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# Publisher Profile: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press

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## Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press

by **John Long** (Consultant) <john-long@worldnet.att.net>

<b>Address:</b> Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press 1 Bungtown Road Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724	<b>Phone:</b> (516) 367-4002
<b>Founded:</b> 1933	<b>Fax:</b> (516) 367-4092
<b>Sites:</b> Cold Spring Harbor, NY; Woodbury, NY; San Diego, CA; Oxford, U. K.	<b>Web address:</b> WWW.CSHLPRESS.COM
	<b>Executive Director:</b> John R. Inglis, Ph.D.
	<b>Number of employees:</b> 49

### A Brief History

CSHL Press is the publishing arm of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL). The Laboratory was founded in 1890, and has a distinguished and fascinating history, marked not only by research of world renown (seven Nobel laureates have worked at CSHL: in random order, **James D. Watson**, **Barbara McClintock**, **Alfred Hershey**, **Max Delbrück**, **Salvador Luria**, **Richard Roberts** and **Phillip Sharp**) but also by important teaching activities at a professional and student level. In 1998, the Ph.D. degree-granting **Watson School of Biological Sciences** was established.

The Laboratory was the cradle of American molecular biology and the monographs and laboratory manuals it has published since the 1970s, such as the universally used *Molecular Cloning* manual, have had a major influence on the astonishing growth in the application of DNA technology in biology and medicine worldwide.

CSHL Press publishes books, CDs, and videos in the subject areas of molecular and cell biology, genetics, cancer, plant biology, microbiology, bioinformatics, protein science, and neuroscience. Its professional interest books are widely and warmly reviewed in the scientific press. Recently, it launched a program in popular science, including books for children. In an extraordinary and laudable effort, CSHL Press published, in July 2002, *Staying Alive: Fighting HIV/AIDS* "a book for 12-16 year olds in South Africa" written by **Fran Balkwill** and **Mic Rolph**. With beneficent American grant support (anonymous) some 19,000 copies of *Staying Alive: Fighting HIV/AIDS* have been distributed free of charge to young people in South Africa.

In a new move into undergraduate textbook publishing, CSHL Press published the best-selling *Bioinformatics: Sequence and Genome Analysis*, by **David Mount** (2001) and is co-publishing, with **Benjamin Cummings**, **Malcolm Campbell** and **Laurie Heyer's** *Discovering Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics* (2002) and next year a new edition of **Jim Watson's** classic textbook *Molecular Biology of the Gene*.

CSHL Press began journal publishing in 1987 and has a steadily increasing list that will rise to five titles in 2003.

### Goals

CSHL Press is dedicated to: 1. supporting Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory's educational mission; 2. creating top quality content in the life sciences; 3. delivering this knowledge to scientists, students, and the public; and 4. generating funds that help support the lab's research activities.

**# of books:** 200 in-print, 12-17 new book titles annually. Also, CSHL Press publishes the annual *Symposia on Quantitative Biology* (which is a prestigious and highly cited book series).

**# of research journals:** 4

**Journal Publications:** *Genes & Development*; *Genome Research*; *Learning & Memory*; *Protein Science* (all four journals are available in print and online, in partnership with **Stanford University Libraries' High Wire Press**).

**Journal Publishing Accomplishments:** One of the top seven journals in experimental biology, *Genes & Development* has a commanding impact factor of 19.67. *Genome Research* is the leading specialty journal in the surging field of genome analysis. CSHL Press has recently begun publishing journals owned by scientific societies, starting with *Protein Science* (for the **Protein Society** in 2001) and continuing in 2003 with the journal *RNA*, for the **RNA Society**. CSHL Press' four research journals reach an audience of 50,000 readers in twenty countries with over 9,000 editorial pages published annually.

**Important books (general interest):** **James D. Watson's** *A Passion for DNA: Genes, Genomes, and Society*; **Philip R. Reilly's** *Abraham Lincoln's DNA and Other Adventures in Genetics*; **Elof Axel Carlson's** *The Unfit: A History of a Bad Idea*; **Jeffrey Witherly, Galen Perry & Darryl Leja's** *An A to Z of DNA Science: What Scientists Mean When They Talk About Genes and Genomes*; **Georgina Ferry's** *Dorothy Hodgkin: A Life*; **Max Perutz's** *I Wish I'd Made You Angry Earlier*; and **Lenny Guarente's** *Ageless Quest: One Scientist's Search for Genes That Prolong Youth*.

**Important books (professional interest):** **Joe Sambrook** and **David Russell's** *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Third Edition*; **Kathy Barker's** *At the Bench* and *At the Helm*; **David M. Mount's** *Bioinformatics: Sequence and Genome Analysis*; **Ed Harlow and David Lane's** *Using Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual*; **David Bowtell and Joe Sambrook's** *DNA Microarrays: A Laboratory Manual*; **Mark Ptashne and Alex Gann's** *Genes and Signals*.

**Finally, I couldn't help but notice CSHLP's broad spectrum of publishing activities that range from publishing the fascinating children's books series: Fran Balkwill & Mic Rolph's** *Enjoy Your Cells & Germ Zappers*; *Gene Machines*; and *Have a Nice DNA* to books and journals dealing with the highest levels of international scientific research. 🦋

**Column Editor's Note:** I was recently talking with a science librarian at a separate, prestigious biological laboratory library who purchases a "ton" of CSHL Press books and mentioned to me that he proudly places the CSHL Press children's books in a most visible area of his research library—a library that serves 400 researchers, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. — JL