



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Tara A. Ellis
(716) 898- 8596

FOR RELEASE: Thursday, May 1, 2008

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY'S DR. HELEN BERMAN TO SPEAK AT HAUPTMAN-WOODWARD

Helen Berman, Ph.D., of Rutgers University, is slated to lecture at the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute on Thursday, June 19, 2008. She will present her lecture, *"The Past, Present and Future of the Protein Data Bank."* The lecture will begin at 4 p.m. in the Hauptman-Woodward Flickinger Seminar Suite immediately followed by a reception.

Berman is a Board of Governors professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Rutgers. The research in her laboratory is centered on the study of the structural properties of biological molecules and relating these structures to their biological functions. To gain a better understanding of the processes involved, her lab focuses on the structures of protein-nucleic acid complexes and uses that information to help explain the cause of interactions between nucleic acids and proteins.

Berman received her bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Barnard College in 1964, and her Ph.D. in Natural Science from the University of Pittsburgh in 1967. She worked as a National Institute of Health postdoctoral trainee at the University of Pittsburgh from 1967-1969. Berman has worked for the Institute for Cancer Research at Fox Chase Cancer Center, also as a research collaborator in the Department of Chemistry at Brookhaven National Laboratory, and she also has been a member of the Waksman Institute at Rutgers University. She was an adjunct professor of chemistry in the Department of Chemistry at University of Pennsylvania and an adjunct professor of crystallography in the Department of Crystallography at the University of Pittsburgh. She is currently a director of the Nucleic Acid Database at Rutgers University, and a director of the Protein Data Bank at Rutgers University. She has been honored with numerous awards that include a Distinguished Service Award from the Biophysical Society, the M.J. Buerger Award, and Distinguished Lecturer, Sigma Xi.

ABOUT HWI

With more than 50 years of exceptional scientific research, the Hauptman-Woodward Institute is an internationally-renowned independent, non-profit facility specializing in life-altering research. Our team of more than 75 members is committed to improving human health through the study of the causes of diseases, as well as potential therapies, at their fundamental molecular level. HWI is located in the heart of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in downtown Buffalo, New York, in a new state-of-the-art structural biology research center at 700 Ellicott Street. For more information, visit HWI's website at www.hwi.buffalo.edu or call 716-898-8600.