

**James R. Killian, Jr., Faculty Achievement Award 2006–2007
Citation for H. Robert Horvitz**

The 2006-2007 Killian Award Committee is delighted to announce that Professor H. Robert Horvitz, the David H. Koch Professor of Biology, is the recipient of this year's highest faculty achievement award. Bob Horvitz is a pioneer in using the simple round-worm, *Caenorhabditis elegans*, as an experimental organism for studying the genetic basis of the development of multicellular organisms. By delving evermore deeply into the developmental genetics of *C. elegans*, Bob's research group has made seminal discoveries in areas of cell differentiation, programmed cell death, and nerve cell function that have led to fundamental understanding of development for all multicellular organisms. His accomplishments have been duly recognized nationally and internationally by numerous honors and awards, including the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2002.

In addition to his undergraduate years at MIT as a mathematics and economics major, Bob has spent his entire career as a faculty member at MIT. In his twenty-seven years at MIT, Bob has taught thousands of undergraduate and graduate students the fundamentals of Genetics and he has been an inspirational mentor to graduate students and postdoctoral associates in his own laboratory. His research group is a clear point of origin of an entire field as many of Bob's former students and postdoctoral associates are now highly respected scientists at top institutions throughout the country. His recognition as the Killian Award recipient is a fitting honor for someone who has devoted his career to research, teaching, and service to the Institute.

The James R. Killian, Jr., Faculty Achievement Award Selection Committee for
2006-2007:

Erich P. Ippen (Chair)

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