



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2011

Contact: Jennifer Warren (jwarren@sitcancer.org)

Ph: 414-271-2456

**Nobel Laureates Scheduled to Present at the
SITC Primer on Tumor Immunology & Cancer Immunotherapy
& at the SITC 26th Annual Meeting**

The 2011 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to three immunologists whose pioneering research led to breakthroughs in understanding key principles of activation of the immune system. Bruce A. Beutler, MD, Scripps Research Institute, and Jules A. Hoffmann, PhD, Strasbourg University, shared half of the award "for their discoveries concerning the activation of innate immunity." The other half of the Nobel Prize was awarded to Ralph M. Steinman, MD, The Rockefeller University, "for his discovery of the dendritic cell and its role in adaptive immunity."

Dr. Beutler is scheduled to deliver the opening presentation titled "Innate Immunity," at the SITC Primer on Tumor Immunology & Cancer Immunotherapy on Thursday, November 3, 2011 at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center in North Bethesda, MD.

Sadly, Dr. Steinman passed away days before the Nobel Prize was announced from pancreatic cancer, which had been treated for several years with an experimental dendritic cell vaccine. Dr. Steinman was scheduled to receive the Richard V. Smalley, MD Memorial Award and deliver a Keynote Address on vaccines that target dendritic cells at the SITC 26th Annual Meeting which will take place November 4-6, 2011. To honor Dr. Steinman and commemorate the impact of his research on the field, the Richard V. Smalley, MD Memorial Award will be given posthumously at the SITC Award Presentation scheduled for Saturday, November 5, 2011. Arrangements are also being made to include a discussion of Dr. Steinman's scientific contributions and the impact of his work on the field at the SITC 26th Annual Meeting. We offer our sincere condolences to Dr. Steinman's family and friends.