

2008

Nobel's Awarded

Inquiro Staff

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.uab.edu/inquiro>

 Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Staff, Inquiro (2008) "Nobel's Awarded," *Inquiro, the UAB undergraduate science research journal*: Vol. 2008: No. 2, Article 3.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.library.uab.edu/inquiro/vol2008/iss2/3>

This content has been accepted for inclusion by an authorized administrator of the UAB Digital Commons, and is provided as a free open access item. All inquiries regarding this item or the UAB Digital Commons should be directed to the [UAB Libraries Office of Scholarly Communication](#).

Nobel's Awarded

The 2008 Nobel Prizes were announced in early October and awarded at a ceremony in Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, in early December. The Noble prize in medicine and physiology was awarded to Harald zur Hausen from Germany for his discovery of human papilloma viruses (HPV) causing cervical cancer, and Francoise Barre-Sinoussi and Luc Montagnier from France for their discovery of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). In Chemistry Osamu Shimomura, Martin Chalfie, Roger Yonchien Tsien from the United States shared the prize for their discovery and development of the green fluorescent protein, GFP. GFP, is composed of 238 amino acids, and it has a quaternary structure. This protein, which was originally extracted from jellyfish *A. Victoria*, will produce a green light, if it is exposed to UV spectrum. This protein has been used in many biological studies, such as transformation of plasmids into bacteria. The Nobel prize in physics was awarded to Yoichiro Nambu from Japan for the discovery of the mechanism of spontaneous broken symmetry in subatomic physics, and Makoto Kobayashi and Toshihide Maskawa, from Japan, for their discovery of the origin of the broken symmetry which predicts the existence of at least three families of quarks in nature.

