



# **Rockefeller University records, Special Events and Activities, Alfred E. Mirsky Christmas Lectures, Tapes**

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Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue  
Sleepy Hollow 10591

[archive@rockarch.org](mailto:archive@rockarch.org)

URL: <http://www.rockarch.org>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rockefeller Archive Center
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller University
<b>Title:</b>	Rockefeller University records, Special Events and Activities, Alfred E. Mirsky Christmas Lectures, Tapes
<b>ID:</b>	FA876
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1959-2001
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8.4 Cubic Feet 7 boxes.
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7 boxes.
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

### Preferred Citation note

Information regarding the Rockefeller Archive Center's preferred elements and forms of citation can be found at <http://www.rockarch.org/research/citations.php>

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## Arrangement

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Chronological

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## File Plan note

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Former Classification: I 600-5.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue

Sleepy Hollow 10591

[archive@rockarch.org](mailto:archive@rockarch.org)

URL: <http://www.rockarch.org>

### Revision Description

### Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for scholarly research.

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Vivisection
- Genetics
- DNA
- Biology -- Research
- Medicine, Preventive
- Medical care
- China
- Cell and biomolecular sciences
- Medical research
- Medical sciences
- Seitz, Frederick
- Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research

- MacLeod, Colin M. (Colin Munro)
- Avery, Oswald Theodore
- McCarty, Maclyn
- Rockefeller University

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## Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements note

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Materials requiring specialized equipment for access (film, audio, video, slides) may be closed to research dependent on availability of the applicable equipment

Brittle or damaged items, or materials otherwise in need of preservation care, may be closed to researchers at the discretion of the RAC Head of Archival Services/Head of Reference.

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Instances
<b>Christmas lectures, 1959-2001</b>	
<u>Related Archival Materials note:</u> <b>Related Archival Materials note</b>	
See also: Alfred E. Mirsky papers	
<b>Biographical/Historical note</b>	
The Christmas Lectures were started at The Rockefeller University in 1959 under the guidance of Alfred E. Mirsky. For a complete history see the Alfred E. Mirsky papers. After Dr. Mirsky's death in June 1974 the lectures were renamed The Alfred E. Mirsky Christmas Lectures on Science.	
The taping of the Christmas Lectures began in 1968. Originally they were taped, numbered and stored consecutively with other taped University events. Since 1972 Christmas Lecture tapes are handled as an individual series. In the Archives, starting with the 1968 tapes, the series is kept as a discreet unit. A very few of the earliest lectures can be found with the papers of the scientist who delivered the lecture. Catalog card descriptions should bring together all those that are available in the archives.	
<b>1959-1975</b>	
1959	René Dubos: The Unseen World
1960	Paul Weiss: Living Forms

1961	Lyman Craig, Stanford Moore, William Stein: On Separating Things
1962	Mark Kac: Chance and Regularity
1963	Sam Goudsmit: Light and Quanta
1964	James Hirsch: White Cells
1965	Alfred E. Mirsky, Vincent G. Allfrey: The Cell Nucleus
1966	Donald Griffin: Animal Navigation and Communication
1967	Peter Marler: Social Behavior of Monkeys and Apes
1968	Igor Tamm, Purnell Choppin: Viruses In and Out of Cells
1969	No lecture
1970	James Hirsch, Zanvil Cohn: White Cells
1971	Vincent Dole: Drug Addiction
1972	Roger Payne: Whales
1973	Bruce McEwen: Hormones and the Brain
1974	Armin C. Braun: An Introduction to the Biology of Cancer
1975	Floyd Ratliff: Vision and the Retina

### Scope and Contents note

Addition to 1982 AEM Christmas Lectures on Science: [21 Apr 1986. Received from S.W. Mirsky. Joel E. Cohen.\* An Uncertainty Principle in Demography and the Unisex Issue." American Statistician 40 (1986 Feb) 32-39. Reprint. \*...Previous versions of this work were presented in the 1982 Alfred E. Mirsky Lectures in [should be 'on'] Science at Rockefeller University..." w/handwritten note attached by Joel Cohen/Sonya W. Mirsky, 13 April 1986].

### Custodial History note:

### **Custodial History note**

Received 1974 and later.

### Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

Title/Description	Instances	
Igor Tamm, Purnell Choppin: Viruses In and Out of Cells, 1968 December 28-29	box 1	tape 58
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.		
James Hirsch: White Cells, 1970 December 28	box 1	tape 90
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.		
Zanvil Cohn: White Cells, 1970 December 29	box 1	tape 91
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.		
Vincent Dole: Drug Addiction, 1971 December 27-28	box 1	tape 108-109
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.		
Roger Payne: Whales, 1972 December 27-28	box 1	tape 123A-123C
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		

## Conditions Governing Access

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Roger Payne: Whales, 1972 December 28

box 2

tape 123

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

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Bruce McEwen: Hormones and the Brain, 1973 December 27-28

box 2

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

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Armin C. Braun: An Introduction to the Biology of cancer, 1974  
December 30-31

box 2

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

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Floyd Ratliff: Vision and the Retina, 1975 December 29

box 2

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

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Floyd Ratliff: Vision and the Retina, 1975 December 30

box 3

Conditions Governing Access:



## Conditions Governing Access

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Christian de Duve: A Guided Tour of the Living Cell, 1976  
December 27-28

box 3

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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George Miller: The verbal machinery of thinking (An error was made in the taping so only the question period was taped. However, in this same box is a complete typescript of the 4 lectures), 1977 December 27-28

box 3

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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E.G.D. Cohen: Molecules in motion: the kinetic theory of matter, 1978 December 27-28

box 4

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

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Gerald M. Edelman: Immunology and Development: Selective molecular recognition, 1979 December 26-27

box 4

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

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Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Stanford Moore: Biochemical horizons, with a focus on protein chemistry (with 1-page handout summarizing contents of four lectures), 1980 December 29-30 box 4

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Samuel C. Silverstein: White blood cells, 1981 December 29-30

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Tuesday, 1981 December 29 box 5 reel 1

**Scope and Contents note**

Lecture 1. Their structure.

