

CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE in the NEUROSCIENCES



S E M I N A R S E R I E S

Funding opportunities in the Biological Sciences and Neuroscience at the National Science Foundation

James Deshler, Ph.D.

Deputy Director

Developmental Neurobiology Program

National Science Foundation

Arlington, VA

Tuesday, August 19th 2014

12:00-1:00 p.m.

Alfond 113

UNE, Biddeford Campus

Lunch will be provided

Hosted by: Edward Bilsky, Ph.D.

Sponsored by: The Office of Research and Scholarship and
the National Science Foundation



Dr. James (Jim) Deshler received his B.S. degree in microbiology and molecular genetics at UCLA. He also obtained his Ph.D. from UCLA in Molecular Genetics where his thesis work focused on pre-mRNA splice site selection in budding yeasts. During this time, his interest in the RNA world grew and he began to explore different types of non-coding RNA sequences and their function. One project involved optimizing hammerhead ribozymes for efficient catalytic activity in vivo.

He then spent a number of years as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School where he investigated the mechanisms by which certain segments of 3'-untranslated sequences function to specify distinct mRNA localization patterns in vertebrate cells, such as *Xenopus* oocytes and mammalian neurons. He pursued these topics as a faculty member in the Biology Department at Boston University for ten years where his research employed novel computational methods to accelerate the study of RNA localization signals at a genome scale to better understand the genetic basis of cell polarity in vertebrate cells.

After serving a one-year rotation at the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 2008, he moved to NSF permanently in 2009, when from 2009-2013 he was the Director of the Developmental Neurobiology Program. Recently, he moved to the position of Deputy Director for the Division of Biological Infrastructure, which supports training programs and the development of research tools for the Biological Sciences. In his seminar, Dr. Deshler will discuss various ways to approach NSF for obtaining support for research and training in Neuroscience and the Biological Sciences more broadly.

Center for Excellence in the Neurosciences

11 Hills Beach Road, Biddeford, ME 04005

www.une.edu/research/cen



**UNIVERSITY OF
NEW ENGLAND**