



(Above) Ed Yong delivered his talk "I Contain Multitudes: The Microbes Within Us and a Grand View of Life." (At right) Dr. Gustavo Aguirre presented at the symposium held in his honor.

at Harvard Medical School; Dr. Gabriel Nunez, Co-Director of the Immunology & Host Response Program in the Department of Pathology, University of Michigan; Dr. Manuela Raffatellu, Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of California, San Diego; and Dr. Cynthia Sears, Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University.

The CHMI is designed to facilitate collaborative projects that leverage genomics to study the intersection of microbes and disease. In doing so, researchers gain insight into how bacteria, parasites, viruses, and other organisms interact with their animal and human hosts in ways that either maintain health or lead to disease.

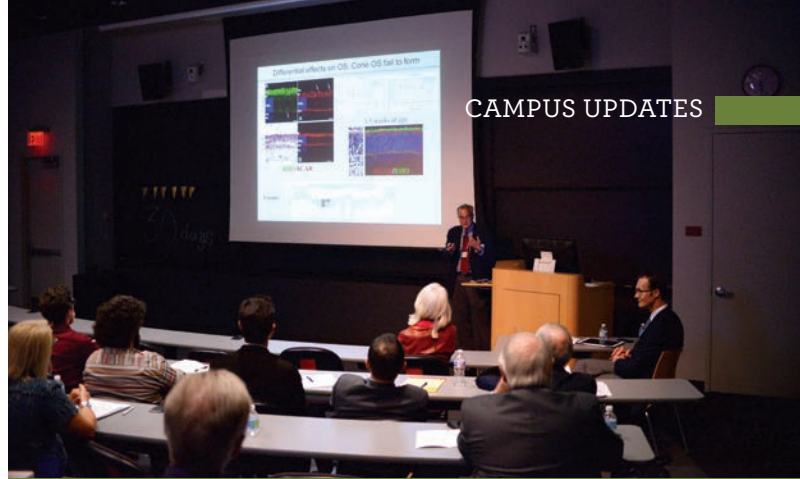
skin disease across species. They are also superb in their focus on publicizing the One Health approach in their presentations at scientific and medical conferences."

Bradley is an Assistant Professor of Pathology in the Department of Pathobiology at Penn Vet. His research interests are focused on dermatopathology and the role of the microbiome in skin disease, particularly canine AD.

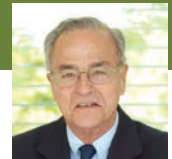
"This award is a true honor, and it symbolizes the interdisciplinary support and friendships that have grown out of our work, across campus and health systems," Bradley said.

Grice is an Assistant Professor of Dermatology and Microbiology at Penn Medicine. Her research focuses on host-microbe interactions of the skin and elucidating their roles in skin health, disease, and wound healing.

"We strive to embrace One Health in all lines of research in the lab, recognizing its impact on not only human medicine, but on animals and the environment," she said.



## Symposium held in honor of Proctor Medal recipient Dr. Gustavo Aguirre



By John Donges

Last November, the Translational Retinal Research & Therapies Symposium brought together a group of internationally recognized scientists and clinician scientists from the veterinary and human medical fields. They presented the latest research in areas including retinal disease gene discovery, disease mechanisms, translational studies, and clinical applications.

The symposium was held in honor of Dr. Gustavo Aguirre, V'68 (pictured above at right), Professor of Medical Genetics and Ophthalmology at Penn Vet, who received the 2017 Proctor Medal from the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. The Proctor Medal honors excellence in the basic or clinical sciences as applied to ophthalmology, and Aguirre is the first veterinarian to be granted the Medal in its 67-year history. His research area is the molecular basis of inherited blindness, and his approach to developing genetic therapies for dogs with Leber's congenital amaurosis has paved the way to clinical trials in humans. He received the award for his development of unique canine models of retinal degeneration, which provides basic information about their counterpart human diseases.

In addition to Aguirre, speakers included Dr. William Beltran, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at Penn Vet; Dr. John Flannery, Professor of Optometry and Vision Science at the University of California – Berkeley; Dr. Alison Hardcastle, Professor of Molecular Genetics at University College of London; Dr. Samuel G. Jacobson, Professor of Ophthalmology at Scheie Eye Institute of the University of Pennsylvania; and José-Alain Sahel, Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.