Lecture 2. How they eat and drink.

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Wednesday, 1981 December 30 box 5 reel 2

**Scope and Contents note**

Lecture 3. Defense against microbes and tumors.

Lecture 4. Legionnaire disease.

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special

order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Joel E. Cohen: Populations, 1982 December 28-29

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Tuesday, 1982 December 28

box 5

reel 1

### **Scope and Contents note**

Reel 1: Lecture 1. Numbers. Problems of enumeration; history and prospects.

Reel 1: Lecture 2. Evolution. Principles; practical consequences for public health.

#### Conditions Governing Access:

### **Conditions Governing Access**

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Wednesday, 1982 December 29

box 5

reel 2

### **Scope and Contents note**

Reel 2: Lecture 3. Sex. Why and what in quantitative perspective.

Reel 2: Lecture 4. Uncertainty. How does the past relate to the future?

#### Conditions Governing Access:

### **Conditions Governing Access**

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Fernando Nottebohm: Brains

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Wednesday, 1983 December 28

box 5

reel 1

### **Scope and Contents note**

Reel 1: Lecture 1. Learning to Sing. Birdsong as a complex motor skill.

Reel 1: Lecture 2. Two Brains in One. Functions of the two hemispheres and the riddle of consciousness.

#### Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Thursday, 1983 December 29

box 5

reel 2

### Scope and Contents note

Reel 2: Lecture 3. Sex and the Brain. Male and female brains show interesting anatomical differences.

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

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Thursday, 1983 December 29

box 5

reel 3

### Scope and Contents note

Reel 2: Lecture 4. Replaceable Neurons. Some types of adult brain neurons are constantly replaced by other neurons born in adulthood.

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

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Emil C. Gotschlich: The Ecology and Molecular Biology of Bacterial Diseases, 1984 December 26-27

### General note

This is the first year we have both reels and cassettes for the AEM Christmas Lectures on Science. There is a cassette for each lecture and 2 reels for the four lectures.

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Wednesday, 1984 December 26

box 6

reel 1

### Scope and Contents note

Cassette 1: Lecture 1. Bacterial Diseases - The Rules of the Game.

Cassette 2: Lecture 2. Gonococcus - The Professional.

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Thursday, 1984 December 27

box 6

reel 2

**Scope and Contents note**

Cassette 3: Lecture 3. Cholera Bacillus - A Man for All Seasons.

Cassette 4: Lecture 4. Vaccines - Of Mice and Men.

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

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D. Martin Carter: Skin: Our Protective Envelope, 1985 December 26-27

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Thursday, 1985 December 26

box 6

reel 1-2

Conditions Governing Access:

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**Scope and Contents note**

[PLEASE NOTE: Lectures 1 and 2 delivered in reverse order from original information as cited on covering letter and poster. Confirmed by D. Martin Carter/Joan Hofmann, 15 Apr 1986].

Cassette 1 (Side 1 & 2): Lecture 1: Barrier. How the filamentous keratin layer of the skin controls fluid loss and drug absorption.

Cassette 1 (Side 2) & Cassette 2 (Side 1): Lecture 2:  
Color. How pigment cells migrate and synthesize and  
transfer melanin.

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Friday, 1985 December 27

box 6

reel 2-3

### **Scope and Contents note**

Cassette 2 (Side 2) & Cassette 3 (Side 1): Lecture 3.  
Healing. How the healing of wounds is enhanced by  
"Artificial skin" and biosynthetic dressings.

Cassette 3 (Sides 1 & 2): Lecture 4. Repair. How cells  
repair DNA damage caused by ultraviolet, x rays, and  
chemicals.

#### Conditions Governing Access:

### **Conditions Governing Access**

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feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special  
order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of  
Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for  
details.

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Rodney L. Cool: "Quarks - the Fundamental Constituents of  
Matter?", 1986 December 26 1986 December 29

box 6

#### Conditions Governing Access:

### **Conditions Governing Access**

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feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special  
order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of  
Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for  
details.

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Emil Thomas Kaiser: "Enzymes - Structure, Function, Design, and  
Construction", 1987 December 28-29

box 6

#### Conditions Governing Access:

### **Conditions Governing Access**

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feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special  
order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of  
Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for  
details.

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Ralph Steinman: "T-Cell Mediated Immunity", 1988 December  
27-28

box 6

#### Conditions Governing Access:

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feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special

order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

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Peter Model: "Which Gene to Use? How Bacterial Cells Respond to Their Environment", 1989 December 27-28 box 6

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

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Emil Thomas Kaiser: "Enzymes - Structure, Function, Design, and Construction", 1987 box 7

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

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Thomas Sakmar: Tune On, Tune In: The Human Genome, Molecular Switches and Signaling, 2001 December 27 box 7

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

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