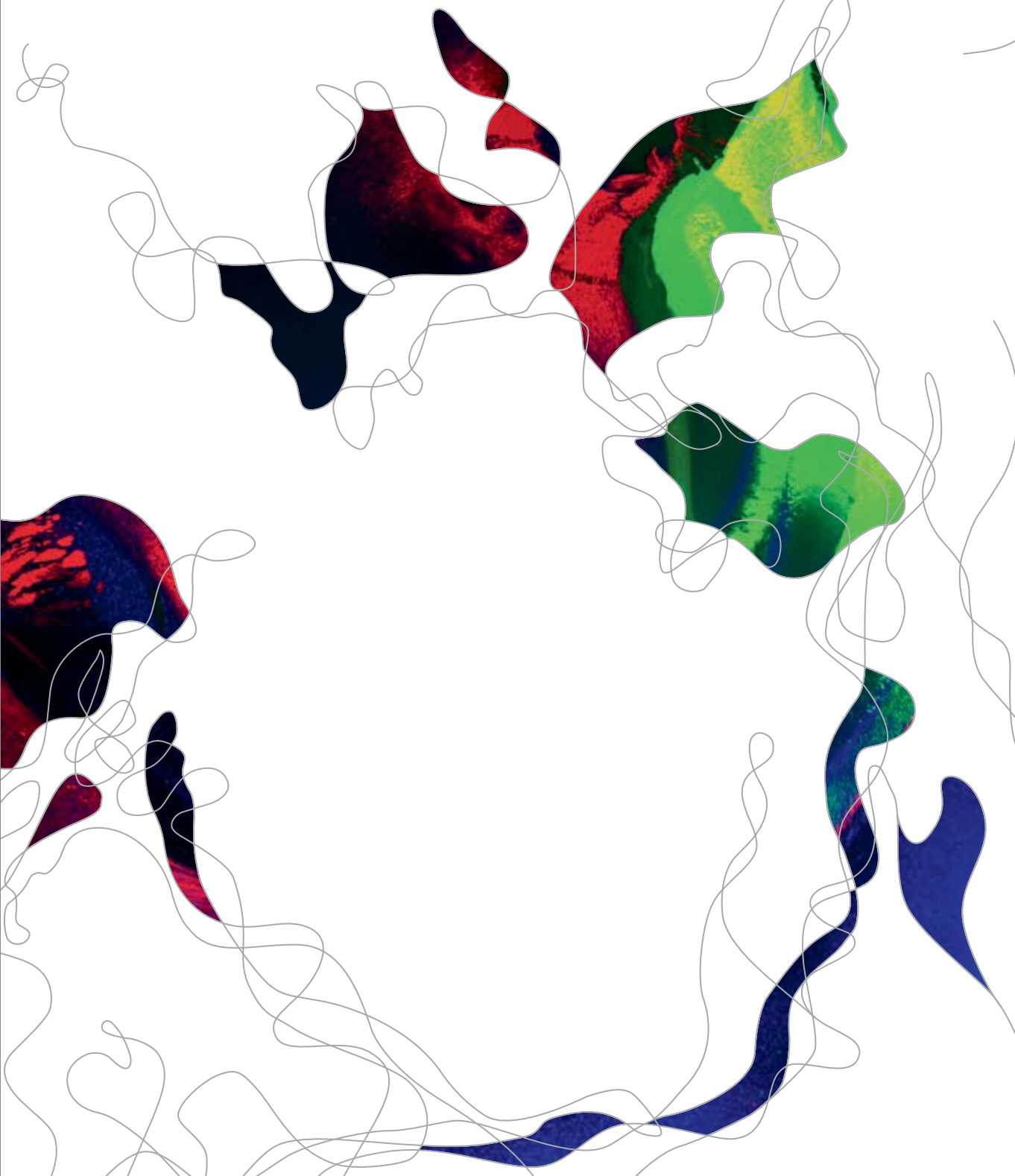
2018–2019

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 **81** faculty members, **200** graduate students, **325** 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 **14**-acre campus on Manhattan's Upper East Side is the site of **481,000** square feet of lab space, as well as faculty and administrative offices, event facilities, and housing.

Rockefeller scientists have won **25** Nobel Prizes since our founding in 1901. **41** 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 **$2** billion in new facilities, scientific equipment, faculty recruitment, and research support since 2005.

