



GRUBER
F O U N D A T I O N



FY 2025 Annual Report

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

A supporting organization of **Yale**

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Executive Summary

The Gruber Foundation honors individuals in the fields of Cosmology, Genetics, Neuroscience, Justice, and Women's Rights, whose groundbreaking work provides new models that inspire and enable fundamental shifts in knowledge and culture.

The Gruber Foundation is a 509(a)(3) Type 1 supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by Yale University and incorporated in 2011 under the 501(c)(3) section of U.S. Corporate Law. It was funded by The Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation, and Peter and Patricia Gruber were its Co-founders. As President Emeritus, Patricia Gruber has a lifetime seat on the Board.



A. Sarah Hreha, Executive Director

The 2024 Gruber Prizes started early in the year with the Genetics Prize in March, in National Harbor, Maryland, where the Genetics Society of America held The Allied Genetics Conference. In August we awarded the Cosmology Prize in Cape Town, South Africa, as part of the International Astronomical Union's General Assembly and in October we awarded the Neuroscience Prize in Chicago at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience. The Foundation is honored to affiliate with these preeminent science organizations, which also nominate advisors to the Selection Advisory Boards to the Prizes.

Along with its annual lectures and fellowships, and its clinical component, The Gruber Program held the 2024 Global Constitutionalism Seminar September 4-7. Cristina M. Rodriguez and Claudia Flores chaired the committee.

The Gruber Science Fellowship held its annual, student-organized symposium as well as networking and social events, and its annual lecture by a leading scientist chosen by members of the fellowship.

The Board of Directors of The Gruber Foundation comprises: Maurie McInnis, Chairman; Steven I. Wilkinson, President; Patricia Gruber, President Emeritus; Joan O'Neill; Waring Partridge. The Treasurer is Elizabeth Bilodeau, and the Executive Director is A. Sarah Hreha.

Further information on the Foundation is available online at gruber.yale.edu

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Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Overview

Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2025

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 42,371
Investments	149,161,201
Beneficial interest in charitable gift annuity	100,086,660
Total assets	<u>249,290,232</u>
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	3439
Due to Yale University	<u>226,986</u>
Total liabilities	<u>230,425</u>
Net assets	<u>\$ 249,059,807</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 249,290,232</u>

2025 PROGRAM SPENDING

Grants to Yale University

The Gruber Foundation provides grants to Yale University for the Gruber Science Fellowship Program and the Gruber Program for Global Justice and Women’s Rights. The agreement provides that The Gruber Foundation will distribute for the benefit of the Gruber Science Fellowship Program the greater of \$2.5 million or 1.6% of the net value of The Gruber Foundation’s assets as of the beginning of each fiscal year, subject to certain adjustments. In addition, the agreement provides for disbursements of \$1.2 million for the benefit of the Global Justice and Women’s Rights Program.

The following grants have been distributed through June 30:

Gruber Science Fellowship Program	\$3,564,478
Gruber Justice and Women's Rights	<u>\$1,200,000</u>
	\$4,764,478

Gruber Prizes

Gruber Prizes disbursed through June 30, 2025 were as follows:

2024 Cosmology Prize	\$500,000
2024 Neuroscience Prize	<u>\$500,000</u>
	\$1,000,000

Gruber International Prize Program

Fiscal year 2025 saw the 2024 Gruber Prizes awarded and the 2025 recipients selected. The program mission statement is: *The International Prize Program honors individuals in the fields of Cosmology, Genetics, and Neuroscience, whose groundbreaking work provides new models that inspire and enable fundamental shifts in knowledge and culture.*

The 2024 Prizes

COSMOLOGY

August 8, 2024
IAU XXXII General Assembly
Cape Town, South Africa

Gruber Lecture: *The James Webb Space Telescope: 25 Years in the Making to Discover the Most Distant Galaxies*



IAU President Debra Elmegreen, Prize Recipient Marcia Rieke, and Sarah Hreha

Prize Citation:

The Gruber Foundation is pleased to present the **2024 Cosmology Prize** to **Marcia Rieke** for her pioneering work on astronomical instrumentation to reveal the breadth and details of the infrared universe. Her contributions to flagship space missions have opened new avenues for understanding the history and mechanisms of star and galaxy formation. She enabled the development and delivery of premier instruments providing groundbreaking sensitivity to near-infrared wavelengths to both the James Webb Space Telescope (NIRCam, as Principal Investigator) and the Hubble Space Telescope (NICMOS, as Deputy Principal Investigator). Through these substantive contributions along with earlier work, Marcia Rieke has had a lasting impact on our understanding of the universe.

