

PHILLIP A. SHARP

Institute Professor, Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, MIT

NEW BIOLOGY *and CONVERGENCE* *of LIFE SCIENCES and* **ENGINEERING**

TUESDAY

December 11, 2012

5:00-7:00pm

Science Center A, One Oxford Street
Harvard University

WITH COMMENTARY FROM

Walter Gilbert

Molecular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University

Everett Mendelsohn

History of Science, Harvard University

Fiona Murray

MIT Sloan School of Management

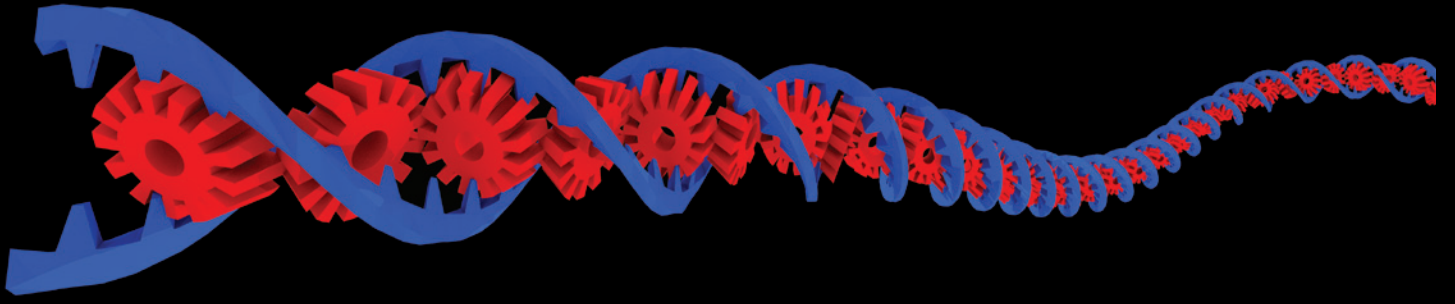
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Sheila Jasanoff

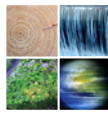
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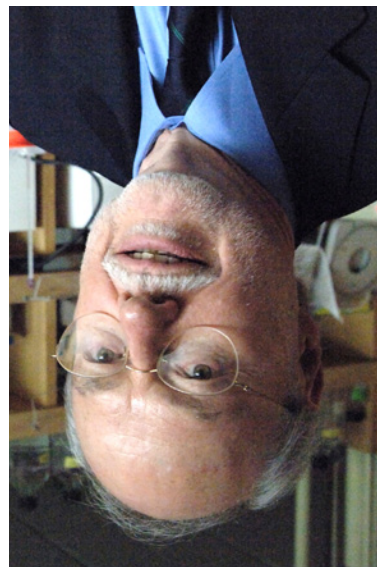
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Phillip A. Sharp is Institute Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at the David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research. He shared the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine with Richard J. Roberts for his 1977 work on the molecular biology of gene expression relevant to cancer and the mechanisms of RNA splicing. This work provided one of the first indications of the startling phenomenon of "discontinuous genes" in mammalian cells, an important finding with large implications not only for understanding the functioning of DNA, but opening up new areas of cancer research. His lab has now turned its attention to understanding how RNA molecules act as switches to turn genes on and off (RNA interference). In 1978 Dr. Sharp co-founded Biogen (now Biogen Idec) and in 2002 he co-founded Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, an early-stage therapeutics company.



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