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

Images: Priya Rajasethupathy Laboratory, Mario Morgado, Scott Rudd, Jacob Pritchard, Zachary Veilleux, iStock.com/B&M Noskowski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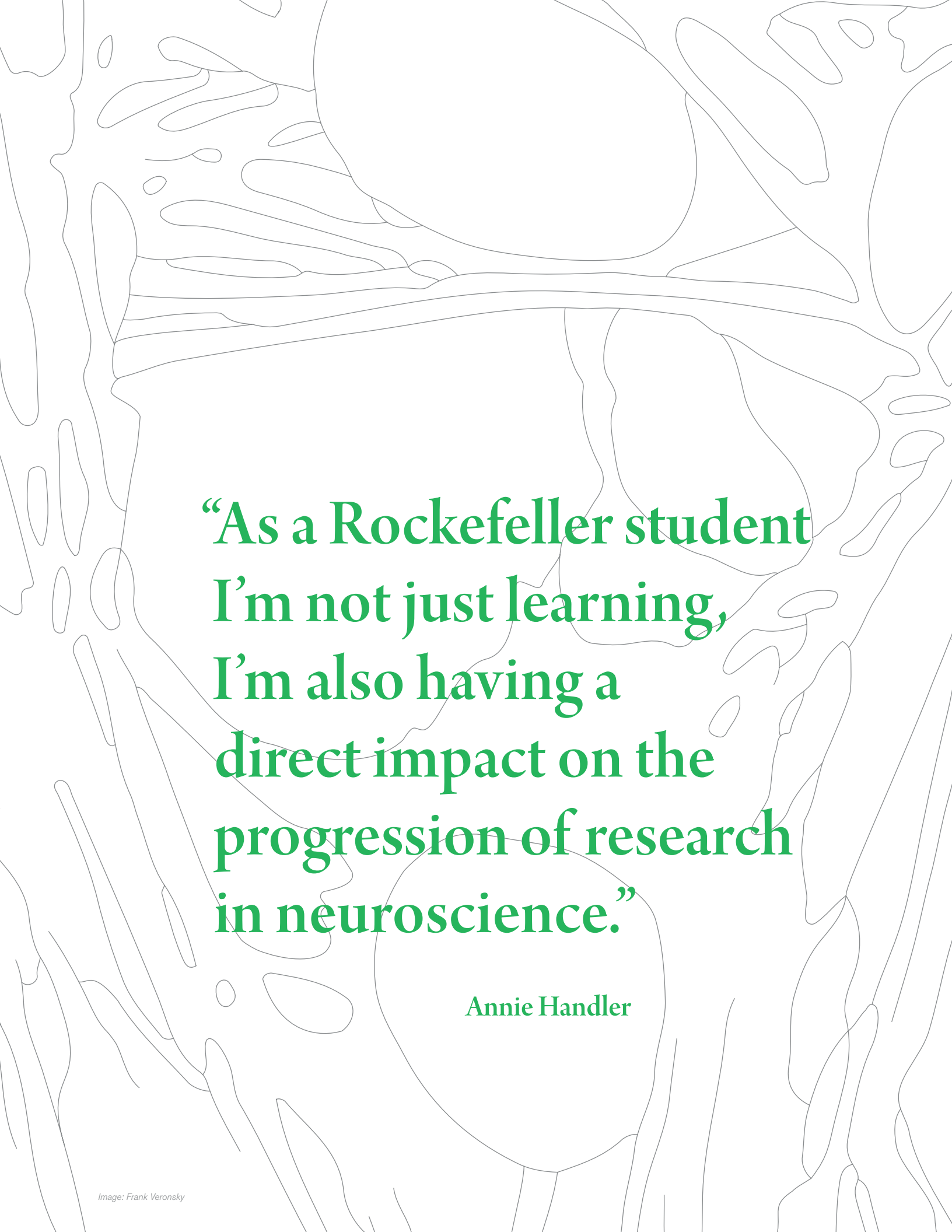
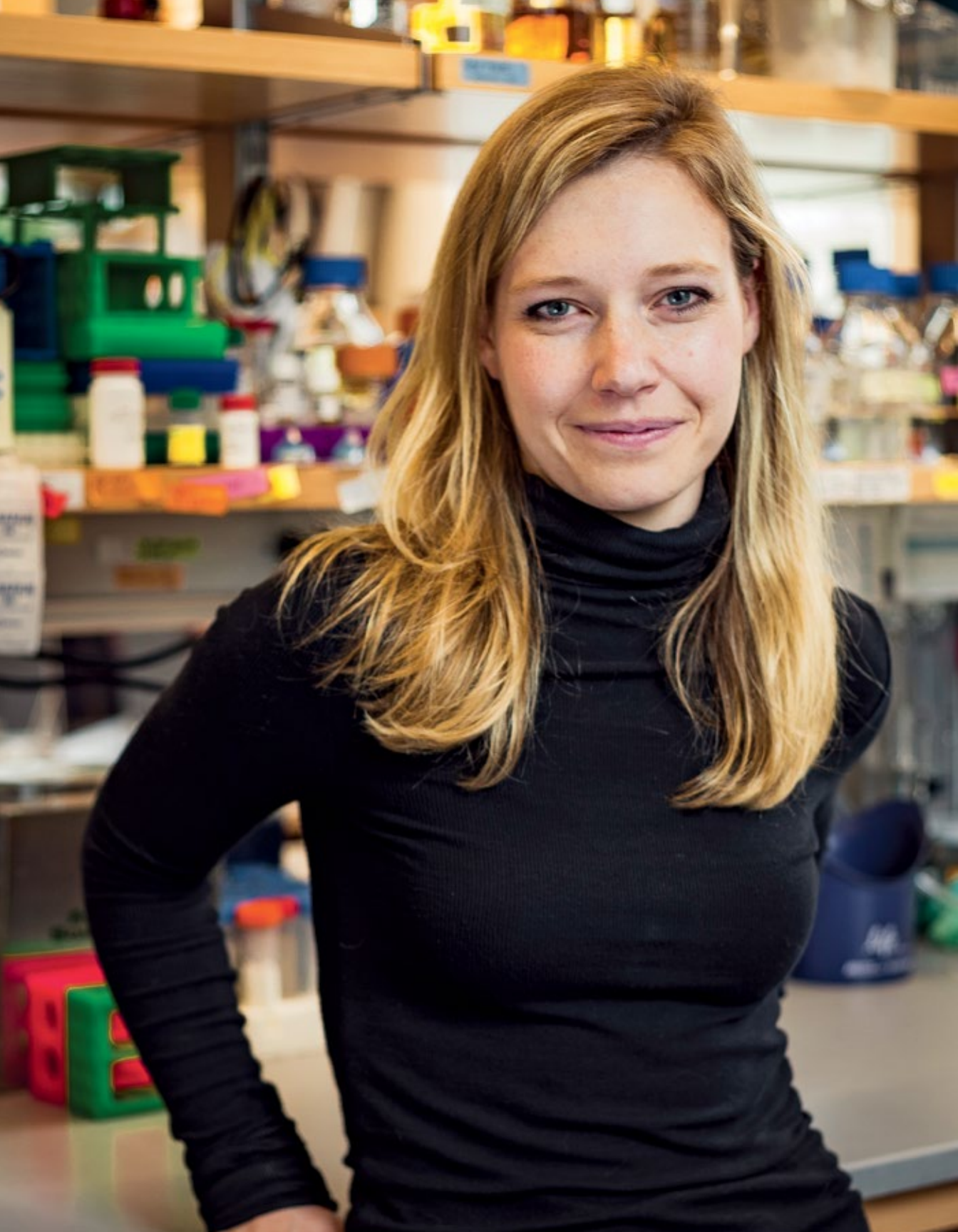