Selection Advisory Board: Jeremy Butterfield, Mihalis Dafermos, Wendy Freedman (non-voting), Luis Ho, Angela Olinto (chair), Jean-Loup Puget, Martin Rees (non-voting), Suzanne Staggs, Licia Verde



Advisory Board Chair Allan Spradling, Prize Recipient Hugo Bellen, and Sarah Hreha

GENETICS

March 10, 2024
The Allied Genetics Conference
National Harbor, Maryland

Gruber Lectures: *The study of rare pediatric neurological diseases in flies drives discoveries in common diseases*

Prize Citation:

The Gruber Foundation proudly presents the **2024 Genetics Prize** to **Hugo J. Bellen** for ushering in a new era of model system genetics with direct impact on human disease.

Bellen developed novel techniques that allow human proteins bearing patient mutations to be expressed under the normal regulation of their *Drosophila* orthologs. Working in close collaboration with clinicians and basic scientists, Bellen and his partners have elucidated dozens of rare undiagnosed neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative syndromes, providing new examples of how rare diseases can illuminate underlying mechanisms of more widespread conditions.

Bellen exemplifies the highest standards of quality, collegiality, and generosity in producing and widely sharing innovative genetic reagents and bioinformatic tools that have transformed *Drosophila* genetics.

Selection Advisory Board: Aravinda Chakravarti, Philip Hieter, Jeannie T. Lee, Denise Montell, Eric N. Olson, Geraldine Seydoux, Allan Spradling (Chair)



Prize Recipients Gerald Rubin and Cornelia Bargmann, and Sarah Hreha

NEUROSCIENCE

October 6, 2024

53rd Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience
Chicago, Illinois

Gruber Lecture: *How fixed circuits give rise to flexible behaviors (Bargmann); How fixed circuits give rise to flexible behaviors (Rubin)*

Prize Citation:

The Gruber Foundation proudly presents the **2024 Neuroscience Prize** to **Cornelia I. Bargmann** and **Gerald M. Rubin** for their fundamental research and leadership in the use of the invertebrate genetic model organisms, *Caenorhabditis elegans* (Bargmann) and *Drosophila melanogaster* (Rubin) in neuroscience. Both investigators have done rigorous and important fundamental studies relevant to gene function and the organization of circuits in behavior. Both investigators have developed new genetic tools, methods, lines, and reagents, which are today used by the entire field. Thus, Bargmann and Rubin have facilitated, accelerated, and democratized scientific research, and have created vibrant international communities and educational opportunities using these genetic model invertebrates.

Selection Advisory Board: Joanne Berger-Sweeney, Frances Jensen (chair), Pierre Magistretti, Eve Marder, John H. R. Maunsell, Ikue Mori, Christine Petit

More information on the 2024 Gruber Prizes is available at: <http://gruber.yale.edu/gruber-prizes>

Gruber Program for Global Justice and Women's Rights

The Gruber Program for Global Justice and Women's Rights has four core components: 1) the Global Constitutionalism Seminar; 2) the Gruber Distinguished Global Justice and Women's Rights Lectures; 3) the Gruber Global Justice and Women's Rights Fellowships; and 4) the Gruber Project.

Global Constitutionalism Seminar

The 2024 Global Constitutionalism Seminar (Global) was held on September 4-7. **Cristina M. Rodriguez**, Leighton Homer Surbeck Professor of Law, and **Claudia Flores**, Clinical Professor of Law; Director, Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, Director, Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center of International Human Rights chaired the committee. The Seminar focused on four topics: Democracy, Backsliding, and Courts; 2. Migration and Borders; 3. Media Platforms, Expression, and Human Rights; and 4. Conflicts, Human Rights, and International Law. Additional panels included thoughts by UN Special Rapporteur, Meg Satterthwaite, on Judicial Independence; "Judging in Times of Crisis" an open discussion featuring distinguished international justices; and a luncheon discussion on "Climate Change and Indigenous Perspectives."

