

Steven Goodman Biosketch

Steven R. Goodman, Ph.D. was appointed vice president for research and dean of the College of Graduate Studies at SUNY Upstate Medical University effective Sept. 1, 2008. Steve also serves as Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Professor in the Department of Pediatrics. Goodman arrived from Dallas where he had served as the C.L. and Amelia A. Lundell Professor of Life Sciences, Professor of Molecular and Cell Biology, Head of the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, Director of the Institute of Biomedical Sciences and Technology, and Director of the Sickle Cell Disease Research Center at the University of Texas at Dallas. Steve was also an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Cell Biology at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Steve is respected worldwide for his three decades of research into the structure and function of cell structures called membrane skeletons. His related research into sickle cell disease led to breakthrough discoveries into the molecular basis of irreversibly sickled cells and is paving the way for new, more effective drug treatment of the disease. Goodman identified a drug, which, in Phase II trials, has been shown to block the formation of dense sickled cells and lower the crisis rate for sickle cell sufferers. Goodman's other major research contributions include helping to elucidate the structure and function of the spectrin membrane skeleton. In 1981, he was the first to describe nonerythroid spectrin, and has since demonstrated that spectrin functions are as diverse as regulating synaptic transmission, intracellular calcium homeostasis, and DNA repair. He provided the first description of the erythrocyte proteome; described defects in the sickle cell RBC proteome; defined the molecular basis of the irreversibly sickled red blood cell; and demonstrated that spectrin also functions as an ubiquitin conjugating/ligating enzyme.

Working collaboratively with George Buchanan, M.D., and colleagues at UT Southwestern Medical Center, Goodman helped bring the first NIH Sickle Cell Center to Texas. Prior to his positions in Dallas, he was chair of the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience and director of the NIH Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile. He has also served on the faculty of the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center of the Pennsylvania State University where he directed the Cell and Molecular Biology Center.

Goodman is a past president of the Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Neurobiology Chairs. He serves on multiple editorial boards and is currently editor-in-chief of Experimental Biology and Medicine. He has served on research grant study sections for the National Institutes of Health, the Israel Cancer Research Fund and the American Heart Association. In 2008, the third edition of Dr. Goodman's textbook, Medical Cell Biology was published.

Born in New York City (Manhattan), Goodman earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and his Ph.D. in biochemistry from St. Louis University Medical School. He completed postdoctoral research fellowships in cell and molecular biology at the Biological Laboratories and the Sidney Farber Cancer Center at Harvard University and Harvard Medical School.

Steve is married to Cindy Goodman and they have six children: Laela, Christie, Gena, Laurie, Jessie and David. Steve and Cindy live in Fayetteville N.Y.