The Prize Winner in 1999 - Dr. Steve A. Kay

Dr. Steve A. Kay was born in October 1959 as a citizen of U.K. He studied biochemistry in University of Bristol and received his Ph.D. in 1984. He became an assistant professor in the Rockefeller University and later in University of Virginia. In 1995, he promoted to an associate professor with tenure and became a director in Advanced Cellular Imaging Faculty, University Virginia. One year later, he moved to the Scripps Research Institute and became a professor of cell biology in 1998.

Dr. Steve Kay has made major contribution to our understanding of the genetic and molecular mechanism of circadian clock. In his early studies, he analyzed the rice phytochrome and wheat Cab genes which introduced him to the field of circadian rhythm. He developed a new technique for monitoring circadian rhythmicities using a bioluminescence reporter-gene, firefly luciferase, and found circadian clock mutant in Arabidopsis. More recently, he becomes involved also in drosophila and mammalian circadian clocks. By these achievements. Dr. Steve Kay proved himself as an outstanding and ambitious scientist.