Gruber Distinguished Lectures in Global Justice and Women's Rights

Jessica Valenti delivered the Fall 2024 Gruber Distinguished Lecture in Women's Rights, "The Post-Roe Fight for Freedom" on November 11, 2024, in conversation with Reva Siegel. **Sam Gregory** delivered the Spring 2025 Gruber Distinguished Lecture in Global Justice. In conversation with Jim Silk and David Simon, Gregory spoke about empowering individuals and communities to use technology to document human rights abuses and advocate for justice.

Gruber Global Justice and Women's Rights Fellowships

Post-Graduate Fellowships

The twelfth class (2022-2023) of Gruber Fellows in Global Justice and Women's Rights will have completed their fellowship projects as of fall 2024.

The Gruber Committee selected two post-graduate 2024-2025 Peter and Patricia Gruber Fellows in Global Justice and Women's Rights, from a pool of seven applications received from Yale graduate students and alumni from the Law School, and the School of Public Health.

1. **Kee En Chong** (YLS '24) Justice for human trafficking survivors, Human Trafficking Legal Center, Temporary Restraining Order Project
2. **Sandhya Kumar** (YSPH '24) Help roll out HPV vaccine, Khushi Baby, a nonprofit in Rajasthan, India, the Vaccine Alliance, New Haven Neighborhood Health Project

Faculty Fellowships - none

Gruber Project

The Gruber Project provides support for clinical and experiential learning initiatives and supports six initiatives in 2024-2025: 1) the Global Health Justice Partnership; 2) the International Refugee Assistance Project; 3) the Law and Organizing Initiative; 4) Legal Assistance: Gender Violence Clinic 5) Program for the Study of Reproductive; 6) Yale Immigrant Justice Project.

2024-2025 Gruber Committee

The Gruber Committee is appointed by the Yale Law School Dean and is responsible for selecting Fellows and the Gruber Distinguished Lecturers. The 2024-2025 Gruber Committee includes: **Amy Kapczynski** (Chair)(Professor of Law at Yale Law School, Faculty Co-Director of the Law and Political Economy Project, and Faculty Co-Director of the Global Health Justice Partnership); **Claudia Flores** (Clinical Professor of Law; Director, Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, Director, Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center of International Human Rights); **Jason Parkin** (Clinical Professor of Law); **Rohit De** (Associate Professor, Department of History, Yale University); **Shelley Geballe** (Assistant Professor of Public Health Practice, Yale School of Public Health and a Clinical Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School) and **Mindy Jane Roseman** (Director, Gruber Program for Global Justice and Women's Rights) (ex officio).

Gruber Science Fellowship Program

The purpose of the Gruber Science Fellowship is to recruit and support the very best graduate students to pursue doctoral studies in the life sciences, cosmology, and astrophysics at Yale's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. The spring 2025 Lecture was given on April 17 by Michael Diamond.

2024 Gruber science fellows:

Raad Altawell, Molecular Cell Biology, Genetics and Development

Lucas Barck, Translational Molecular Medicine, Pharmacology and Physiology

Ethan C. Burns, Immunobiology

Gillian Clouser, Translational Molecular Medicine, Pharmacology and Physiology

Inessa Cohen, Computational Biology and Bioinformatics

Christine DeRosa, Chemistry

Kira A. Glasmacher, Computational Biology and Bioinformatics

Chia-Lun Guh, Molecular Cell Biology, Genetics and Development

Siqi Guo, Microbiology

Linnea Hartz, Molecular Cell Biology, Genetics and Development

Alexandra Hoffman, Biochemistry, Quantitative Biology, Biophysics and Structural Biology

Connor Jennings, Astronomy

Yeil Kim, Translational Molecular Medicine, Pharmacology and Physiology

Colin Laughlin, Immunology

Tianjin (Ed) Li, Neuroscience

Julia Marshall, Public Health

Nicholas Mortimore, Biochemistry, Quantitative Biology, Biophysics and Structural Biology

Sindhura Sai Siddapureddy, Immunobiology

Caroline Sullivan, Computational Biology and Bioinformatics

Shi Tang, Neuroscience

Bridget Tokiwa, Molecular Cell Biology, Genetics and Development

Ryan Tsai, Translational Molecular Medicine, Pharmacology and Physiology

Peng Xu, Neuroscience

Xinyu Xu, Microbiology

Jing Yuan, Neuroscience

Fellowship Events and Activities

Professional Development

- Graduate School Application Workshop
- Career Development Workshop
- Gruber Science Fellow Symposium

Social Programming

- Holiday Social
- Gruber Science Fellowship Reception