

# Dr. Samuel M. Nabrit Conference for Early Career Scholars at Brown University

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

70 SHIP ST., LMM107

8 p.m. MCB Department Chair's Welcome and Introductions -  
Kimberly Mowry, Ph.D.  
Biographical Sketch of Dr. S. M. Nabrit, Ph.D. - Lynae Brayboy, M.D.

8:05 p.m. Opening Keynote Address - Introduced by Dr. Phyllis Dennerly, M.D.  
*Surface-surfing with a few million friends: how identity information  
influences group behaviors of a bacterial opportunistic pathogen*  
Karine Gibbs Ph.D., Harvard University

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

185 MEETING ST., SIDNEY FRANK HALL

9 a.m. Morning Welcome and Session I SFH220

9 a.m. Melanie McReynold, Ph.D. - Princeton University  
*NAD+ metabolism during aging: insight from quantitative flux analysis*

9:15 a.m. Fernando Rodriguez Pérez - University of California, Berkeley  
*Ubiquitin-dependent modulation of cell fusion*

9:30a.m. Debra Garvey - University of Wisconsin-Madison  
*Pro-proliferative role of polo-like kinase 4 in  
non-melanoma skin cancers*

9:45 a.m. Heather Bennett, Ph.D. - Bard College  
*Neural pre-conditioning underlying oxygen deprivation  
in C. elegans*

10 a.m. Coffee Break SFH Commons

10:30 a.m. Faculty Panel SFH220  
*Finding the Right Home for Your Research Career -  
Where Does Diversity Fit In?*  
Moderator: Dean Chris Rose  
Panelists: Professors Michelle Dawson, Stephon Alexander  
and Lorin Crawford

11:30 a.m. Poster Session A SFH Commons

12:15 p.m. **LUNCH AND INFORMAL POSTER VIEWING** SFH Commons

1:30 p.m. Keynote Address - Introduced by Phyllis Dennerly, M.D. SFH220  
*How cells use chemistry and physics to break the bones  
that power their movement*  
Enrique De La Cruz Ph.D., Yale University

2:30 p.m. Poster Session B SFH Commons

3:15 p.m. Session II SFH220

3:15 p.m. Sonia Mayoral, Ph.D. - University of California, San Francisco  
*Is dynamic neuronal signaling necessary for developmental  
CNS myelination?*

3:30 p.m. Tomás Lagunas - Washington University of St. Louis  
*A massively parallel reporter assay to investigate the contribution  
of noncoding variation in autism spectrum disorder*

3:45 p.m. Anabel Flores, Ph.D. - University of Michigan  
*Crucial role of SH2B1 PH domain function for the control of  
energy balance and metabolism*

4 p.m. Samira Musah, Ph.D. - DUKE University  
*Engineered stem cell models for mechanistic studies of  
human kidney disease*

4:15 p.m. Coffee Break Smith-Buonanno 107

4:45 p.m. Young Researchers' Roundtable Smith-Buonanno 106  
*Starting on a Successful Path: Overcoming Barriers  
and Making Decisions*  
Moderators: Diego Jaime and William Jordan III, Ph.D.  
Panelists: Manuella Clark-Cotton, Debra Garvey,  
Fernando Rodriguez Pérez, Vayu Maini Rekdal

5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Networking Reception Smith-Buonanno 107

# Dr. Samuel M. Nabrit Conference for Early Career Scholars at Brown University

**Dr. Samuel Milton Nabrit**  
1905 - 2003



An accomplished marine biologist with a distinguished international career, Samuel Milton Nabrit was Brown University's first African-American Ph.D. recipient and first African-American trustee. Dr. Nabrit's scientific papers remained influential for many years and are still cited today in journals including *Regeneration*, *Mechanisms of Development*, and *Developmental Cell*;

he also published a number of important papers on graduate and professional education for African Americans. A 1925 graduate of Morehouse College, he studied regeneration in fish tail fins in the doctoral program in biology at Brown and at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Dr. Nabrit served as a professor of zoology and then chair of the biology department at Morehouse from 1932 to 1947. He became dean of the graduate school of arts and sciences at Atlanta University in 1947, as well as a member of the Marine Biological Laboratory Corporation. In 1955 Dr. Nabrit was named the second president of Texas Southern University. He served in a number of national and international roles, including a special ambassadorship, membership on the National Science board, the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Institute of Medicine (now the National Academy of Medicine), as well as leadership roles in Upward Bound and the Southern Fellowship Fund.

## Organizing Committee

Lynae Brayboy, M.D. Bianca Brown, Alison DeLong, Ph.D., Phyllis Dennery, M.D., Kristen Fregoso, Diego Jaime, Mark Johnson, Ph.D., William Jordan III, Ph.D., Amanda Elyssa Ruiz, Samantha St. Onge

## Sponsors

Brown's Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity, the Dean of the Faculty, the Graduate School, the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, the Brown Center for the Molecular Biology of Aging, The Leadership Alliance, The Science Center, the Brown/HHMI STEM Initiative, Science Center and the MCB Department.

Hosted by the Department of Molecular Biology,  
Cell Biology and Biochemistry

INAUGURAL

# Dr. Samuel M. Nabrit Conference for Early Career Scholars at Brown University

June 6–7, 2019  
Providence, Rhode Island



BROWN