“As a Rockefeller student I’m not just learning, I’m also having a direct impact on the progression of research in neuroscience.”

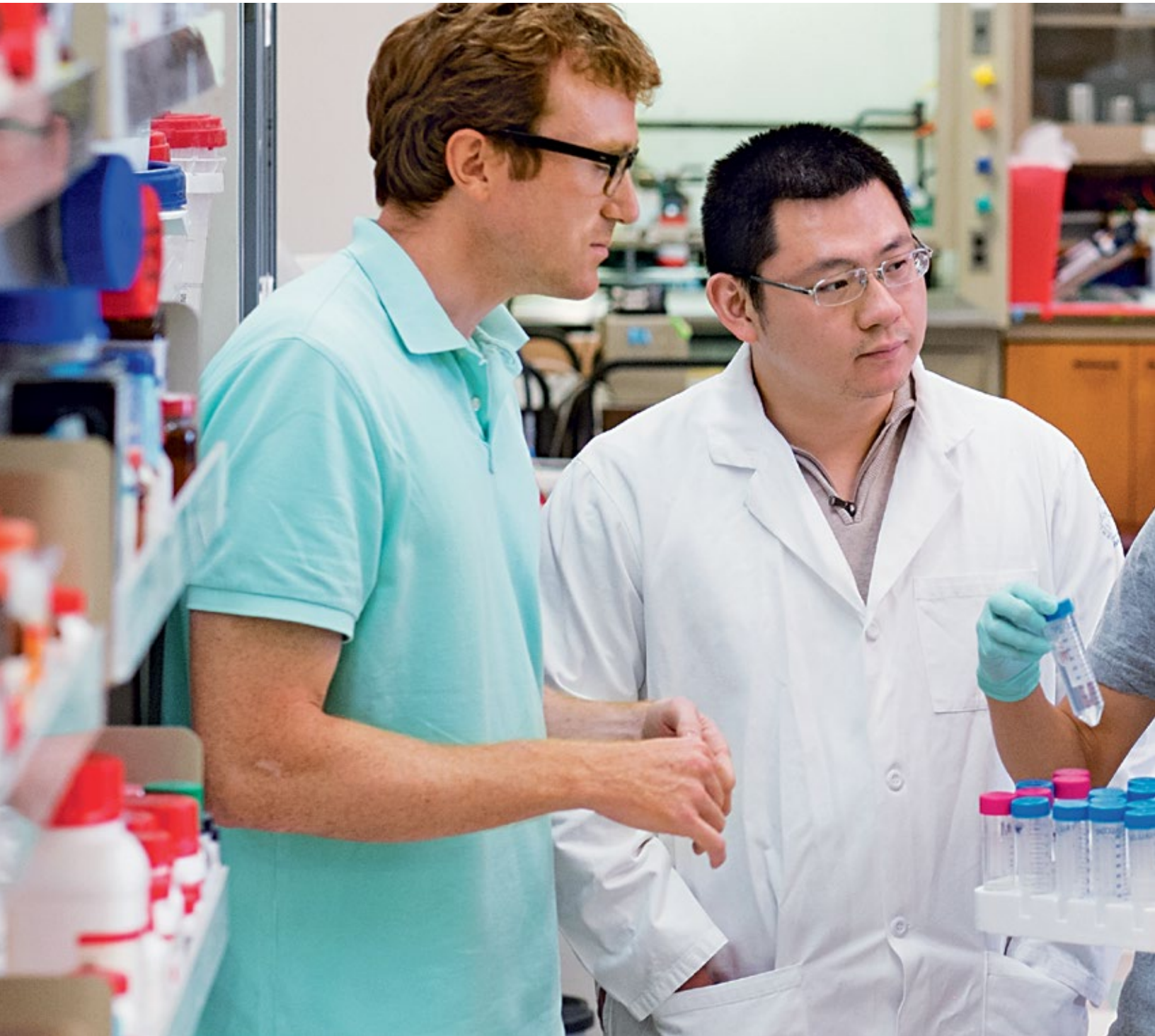
Annie Handler

Image: Frank Veronsky



Annie Handler is fascinated by the relationship between an animal's behavior and its brain's biology. A fifth-year student in Vanessa Ruta's laboratory, she's using the fruit fly as a model to study how neuromodulators, like dopamine, influence the function of neural circuits and give rise to specific behaviors.

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.

Image: Mario Morgado

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.

