

Stanford, Harvard researchers to share \$500K medical prize

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In this March 26, 2015 photo provided by the Stanford School of Medicine, Dr. Karl Deisseroth, professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences and of bioengineering at Stanford University, poses for a photo on the school's campus

in Stanford, Calif. Deisseroth and Xiaoliang Sunney Xie, whose work on modern research technologies is expected to speed the pace of medical discoveries, will share one of the richest prizes in medicine and science next month in New York. (Norbert von der Groeben/Stanford School of Medicine via AP)

Two scientists whose work on modern research technologies is expected to speed the pace of medical discoveries will share one of the richest prizes in medicine and science next month, officials at a New York hospital said Monday.

The \$500,000 Albany Medical Center Prize in Biomedicine and Biomedical Research for 2015 will be awarded to Dr. Karl Deisseroth of Stanford University and Xiaoliang Sunney Xie of Harvard University and Peking University, where he is a visiting professor and director of the Biodynamics Optical Imaging Center.

Deisseroth is a professor of bioengineering and psychiatry and behavioral science. His work includes developing imaging technology that allows brain researchers to gain greater insight into a wide range of psychiatric diseases and other conditions, including depression, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease and addiction.

Xie is a professor of chemistry and chemical biology whose imaging work has advanced the field of single-cell biology, yielding new information on how individual molecules can affect cellular life and human diseases. His experiments made it possible to examine previously invisible single molecules in living cells.

"These two prolific scientists saw a need for new technology to help move their research forward and then actually developed it," said Dr. Vincent Verdile, dean of Albany Medical College and chairman of the

prize committee. "Researchers worldwide are now using their techniques, including novel imaging and sequencing, which are fast providing insights into previously mysterious biological functions, especially those in the brain."

The award has been given annually since 2001 to those who have altered the course of medical research. It was established by the late Morris "Marty" Silverman, a New York City businessman. It will be formally presented May 15 in Albany.



This is an undated photo of Xiaoliang Sunney Xie provided by himself. Xie, of Harvard University and Peking University, and Karl Deisseroth of Stanford University will share the \$500,000 Albany Medical Center Prize in Biomedicine and Biomedical Research in New York in May, officials at the hospital said on Monday, April 20, 2015. The two scientists won the prize for their work on modern research technologies that are expected to speed the pace of medical discoveries. (Courtesy of Xiaoliang Sunney Xie via AP)

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