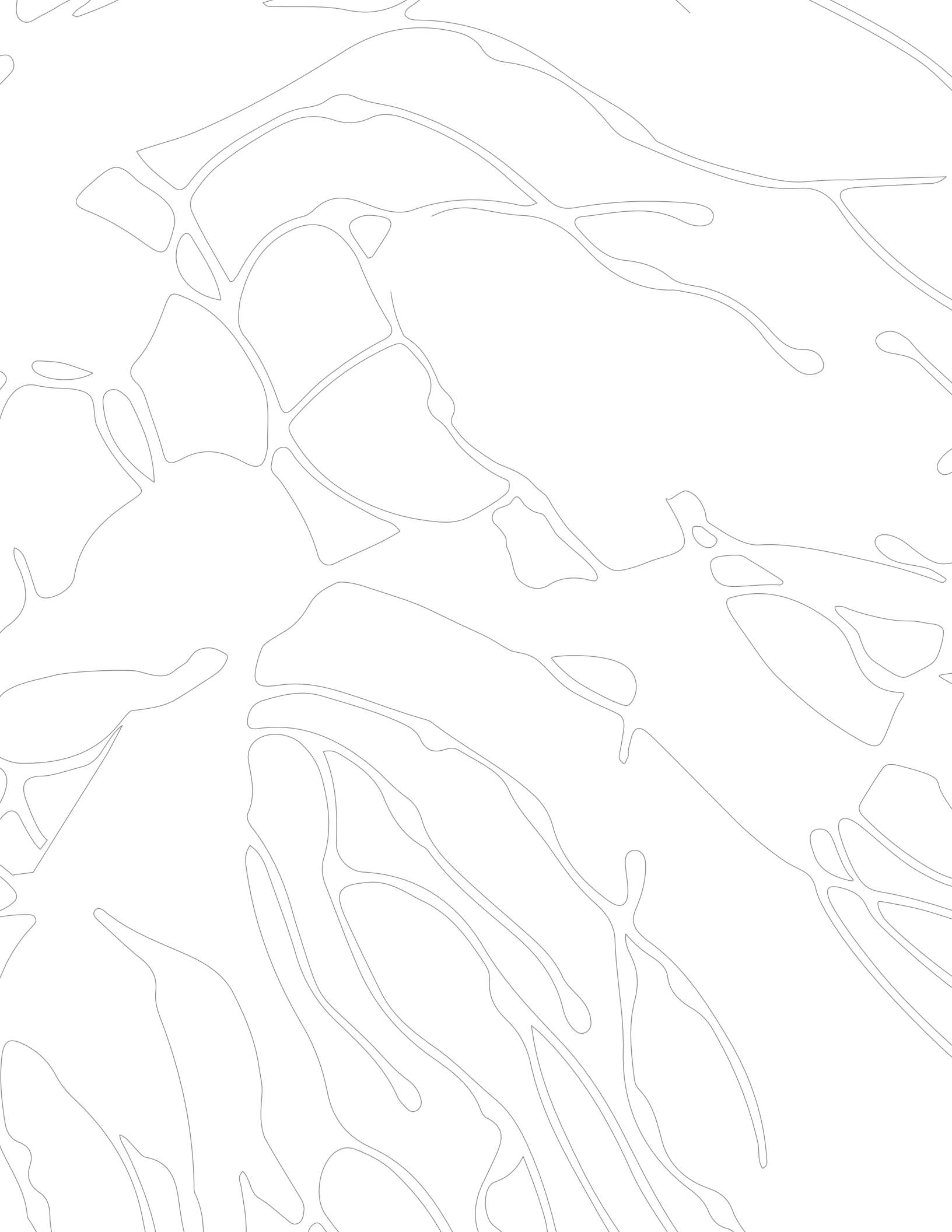
Rockefeller's leafy, serene campus belies its location at the heart of one of the world's truly great cities, where easy access to museums, concerts, and theater provides an artistic balance to scientific education. New York City is also a burgeoning hub of bioscience activity, with more than a dozen academic institutions and a growing biotech industrial sector.



