

The Irwin Eskind Lecture in Biomedical Science

Dr. Irwin Eskind was a native of Nashville, Tennessee, and a supporter of Vanderbilt University, the School of Medicine, and the Medical Center, for more than four decades. A clinical professor of medicine, emeritus, he was a 1945 graduate of Vanderbilt and a 1948 graduate of the Vanderbilt School of Medicine. He received his residency training in Internal Medicine at Boston City Hospital from 1948-51 and completed his training at Vanderbilt in 1951. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1951-53, and was a fellow in Gastroenterology at the Lahey Clinic in Boston from 1953-54. Dr. Eskind was a long-standing member of the University community and established his clinical practice in internal medicine in Nashville in 1954.

Working on the medical staffs of Vanderbilt Hospital and Saint Thomas Hospital, he not only supported the clinical teaching programs directed at our medical students and residents, but devoted enormous personal effort to enhancing the resources of the University and the Medical Center. He served as president of the Canby Robinson Society and on the Executive Committee of the Campaign for Vanderbilt. The Eskind Biomedical Library and the Vanderbilt Eskind Diabetes Clinic stand as magnificent examples of the commitment to Vanderbilt of Dr. Eskind and his family.

Dr. Eskind also served as president of both the Middle Tennessee Diabetes Association and The Temple Congregation OHABAI Shalom, and was on the boards of the WPLN Foundation, the Nashville Jewish Federation, and the Jewish Philanthropic Fund.

Dr. Eskind was the recipient of the Humanitarian Award of the Middle Tennessee Community Foundation and was honored as Person of the Year by the Nashville Council on Community Justice. Dr. Eskind was a major supporter of the School of Medicine, the School of Nursing, the Blair School of Music, the Vanderbilt Institute for Public Policy Studies, and the University as a whole. His understanding of the needs of the University was reflected in and driven by his service on the Vanderbilt Board of Trust, and as a member of the Executive Budget and Hospital Committees. Dr. Eskind was a Life Member of the Canby Robinson Society and a member of the Friends of Blair, the Friends of the Library, and the Julia Hereford Society.

Dr. Eskind and his wife of more than 50 years, Annette, raised two sons, Jeffrey and Steven, who are both physicians in Nashville. Dr. Steven Eskind is a member of the Vanderbilt faculty in the Section of Surgical Sciences.



Upcoming Discovery Lecture:
MARK T. WALLACE, PH.D.
LAURA L. DUGAN, M.D.
SACHIN PATEL, M.D., PH.D.
Vanderbilt Cutting-edge Discovery Lecture

*November 3, 2016
208 Light Hall / 4:00 P.M.*



JOHN W. KAPPLER, PH.D.

**IRWIN ESKIND LECTURE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE
BREAKING THROUGH IMMUNOLOGICAL TOLERANCE**

OCTOBER 20, 2016

4:00 P.M.

208 LIGHT HALL

SPONSORED BY:
VANDERBILT DIABETES CENTER AND
VANDERBILT CENTER FOR IMMUNOBIOLOGY

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BREAKING THROUGH IMMUNOLOGICAL TOLERANCE

The thymus acts as a potent filter to eliminate developing T cells specific for self-peptide/MHC complexes before they mature and are released into the blood and peripheral organs, a process called “negative selection”. This mechanism is very efficient, yet T cells can still sometimes mount responses against ligands containing self-peptide/MHC complexes formed in the peripheral organs. How? Dr. Kappler will discuss the idea that, in many cases, the immunogenic ligands driving these responses are new structural forms of self-peptide/MHC complexes that are not found in the thymus and in many respects resemble foreign peptide/self-MHC complexes.



JOHN W. KAPPLER, PH.D.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH
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INVESTIGATOR, HHMI

MEMBER, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

John Kappler began his career in the late 1960s as a graduate student in the fledgling Department of Biochemistry at Brandeis University. In 1970, during his postdoc years, he became an immunologist in the laboratory of Richard Dutton at University of California, San Diego. There he met his lifetime partner, Philippa Marrack. Together they began to study the properties of the relatively newly discovered blood cell, the T cell, that sits at the center of the immune response, not only controlling many different types of pathogen infections, but also playing a critical role in transplant rejection and autoimmune diseases. Over the past 45 years they have peeled away at the many layers of mystery surrounding these fascinating cells.
