



DC Chapter of Sigma Xi Spring Lecture

I hope this newsletter finds all in good health and spirits. My daffodils are almost at full bloom and there have been more robins flying around in my yard than I can count so it must be spring and time to plan for our spring meeting! Each year it seems that time just flies by, wasn't it just New Years Eve? If you have a working email address you have seen that our chapter has been cosponsoring Cafe Scientifiques with the Rockville Science Consortium. We celebrated Darwin's birthday along with speaker Mac West in February, and the March 24th café was on the topic of alternative energy with Dr. Ted Heilweil from NIST. I have gotten emails out about each café to our members but information can also be found at <http://www.rockvillesciencecenter.org/>. We may also have another café starting up at Elenore Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt MD, and I will email out all notices as I receive them. The object of Café Scientifique is to disseminate "real" science out to the public so we urge members to post the announcements at work, libraries etc. bring a friend! The format is a very short presentation 5-10 minutes, followed by Q and A and discussion of the topic. Now on to the information about our Spring Banquet!

Spring Lecture Information

☞ **When:** Thursday May 7th 6:30-9pm

☞ **Where:** Positano's – Bethesda MD

☞ **Who:** Dr. Pamela Robey

☞ **What:** Skeletal Stem Cells: The Cause and The Cure.

☞ **How much:** \$45 per person



Dr. Robey is currently Chief of the Craniofacial and Skeletal Diseases Branch, NIDCR, NIH. Her work has focused on the isolation and characterization of osteogenic cells and factors that mediate their differentiation and production of bone extracellular matrix. She developed a technique for establishment of normal, non-transformed osteogenic cells in vitro, a method that is now broadly used, which enabled the isolation and characterization of many of the genes for osteogenic proteins. She subsequently turned towards the identification of osteogenic precursor cells in bone marrow, bone marrow stromal ("mesenchymal") stem cells, and has been studying their multi-potential nature, their role in skeletal diseases, and their use in regenerative medicine. Dr. Robey has served on numerous editorial boards, is a past Associate Editor of the Journal of Bone and Mineral Research, and currently is a Lead Reviewer for Stem Cells. She serves on many committees in professional organizations, in particular, on those focused on the career development of young investigators. She is a member of the NIH Stem Cell task force, and as such, she is often called upon to give presentations regarding stem cell biology to scientific and lay audiences.

Dr. Robey was also the recipient of a Sigma Xi Grants in Aid of Research at the start of her career!

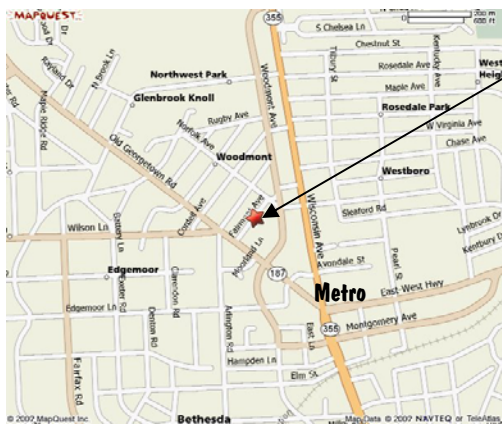
RSVP by May 2!

Name: _____ Chapter: _____ Dinner choice: _____

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Cost: \$45 per person x _____ = _____



Positano's is located in Bethesda at 4940 Fairmont Ave, Bethesda Red Line Metro station is less than 3 blocks away.

Dinner choices: Vegetarian cheese and spinach manicotti
Chicken Parmesan or Lasagna Bolognese with meat sauce.
Dinner served with appetizers, salad, veggies, dessert and tea or coffee. Cash bar.

Dinner 6:30pm Thursday May 7th

Cost \$45 per person

RSVP: sigmaxidc@gmail.com

Payment options:

2. Paypal! Payments can be made directly to our paypal account! <http://www.paypal.com>

Log into your paypal account and remit payment to sigmaxidc@gmail.com select "Other" for category!

1. Checks made out to
DC Chapter of Sigma Xi
Mail to: 670 Swan Dr. Deale MD 20751

In other news!

✿ **Membership drive!** – Do you know someone who is eligible for Sigma Xi membership? Science teachers and those with a love of science are invited to join Sigma Xi as "Affiliates". Learn more about it at <http://www.sigmaxi.org/affiliate/join/index.shtml>

✿ Scientists, technicians, laboratory assistants, graduate and undergraduate students are also welcomed to join! Please send me a CV/resume. The membership form can be downloaded at: <http://www.sigmaxi.org/member/join/index.shtml>

✿ **Become a Sigma Xi Companion** – Donate \$500 to Sigma Xi during the fiscal year July-July and become a Companion in the society. Your donation is tax deductible!
<https://www.sigmaxi.org/about/support/contform.html>

✿ **What was your Spark?** What made you choose to be a scientist or focused your love of science to a specific area? Become a part of the history of Sigma Xi by contributing your story! Share your experiences with other members of the society and read about what has inspired others. <http://www.sigmaxi.org/member/newsletters/spark.shtml>

✿ **Recycling! What its all about!** – Recycling isn't just about composting your vegetable waste and tossing that water bottle into a yellow bin... You can recycle your knowledge and skills! Would you like to help the society in a non-monetary way? Volunteer to judge a local science fair! Become a student mentor! Help put together a Café Scientifique! If you would like to help out in any way drop me a line sigmaxidc@gmail.com