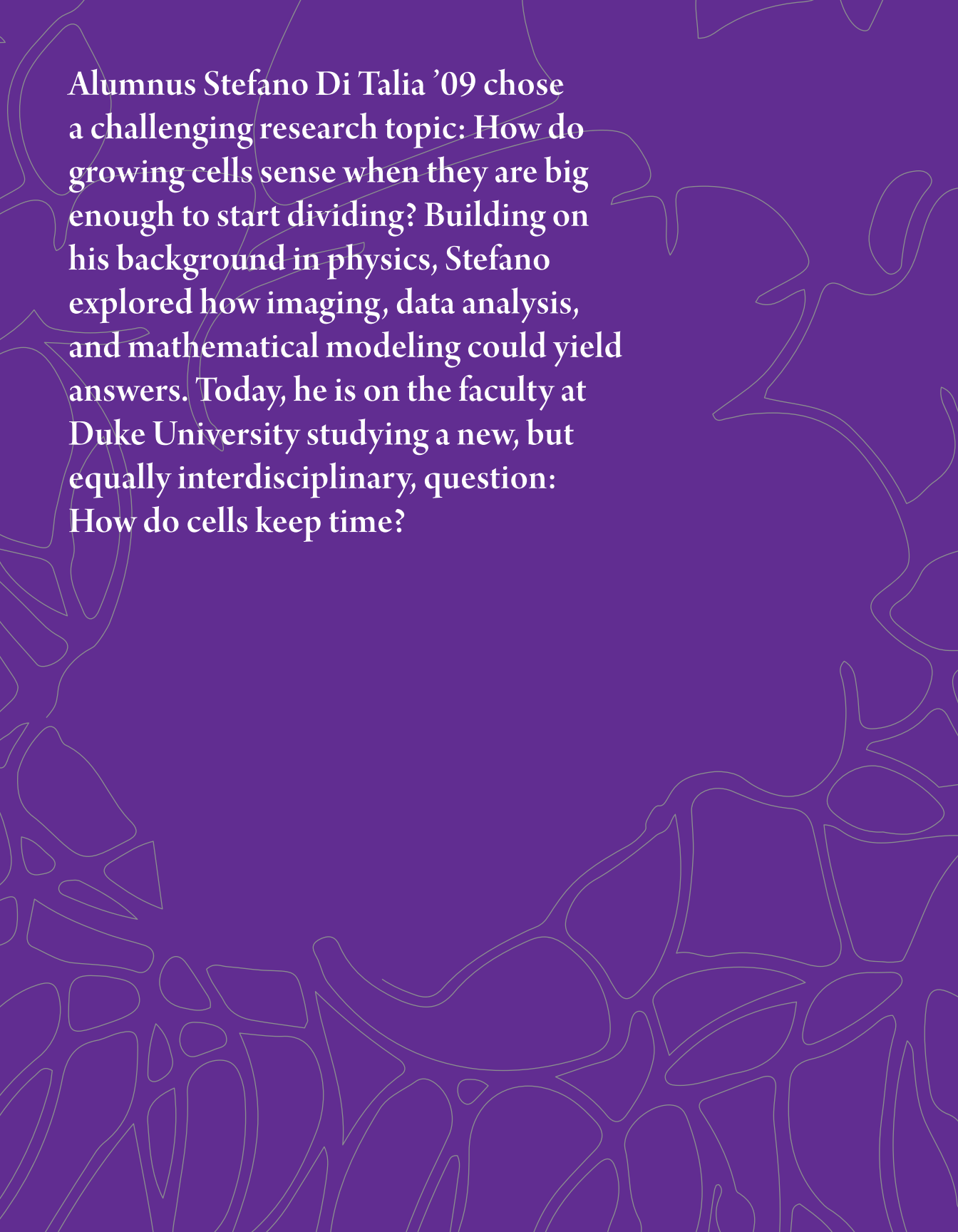


**“At Rockefeller, I was
encouraged to be bold,
to venture into unknown
territories, to just go for it.”**

Stefano Di Talia





The background of the entire page is a solid purple color. Overlaid on this background is a network of thin, white, hand-drawn lines that form an abstract pattern resembling a biological cell or a network of fibers. These lines are thicker in some areas and thinner in others, creating a sense of depth and movement. The pattern is most dense in the lower half of the image and fades slightly towards the top.

Alumnus Stefano Di Talia '09 chose a challenging research topic: How do growing cells sense when they are big enough to start dividing? Building on his background in physics, Stefano explored how imaging, data analysis, and mathematical modeling could yield answers. Today, he is on the faculty at Duke University studying a new, but equally interdisciplinary, question: How do cells keep time?

A ROCKEFELLER EDUCATION OPENS DOORS
TO CAREERS IN ACADEMIC RESEARCH
AND MANY OTHER DISCIPLINES.

Whatever your path, the skills you'll gain in critical thinking, experimental rigor, and analytical reasoning—not to mention the friendships and collaborations you'll form—will last a lifetime. Thirty-one of our 1,300 graduates are members of the National Academy of Sciences, and two have won Nobel Prizes. Their success speaks for itself.

