

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of the RCSS,

I have the great honor and pleasure to share this amazing brochure with you. You will see that our undergraduate RCSS interns - coming from all undergraduate schools here on campus - have taken up my original offer to own their projects while helping the commons of our operation, and have done so with such grace and power that all there is for me to say is how proud I am to be their student.

How did we get here? First, we received a quasi-endowment in 2015 from my dear friend, Harvey Krueger CC '51, Law '54. After an initial expense from capital to pay for the transition of our work from the Earth Institute to the Center for Science and Society, we have initiated and funded all you read about here by carefully expending the annual yield from the endowment.

Until this semester. This semester we have received recognition, funds and welcomes to further collaboration, from a diverse set of colleagues.

We have received funds for student projects and student internships from advisory Board member Melinda Miller of the Center for Science and society; from David Madigan, outgoing VP of

**We find ourselves  
engaging students and  
faculty from the entire  
university, all through  
student initiatives.**



Leeza Hirt, CC '18, introducing Nobel Laureate and Columbia neuroscience professor, Eric Kandel. At the event, organized by Leeza, Prof. Kandel discussed his book, *Reductionism in Art and Brain Science: Bridging the Two Cultures*.

Arts and Sciences; from Casey Blake, Advisory Board member and Director of the Center for American Studies; and from Charles Borrok, a member of our Advisory Board and a friend to me, Amy and my students since I was the Dean of the College in the 1980s.

The result is profound: as our river of funding has lost its icy predictability, we find ourselves engaging students and faculty from the entire Currently our small RCSS presence is responsible for many public events including a presentation by Professor Eric Kandel, and for courses totaling 12 points of academic credit, almost 10% of what it takes to get a BA here.

We have only just begun.

Welcome to the RCSS!

**DR. ROBERT POLLACK**

*Director of the Research Cluster of  
Science and Subjectivity*