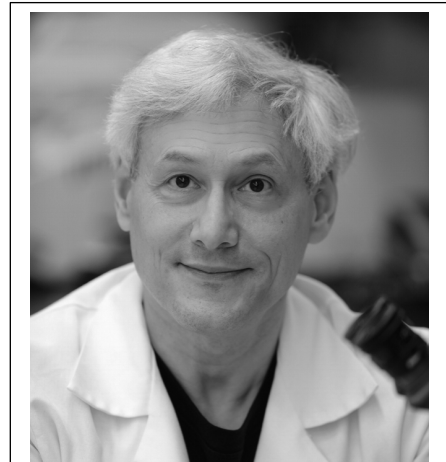


Jeff Robbins Collaborative Science Award

In Memory of Prof. Jeff Robbins

The **ISHR Distinguished Mentor Award** is established in memory of the late Professor Jeff Robbins, a visionary scientist and extraordinary mentor who dedicated his career to advancing cardiovascular biology, sharing resources to foster growth and shaping the next generation of researchers. This award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated sustained excellence in mentoring, inspiring, and guiding trainees, while fostering their professional and personal development in cardiovascular science.

Professor Robbins exemplified the highest standards of mentorship. His leadership created an environment where students, fellows, and junior faculty could thrive, pursue bold ideas, and develop into independent investigators. Through his vision and generosity, he was instrumental in establishing collaborative networks, training programs, and opportunities that opened doors for countless scientists. His mentorship extended far beyond scientific training; he nurtured confidence, resilience, and integrity in his mentees, leaving an indelible legacy in the field of cardiovascular research.



Dr. Jeffrey Robbins, PhD.
October 30, 1950 - August 20, 2022

The **Collaborative Science Award** will honor individuals who, like Professor Robbins, have consistently invested in the success of their mentees through meaningful scientific guidance, career advocacy, and personal support. The award particularly highlights contributions in developing structured mentorship programs, promoting diversity and inclusion, and enabling mentees to secure leadership roles in academia, industry, and medicine.

The award will be presented annually at the ISHR North American Section meeting. The recipient will receive a \$1,000 honorarium and a commemorative plaque. An announcement will also be published in *Heart News and Views* and on the ISHR website. The award covers free registration to attend the ISHR North American Section meeting.

Nominations for the award will be solicited by email and through the ISHR website. The final selection will be made by vote of the Award Committee. Nomination materials must include a letter highlighting the nominee's mentoring philosophy and impact, along with support by testimonials from mentees who can speak to the lasting influence of the mentor on their careers.

Committee members:

Jeffery D. Molkentin, PhD
Jil C. Tardiff, MD, PhD
Leslie Leinwand, PhD
Litsa G. Kranias, PhD
Roselyn Robbins, BS, MSN
Sakthivel Sadayappan, PhD, MBA (Chair)



**International Society
for Heart Research**

North American Section

The Legacy of Professor Jeff Robbins

Professor Jeff Robbins was universally acknowledged as “the father of cardiac transgenesis,” a title reflecting his pioneering contributions to molecular cardiology. Early in his career, he developed state-of-the-art cardiac-specific transgenic and gene-targeted mouse models that became foundational tools in cardiovascular science. These models enabled researchers worldwide to unravel the molecular mechanisms underlying heart development, gene regulation, hypertrophy, and failure with unprecedented precision. By introducing the field to approaches that allowed for targeted manipulation of gene expression *in vivo*, Dr. Robbins fundamentally reshaped how investigators could model and understand cardiovascular disease.

At Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC), Professor Robbins founded and directed the Division of Molecular Cardiovascular Biology, establishing one of the world’s leading programs in pediatric and cardiovascular research. Under his leadership, the division grew into a globally recognized center, producing breakthroughs in basic and translational research, while also serving as a training ground for the next generation of investigators. His leadership emphasized rigor, collaboration, and generosity, and he worked tirelessly to integrate mentorship into the culture of his division, the institution, and the ISHR community writ large.

Over the course of his career, Professor Robbins published more than 250 peer-reviewed papers, many of which are considered seminal in the field. His scholarship was complemented by his exceptional service to the scientific community which included editorial leadership, international collaborations, and mentorship initiatives that elevated the careers of countless scientists. He was honored with numerous awards, including major distinctions from the American Heart Association, the International Society for Heart Research, the Lucian Award for Research in Circulatory Diseases, as well as such institutional honors as the Drake Medal and the William Cooper Procter Medallion at CCHMC.

Through his vision, innovation, and generosity, Jeff Robbins left an enduring scientific and human legacy. His work transformed how cardiac biology is studied, set institutional and global standards for mentorship, and inspired generations of cardiovascular scientists to follow his example of excellence and leadership.



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