▼ **Nicole Creanza '11**, assistant professor at Vanderbilt University, is continuing the path she charted at Rockefeller, studying how the complex process of cultural evolution interacts with genetic evolution. Her favorite part of the job so far: mentoring graduate and undergraduate students as they forge independent research projects.



▲ **Cameron Bess '09** spent his time at Rockefeller working on viruses that affect millions of people. Now a Project Officer and Biologist at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), he's working to build the capacity of researchers in developing countries to tackle their own scientific challenges by connecting them with federally funded US scientists studying issues such as food security, disaster mitigation, child health, and infectious disease.



Alumni Career Outcomes 2010-2020



◀ During graduate school, **Maryam Zaringhaleh '17** determined she wanted to focus on science communication and advocacy. Currently, as a Data Science and Open Science Officer at the National Library of Medicine, she is engaged in policy development in areas such as open access science, collaboration, and result reproducibility. Maryam is also a producer for The Story Collider's podcast and has written for outlets including Slate, *Scientific American*, and Quartz.

Postdoc

31%



▲ **Dirk Hockemeyer '07** and **Helen Bateup '08**, who met at Rockefeller, both accepted faculty positions at UC Berkeley. Dirk works on telomeres—repetitive DNA sequences that protect chromosome ends—and Helen is interested in mutations associated with neurodevelopmental disorders.

Industry/Biotech

18%

Faculty

15%

Research Staff

11%

Finance

6%

Consulting

4%

Education

3%

Government

2%

Medicine

2%

Nonprofit

2%

Writing/Publishing

2%

Law

1%

Other

3%

How to apply

The David Rockefeller Graduate Program is devoted to advanced education in the biomedical and physical sciences. The Rockefeller University is committed to recruiting and supporting a diverse graduate community, and encourages applications from individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. Rockefeller seeks to recruit the very best students from around the world, and offers hands-on training in the laboratory as well as a roster of required and elective courses on general research topics and scientific specialties. There is no core curriculum for the Ph.D. In consultation with the dean of graduate studies, students choose a flexible combination of courses totaling seven academic units taken in the first and second years.

The program charges no tuition. Students receive a \$44,250 annual stipend, and are guaranteed housing on or near campus at rents ranging from \$720 to \$1,262 a month. They are covered by comprehensive health, dental, and vision insurance plans. Students who obtain competitive fellowships from outside sources receive a stipend supplement from Rockefeller.

Applications are evaluated by faculty working in a wide range of fields, and they look for students who have demonstrated a commitment to scientific excellence and who they believe will thrive in a flexible, interdisciplinary program.

Prerequisites

Students who enter the Ph.D. program must have received a bachelor or master of arts or sciences, or doctor of medicine or equivalent international qualification. Applicants must demonstrate a high level of achievement in the biological, chemical, mathematical, or physical sciences.

Application Process

Applications must be submitted online at graduateapplication.rockefeller.edu. They must include:

- A **research statement** as described in the online application instructions
- An **official transcript** from each college or university you have attended
- **Letters of recommendation** from three or four sponsors who can assess your potential for research
- An application fee of \$50
- Submission of General and Advanced Subject Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores **is not required for admission**.

Applications must be received by December 1, 2021, for entrance during the first week of September 2022.

Selected candidates will be invited to interview for a position in the graduate program in early 2022. During these visits, candidates have formal and informal opportunities to meet faculty and students, to visit laboratories and residence halls, to explore the campus and neighborhood, and to experience cultural opportunities in New York City.

For further information:

Office of Graduate Studies

The Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue, Box 177
New York, NY 10065
phd@rockefeller.edu
Telephone: 212-327-8086
Fax: 212-327-8505

graduate.rockefeller.edu

For information on the Tri-Institutional M.D.-Ph.D. Program:

