

Dr S. Jonathan Singer named co-recipient of the American Association of Blood Banks' 1981 Karl Landsteiner Award

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Dr. S. Jonathan Singer, professor of biology at the University of California, San Diego, has been named a co-recipient of the American Association of Blood Banks' 1981 Karl Landsteiner Award for his "important contributions to our understanding of membrane structure, function and topography."

The award, which carries a \$1,000 honorarium, will be presented to Singer at the association's annual meeting in November in Chicago. At the meeting, Singer is scheduled to give a portion of the annual Karl Landsteiner memorial lecture. He shares the award with Dr. James F. Danielli of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass.

The award was given to Singer for his "important contributions to our understanding of membrane structure, function and topography by formulating the fluid mosaic and bylayer couple theories of membrane organization and configuration and the rigorous testing of these hypotheses and development of practical methods for labeling antibodies with ferritin and other important contributions to chemical cytology and immunochemistry."

Singer, one of the nation's leading molecular and cell biologists, joined the UC San Diego faculty in 1961 as one of the first members of the Department of Biology. He gained an early international reputation through his work as a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Linus Pauling at the California Institute of Technology, and was a co-discoverer, with Pauling and Dr. Harvey Itano, of the abnormal hemoglobin of sickle cell anemia.

Singer's most important work has been carried out at UC San Diego where, in 1972, he proposed a new theory for the molecular organization of cell membranes: the fluid-mosaic model of membrane structure. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1969 and was awarded a lifetime research professorship by the American Cancer Society in 1976.

The Landsteiner award was created in 1954 and is given annually to the individual who is internationally known for contributions to immunohematology. It is named for Karl Landsteiner whose lifetime research laid the foundation for modern blood transfusion therapy.

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