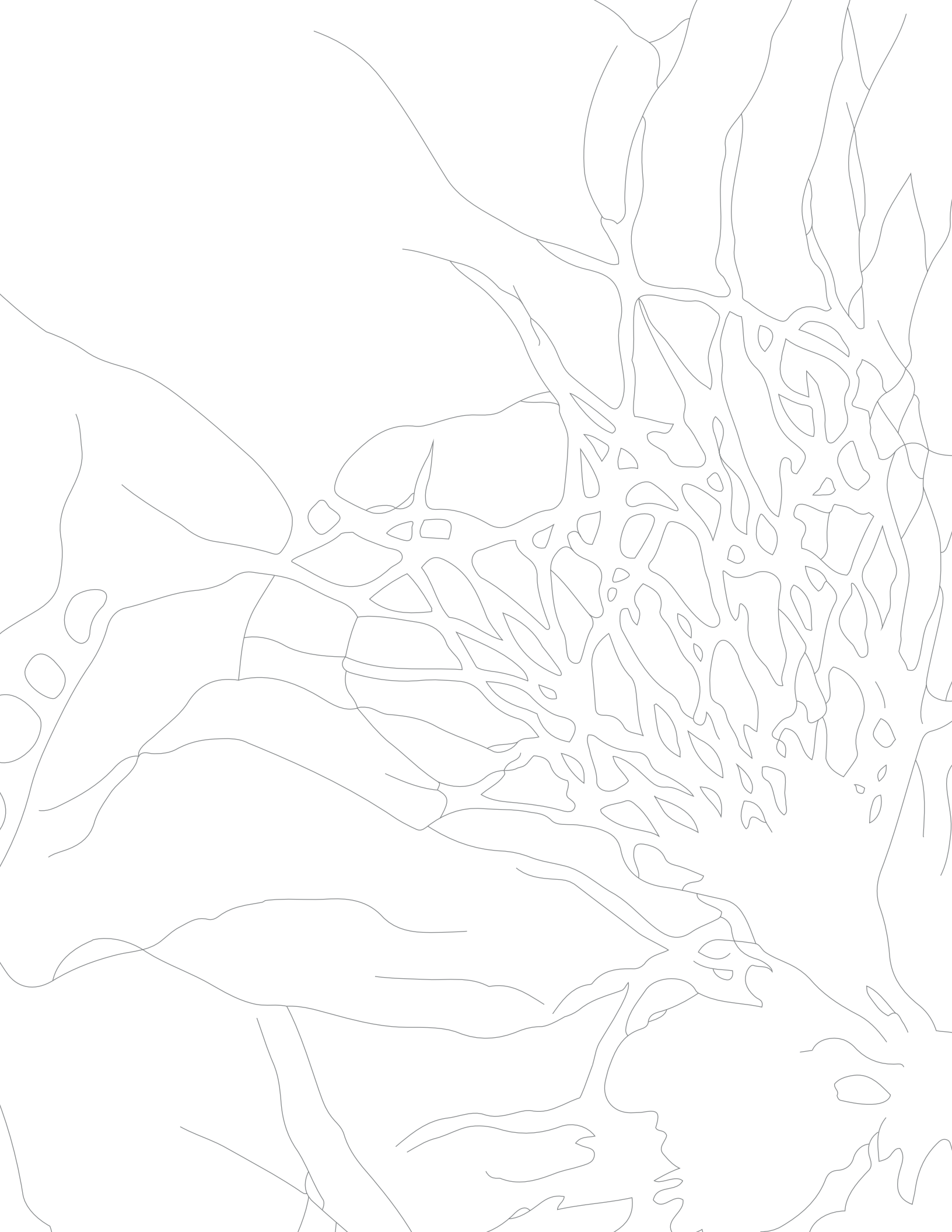
Image: Mario Morgado

“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

Image: Frank Veronsky

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 25 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.

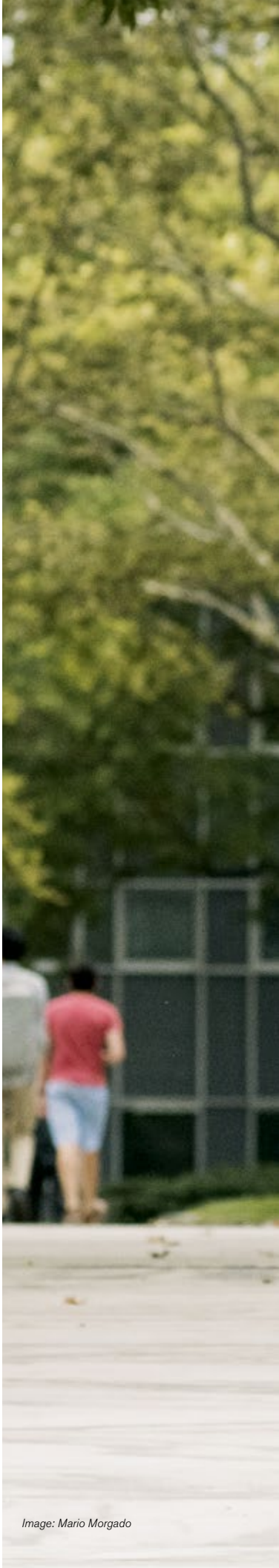


Image: Mario Morgado

WE INVEST HEAVILY IN OUR PEOPLE,
PROVIDING **infrastructure and technology**
THEY NEED TO
EXPERIMENT AND EXPLORE.