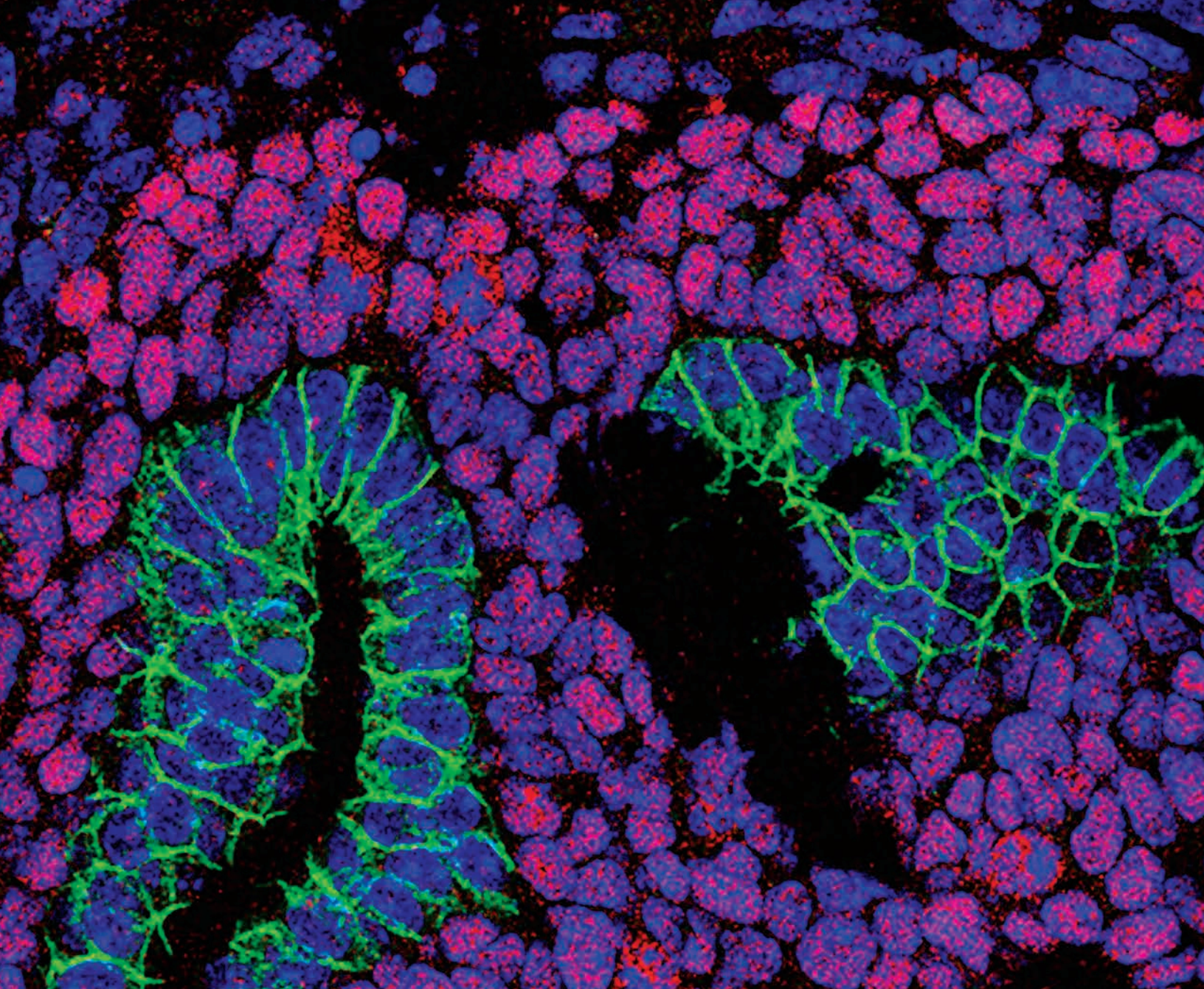
weill.cornell.edu/mdphd
mdphd@med.cornell.edu
212-746-6023

For information on the Tri-Institutional Training Program in Chemical Biology:

chembio.triiprograms.org
tpcb@triiprograms.org
212-746-5267

For information on the Tri-Institutional Program in Computational Biology & Medicine:

compbio.triiprograms.org
cbm@triiprograms.org
212-746-5267



The Rockefeller University is accredited by the New York State Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Education, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234, 518-474-1551.

Program title: Biological Sciences
Program codes: 22043 (M.S.), 09328 (Ph.D.)
HEGIS code: 0401

Program title: Physics
Program codes: 22044 (M.S.), 09332 (Ph.D.)
HEGIS code: 1902

The Advisory Committee on Campus Security will provide upon request all campus crime statistics. For copies of these statistics, please contact James K. Rogers, Director of Security, at (212) 327-7339 or jrogers@rockefeller.edu. These statistics also are posted on the University website at <https://www.rockefeller.edu/security/>.

It is the policy of The Rockefeller University to support equality of educational and employment opportunity. No individual shall be discriminated against with respect to admission, access, or employment in or to any University program or activity on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including gender, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, and sexual harassment), disability, age, citizenship status, military status, marital or partnership status, sexual orientation, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law. The Rockefeller University is committed to the maintenance of affirmative action programs that will assure the continuation of such equality of opportunity.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the University's non-discrimination policy:

Virginia Huffman
Vice President, Human Resources and Title IX Coordinator
Founder's Hall, Room 103
New York, New York 10065
(212) 327-7261
huffman@rockefeller.edu

Inquiries also may be directed to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights at: <https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/> or by telephone at: 1-800-868-1019, or 1-800-537-7697 (TDD).

