# THE SCIENTIST

# **CONTENIDO**

# VOLUMEN 27 No. 5, MAY 2013

## **FEATURES**

#### The Science of Stretch.

The study of connective tissue is shedding light on pain and providing new explanations for alternative medicine.

Helene M. Langevin.

### 38 Live Wires.

Discoveries of microbial communities that transfer electrons between cells and across relatively long distances are launching a new field of microbiology.

Mohamed Y. El-Naggar and Steven E. Finkel.

## 44 Why So Soon?

Researchers are using modern experimental tools to probe the mysterious molecular pathways that lead to premature labor and birth. *Bob Grant*.

### **DEPARTMENTS**

# 13 From the Editorial

### We're All Connected.

A look at some of biology's communication networks. *Mary Beth Aberlin*.

### 17 Notebook

Bog-Bird Brain; IDing War Victims: Little White and the Three Toxins; Ancient Appearances.

# **26** Critic at Large.

# Researchers, Hire Hackers.

Clinical researchers need programming support to streamline their work, minimize error in the data, and find new trends that can point to better treatments.

Zeke Nierenberg and Martina Steurer-Muller.

# 28 Critic at Large.

On Being an "African American Scientist".

To gain equal opportunities in science, even subtle cases of differential treatment must be stamped out.

Raynard S. Kington.

# 31 Modus Operandi.

### **BRET Meets FRET.**

Biocompatible, self-luminescing nanoparticles for in vivo imaging. *Ruth Williams*.

## 52 The Literature.

Dynein motor proteins work in teams; extracellular mycovirus transmission; recurring seizures linked to macrophage presence.

## 54 Profile.

# The Organist.

When molecular biology methods failed her, Sangeeta Bhatia turned to engineering and microfabrication to build a liver from scratch. *Megan Scudellari*.

### 57 Scientist to Watch.

# **Gregory Sonnenberg.**

Dan Cossins.

### 58 Lab Tools

### Suited to a T.

Methods for studying single T cells.

Kelly Rea Chi.

### 61 Lab Tools

### Down for the Count.

Streamlining colony and plaque counting.

Amber Dance.

#### 65 Bio Business.

#### **How Safe IS Your Medicine Cabinet?**

Clinicians and regulators push to fix critical weaknesses in the FDA's monitoring system for approved drugs.

Megan Scudellari.

# **Reading Frames.**

# The King of Turtles.

American naturalist Louis Agassiz had a zeal for collecting that encouraged a nation to engage with nature.

Christoph Irmscher.

## Capsule Reviews.

Annie Gottlieb.

## **80** Foundations.

Flying Frog, 1855.

# Kate Yandell.

# **IN EVERY ISSUE**

- 11 Contributors.
- 14 Speaking of Science.
- 70 The Guide.
- 79 Recruitment.