Great people need great places to work. To build our new labs over New York's busy FDR Drive, engineers brought in and assembled 19 prefabricated steel modules using a marine crane. Construction of the 160,000-square-foot building, known as the Stavros Niarchos Foundation–David Rockefeller River Campus, is part of a 117-year tradition of investing in the tools and technology that makes high-risk, high-reward science possible.

Image: Zachary Veilleux

ROCKEFELLER STUDENTS LEARN

shoulder-to-shoulder

WITH DEDICATED, WORLD-RENOWNED MENTORS.

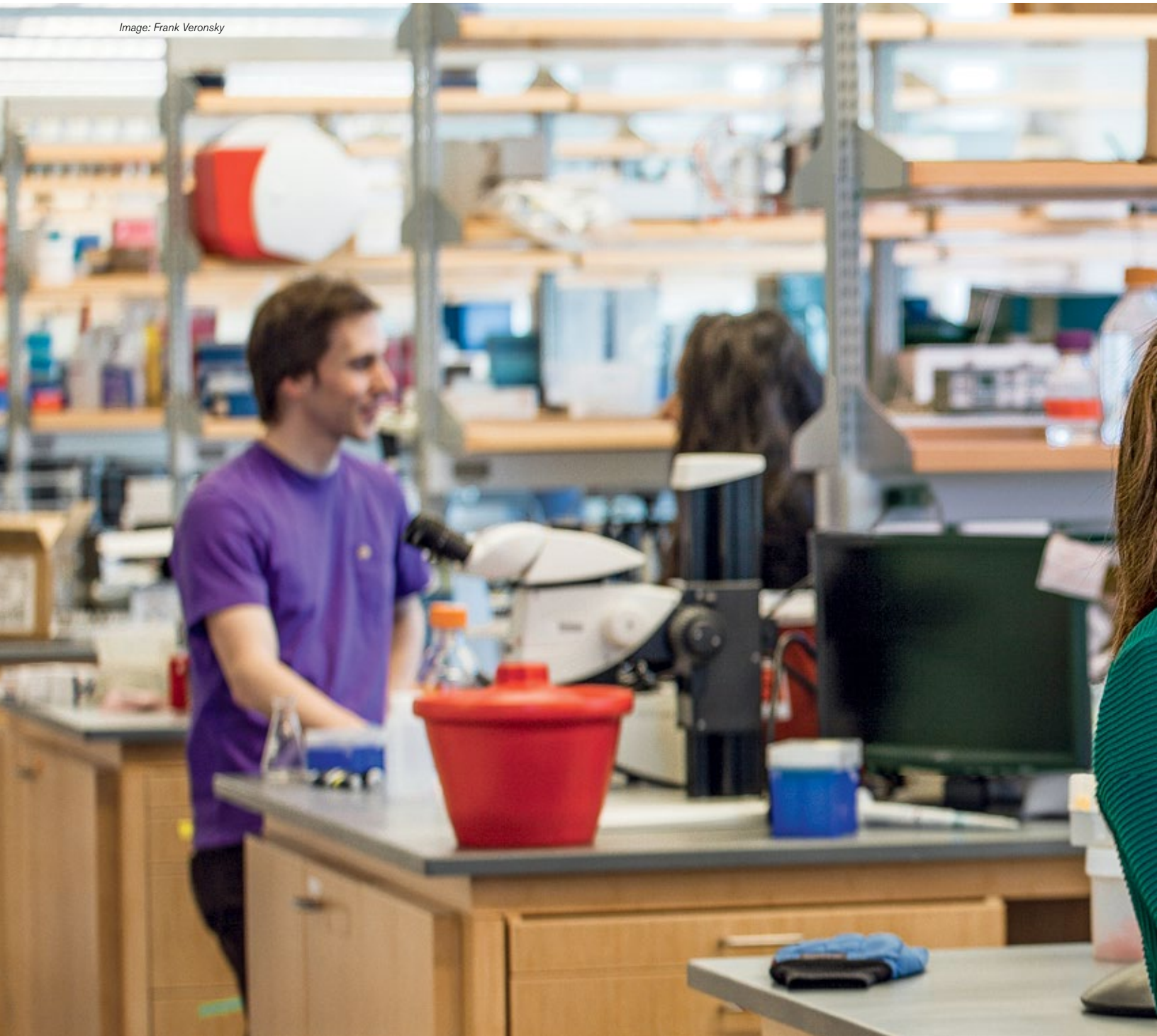


Image: Frank Veronsky

The world's brightest students should learn science alongside the best professors in the world. With 81 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 flexibility of Rockefeller’s curriculum has allowed me to develop a scientific background that goes well beyond my area of expertise.”

