



## **Harvard University's Alfred Goldberg, Ph.D., Daniel Finley, Ph.D., and Randall King, M.D., Ph.D., Named Proteostasis Scientific Co-Founders**

-Appointments of Ubiquitin-Proteasome Pathway Research Leaders Reflect Addition of Protein Clearance Modulation to Company Drug Discovery Programs-

**Cambridge, Mass., May 5, 2011** -- [Proteostasis Therapeutics](#) announced today that it has named Alfred Goldberg, Ph.D., and Daniel Finley, Ph.D., both Professors of Cell Biology, and Randall King, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Cell Biology, all at Harvard Medical School, as company scientific co-founders. In addition, Drs. Goldberg and King join Dr. Finley as a member of the company's Scientific Advisory Board. The three researchers are leaders in understanding the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway, an essential mechanism for protein clearance and a major component of the Proteostasis Network that regulates protein folding, trafficking, and clearance within cells to maintain protein homeostasis.

Proteostasis is advancing technologies developed by the researchers under [recent license agreements with Harvard University](#) as part of a broad effort to discover and develop small molecule drugs that regulate Proteostasis Network pathways. The company's discovery and development programs are aimed at diseases such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and Huntington's disease, in which a compromised Proteostasis Network leads to protein aggregation, as well as conditions such as cystic fibrosis and other genetic diseases resulting from protein folding and trafficking dysfunction.

"The appointments of Drs. Goldberg, Finley, and King, who bring a wealth of expertise and leadership in the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway, reflect our expanded efforts to develop disease-modifying therapeutics that enhance the breakdown and clearance of disease-linked proteins," said Peter Reinhart, Ph.D., Proteostasis President and Chief Scientific Officer. "They will play active, ongoing roles in guiding our therapeutic development programs in protein clearance and other pathways for modulating proteostasis."

Drs. Finley, King and Goldberg join Proteostasis scientific founders and co-founders, William E. Balch, Ph.D., Professor, Departments of Cell/Molecular Biology and Chemical Physiology, the Skaggs Institute for Chemical Biology and the Institute for Childhood and Neglected Diseases at The Scripps Research Institute; Andrew Dillin, Ph.D., Investigator Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Director, Glenn Center for Aging Research and Associate Professor of The Salk Institute for Biological Studies; Jeffery W. Kelly, Ph.D., Lita Annenberg Hazen Professor of Chemistry, Chairman, Molecular and Experimental Medicine at The Scripps Research Institute; and Richard I. Morimoto, Bill and Gayle Cook Professor of Biology,

Professor of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology, and Director of the Rice Institute for Biomedical Research at Northwestern University.

Dr. Goldberg's major discoveries have concerned the biochemical mechanisms and physiological regulation of protein breakdown in cells and the importance of this process in human disease. His laboratory first discovered the ATP-dependent system for protein breakdown, now termed the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway. Dr. Goldberg's lab first introduced the proteasome inhibitors now widely used as research tools, and he initiated the research effort that led to the development of the inhibitor, Bortezomib/Velcade®, now widely used in the treatment of certain cancers. He has published over 400 scientific papers and is among the one percent most-cited authors in the life sciences. Dr. Goldberg has been on the faculty of Harvard Medical School his entire career. He received his AB degree in 1963 and his Ph.D. in Physiology from Harvard University after attending Harvard Medical School and Cambridge University.

Dr. Finley's research has focused on understanding how the proteasome recognizes its substrates, how it coordinates deubiquitination with protein degradation, how it assembles, and how it unfolds and translocates the substrate in preparation for degradation. His research, in collaboration with Dr. King, has led to the discovery of a novel target, Usp14, which inhibits proteasome activity by decoupling ubiquitin tags from proteins, as well as small molecule inhibitors of Usp14 that increases turnover of neurotoxic or damaged proteins. Their research was published in *Nature* in September 2010. Dr. Finley has been a Professor of Cell Biology at Harvard Medical School since 1988. Dr. Finley graduated from Harvard University in 1980 and received his Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1984.

Dr. King's research, which integrates chemical and biological approaches to the study of cell division, has focused on ubiquitin-dependent protein breakdown during mitosis. He was named Associate Professor of Cell Biology at Harvard Medical School in 2006, after serving as Assistant Professor of Cell Biology since 2000. Previously, he spent three years as the first Institute Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry of Cell Biology at Harvard. He received his undergraduate degree in Chemistry from Carleton College in 1988, followed by a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from UCSF in 1995 and an M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1997.

### **About Proteostasis Therapeutics**

Proteostasis Therapeutics is developing "Proteostasis Regulators" (PRs), small molecule drugs that restore proper protein function or removes misfolded and aggregated proteins and peptides to treat neurodegenerative, metabolic, genetic and inflammatory disorders. The Proteostasis Network is the cellular machinery responsible for protein folding, trafficking and clearance, and can become imbalanced by the cumulative effects of aging, disease, genetics, and environmental factors. PTI was founded by leading scientists who discovered a pioneering approach for treating disease by restoring protein network homeostasis. [www.proteostasis.com](http://www.proteostasis.com)

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