

THE KASHA AWARD

The Kasha Award is given annually to recognize and stimulate research and to promote quality scientific writing. The award is named after Dr. Michael Kasha, Distinguished University Professor and founder of the Institute of Molecular Biophysics. All MOB students who are primary authors on a published paper in the past two years are eligible to be nominated by their major professor. Winners are selected by a committee.

PAST KASHA WINNERS

- 1995 – Kenneth Eilertson
and Drazen Raucher
- 1996 – Randal Ketchem
- 1997 – Priya Subramony
- 1998 – Goran Periz
- 1999 – Genfa Zhou
- 2000 – Bishow Adhikari
- 2001 – Junfeng Wang
- 2002 – Meredith Newby
- 2004 – Pamela D. Twigg
and Rumana Rashid
- 2005 – Aya Kataoka
and Brenda Schoffstall
- 2006 – Eliza A. Ruben
- 2007 – Kate Calvin
- 2008 – Bo Liang
and Cheri Hampton



**Molecular Biophysics
Graduate Program**

Phone: 850-644-1012
Fax: 850-644-7244



**2009 Annual
Kasha Award
Seminar and
Ceremony**

June 23rd, 2009

**Guest Speaker:
Dr. Pamela Twigg**

**2004 Kasha
Awardee**

**Molecular Biophysics Graduate
Program**

About Michael Kasha

As the original founder and the first Director of the Institute of Molecular Biophysics, Dr. Michael Kasha remains current in our esteem and appreciation. We honor him with this award because of his service to the field of Molecular Biophysics and support of our graduate program.

He has led a long and illustrious research career with many adventures along the way, including a 30-year long collaboration with Richard Schneider, a master builder of traditional classical guitars. Dr. Kasha's research interests include study of molecular spectroscopic mechanisms and application to biophysical phenomena. Over the years, he has advanced understanding of excitation transfer in photosynthesis, the quantum mechanical theory of the solvent cage effect, and pursued developing tools for fluorescence studies.

In 1961 he was tapped into a select group of scientists when he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. He has maintained an office and an occasional presence here at Florida State University between visits to his California home.

WELCOMING REMARKS

Dr. Timothy M. Logan
Professor of Chemistry
Director, IMB

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Pamela Twigg

2004 Kasha Awardee

"Ubiquitin-binding domains: What's a nice domain like you doing in a place like this?"

PRESENTATION OF AWARD

Dr. Michael Kasha
Distinguished Professor
to

Hui-Ming Zhang

2009 Kasha Awardee
(Alan Marshall, Major Professor)

for

"Enhanced Digestion Efficiency, Peptide Ionization Efficiency, and Sequence Resolution for Protein Hydrogen/Deuterium Exchange Monitored by Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Resonance Mass Spectrometry." *Hui-Min Zhang, Sasha Kazazic, Tanner M. Schaub, Jeremiah D. Tipton, Mark R. Emmett, and Alan G. Marshall Anal. Chem., 2008. 80 (23), 9034-9041*

About Pamela Twigg

Pam Twigg began life as an engineer, graduating from Auburn University in 1982 with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering, and from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1986 with a Master's degree in Biomedical Engineering. Soon after, she took a position as a research assistant at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. At some point, the desire to direct her own research projects and answer her own questions became a driving force to return to school.

She arrived at the Institute of Molecular Biophysics at Florida State University in 1996 and began work in the lab of Dr. Don Caspar, examining the crystal structure of a diphtheria toxin repressor protein. As fortune would have it, lack of cooperation on the part of the protein crystals led to an NMR collaboration with Dr. Tim Logan. She graduated with her Ph.D. in Molecular Biophysics in 2001.

Now, having come full circle, she is once again at the University of Alabama in Huntsville as a Research Assistant Professor, this time to direct a research effort related to the genetic disorder Huntington's Disease. She is the mother of 2 wonderful daughters, and enjoys volunteering in the local school science