Frank Tejera

Image: Frank Veronsky

Frank Tejera, a fourth-year student in Alipasha Vaziri's lab, is using newly developed imaging techniques to study how mice respond to a litany of sounds and integrate them with other brain functions. The technology allows him to record the activity of many neurons within a mouse brain simultaneously, even as the mice move freely on a wheel.

Image: Mario Morgado

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.

Image: John Abbott

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.

A clearinghouse of opportunities, as well as a resource for one-on-one counseling, Rockefeller's Office of Career and Professional Development is a springboard to a rewarding career in science. From traditional academic appointments to jobs in biotech, pharma, business, and policy, students can use the office to weigh options, explore possibilities, and make connections.

Image: Mario Morgado

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

Marianna Agudelo

Image: Frank Veronsky

Marianna Agudelo spent her first months rotating through labs that work on virus immunity. Now a third-year student, she has joined Michel Nussenzweig's group to focus 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.


CALL
YOUR
MOM

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 $680.

Image: Mario Morgado

STUDENT LIFE IS ALSO ABOUT THE

extracurriculars.

OUR STUDENTS PERFORM IN ORCHESTRAS,
PLAY LEAGUE SPORTS,
AND VOLUNTEER IN THE COMMUNITY.

Image: Scott Rudd

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.

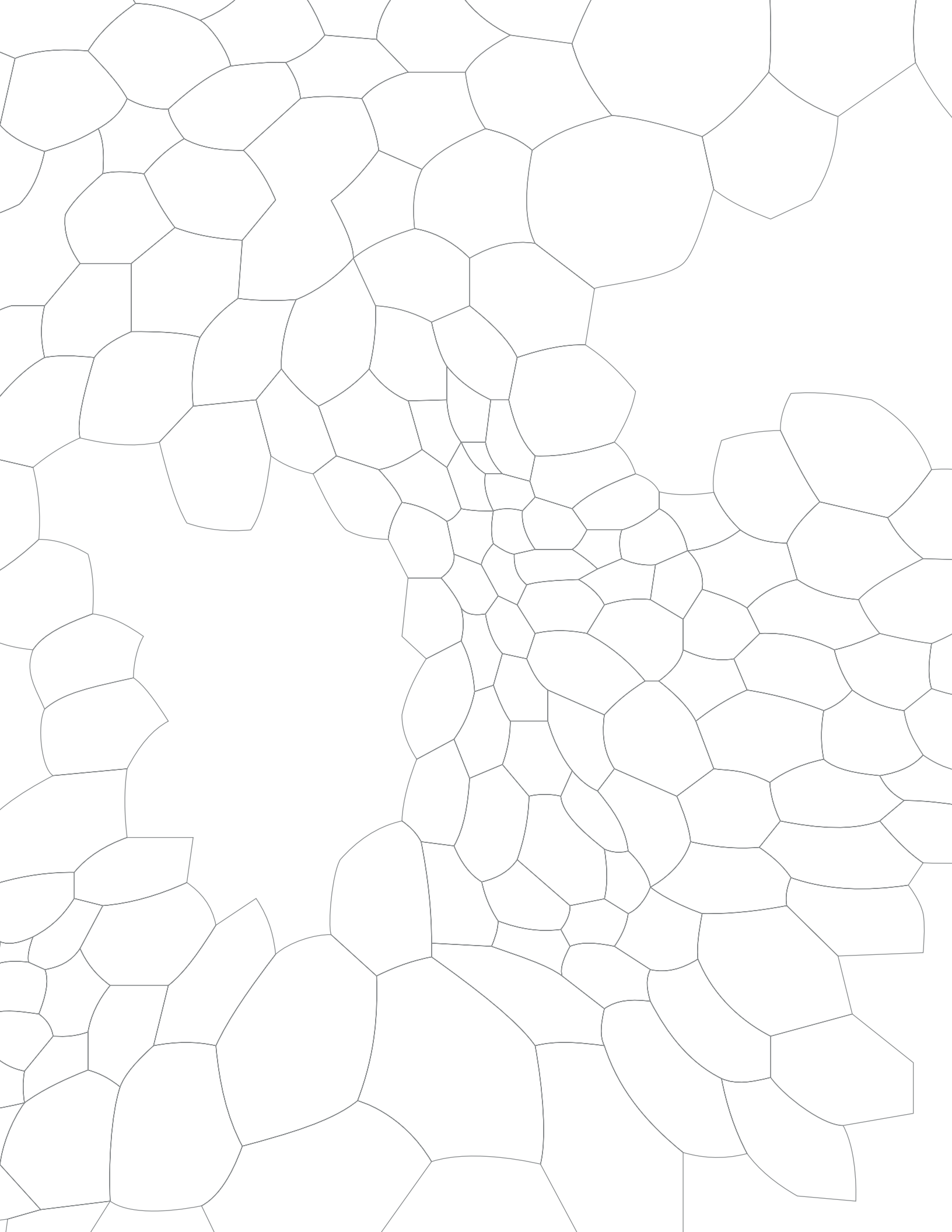
Image: Dan Gareau

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

Stefano Di Talia

Image: Les Todd / Duke Photography

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.

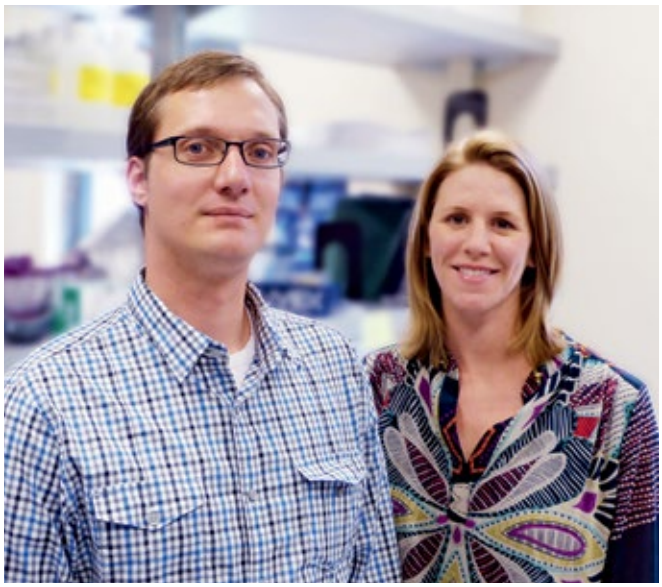
Whatever your path, the skills you'll gain in critical thinking, experimental rigor, and analytical reasoning—not to mention the friendships and collaborations you'll form—will last a lifetime. Thirty-one of our 1,200 graduates are members of the National Academy of Sciences, and two have won Nobel Prizes. 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.

