



PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

Rutgers Honoree to Highlight Regenerative Medicine Successes and the Challenges of Translating Medical Breakthroughs from the Lab to Clinical Practice

PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. - On **April 24, 2012**, Dr. Joachim Kohn, one of two principal investigators of the Armed Forces Institute of Regenerative Medicine (AFIRM), will describe the key medical technologies available to restore basic body functions after massive, traumatic injury, as part of a ceremony in which he is to be named the Rutgers University's Daniel Gorenstein Memorial Award recipient for 2012.

"I'm deeply honored to accept this award and look forward to the day when traumatic injuries can be healed much more elegantly," said Dr. Kohn, Board of Governors Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Rutgers and director of the New Jersey Center for Biomaterials (NJCBM).

Dr. Kohn led the successful proposal to establish AFIRM at NJCBM. He has published more than 300 articles and holds 46 U.S. patents. Dr. Kohn's research has been funded continuously and at the highest levels. He is internationally known for his work in the field of polymeric biomaterials, and for pioneering new concepts and methodologies. In addition, Dr. Kohn has mentored approximately 400 scientists and created a model program of postdoctoral training that has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health over the last decade. In the same time period, he has partnered with four companies to bring biotechnologies developed by NJCBM to market, including three in New Jersey.

His acceptance speech, "From Chemistry to Regenerative Medicine: Restoring Function - Preserving the Quality of Life," will explain some of the reasons for long delays in bringing medical breakthroughs from the lab to the clinic.

"Some of these technologies have been under development in numerous laboratories for many years, in some cases for over two decades, and are only now available to patients," noted Dr. Kohn. He will also explain the principles of tissue engineering and regenerative medicine in easy to understand terms, and describe the challenges of restoring injured human tissue and highlight some potential solutions being developed in numerous laboratories across the globe.

During the 5 p.m. ceremony, to be followed by a reception, Dr. Kohn will also be presented with a State Proclamation signed by the governor and members of the Legislature, to be presented by Assemblyman Upendra Chivukula of the 17th legislative district. This honor is bestowed upon citizens with outstanding achievements and a strong commitment to service.

The Daniel Gorenstein Memorial Award was first presented in 1994 and is given annually to a Rutgers faculty member noted for both outstanding scholarly achievement and exceptional service to the University.

PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

About the New Jersey Center for Biomaterials (NJCBM) and AFIRM

NJCBM is one of the leading biomaterials research institutes in the world. AFIRM is the premier research organization tasked by the U.S. Department of Defense with the development of therapies for severely injured service members and veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is a multi-institutional, interdisciplinary consortium of universities and government agencies dedicated to the development of advanced therapies for severely wounded servicemen and women.



For additional information please contact Linda Rastelli at 732-445-0488 x.40001 or email: rastellil@dls.rutgers.edu