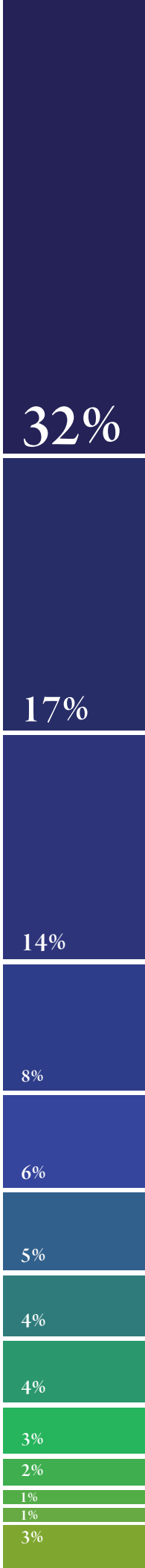
▲ **Cameron Bess '09** spent his time at Rockefeller working on viruses that affect millions of people. Now a senior research advisor at USAID, he's working to connect researchers in developing countries with federally funded U.S. scientists studying issues such as food security, disaster mitigation, child health, and infectious disease.

Images: Nathan Morgan, Cameron Bess, Howard Korn, UC Berkeley

During graduate school, **Maryam Zaringhalam '17** determined she wanted to focus on science communication and advocacy. Currently, as a AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow 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.



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.



How to apply

The David Rockefeller Graduate Program is devoted to advanced education in the biomedical and physical sciences. 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 $40,500 annual stipend, and are guaranteed housing on or near campus at rents ranging from $680 to $1,190 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
- Your **TOEFL** score if applying from a non-English-speaking country
- An application fee of $50
- Submission of General and Advanced Subject Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores **is optional and not required for admission.**

Applications must be received by December 1, 2018, for entrance during the first week of September 2019.

Selected candidates will be invited to interview for a position in the graduate program in February and March 2019. 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

The Rockefeller University is accredited by the New York State Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Education, 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234, 518-474-3852.

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: 0902

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 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
212-427-7261
huffman@rockefeller.edu

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

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