

About a blog

Garrett Eastman

ASIS&T

November 16, 2004

The Rowland Institute at Harvard

<http://www.rowland.harvard.edu>

Imaginative experimental science



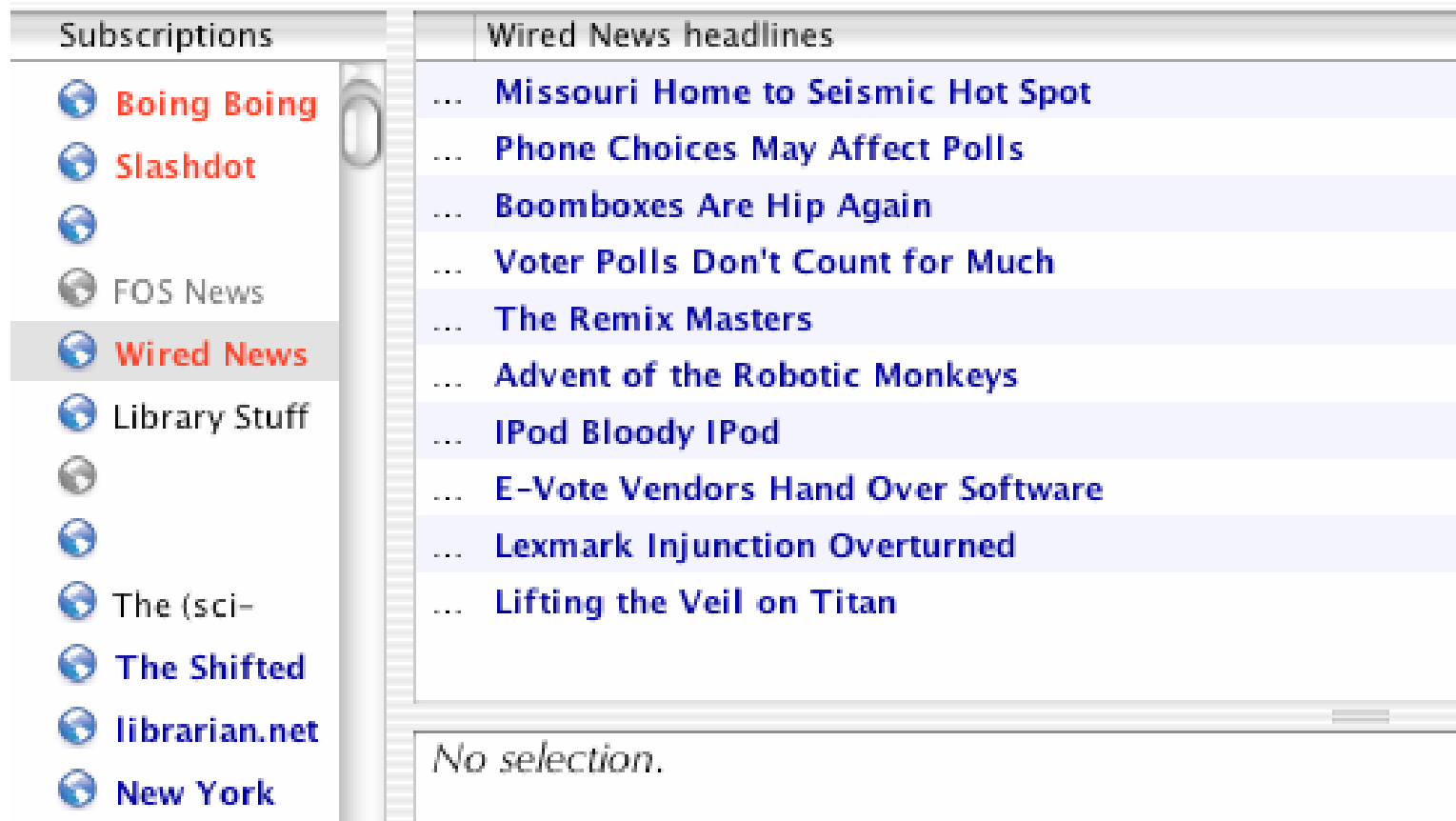
Background

- Rowland Institute, scientific labs, interdisciplinary
- Library works closely with research groups
- A blog is useful for bringing knowledge to researchers, sharing knowledge within the community and with a larger audience

Why blogging?

- Keeping current
- Relative ease of entry
(Blogger, Manila)
- Community with other bloggers
- Usefulness of RSS

A newsreader



Finding feeds

- Feed collections
 - <http://www.syndic8.com>
 - <http://www.newsisfree.com>
- Search engines
 - <http://www.technorati.com>
 - <http://www.feedster.com>

News feeds

- Science News
 - New York Times--Science
 - ScienceDaily <http://www.sciencedaily.com>
 - news@nature.com
<http://www.nature.com/news/index.html>
 - Wired News <http://www.wired.com>
 - Slashdot <http://www.slashdot.com>

Science journals and feeds

- Institute of Physics www.iop.org
- BioMed Central www.biomedcentral.com

for authors

for libraries

about us

What we do

- What is BioMed Central?
- Guide to the website
- Institutional membership
- Corp membership
- Author comments
- User comments
- Recent developments
- AvantGo service
- BioMed Central toolbar
- Online shop
- Jobs at BioMed Central

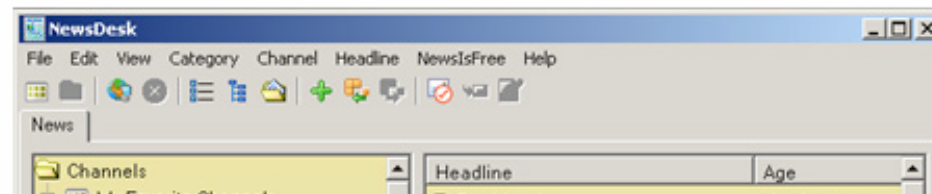
Our policies

- Peer-review policy

■ Receiving content from BioMed Central and The Scientist as an RSS headline feed

RSS (Really Simple Syndication) is a well-established web standard for the delivery of news headlines and other frequently updated content summaries.

There are many different [news headline readers](#) to choose from which will regularly retrieve the latest items from your favorite RSS-enabled sites and display them on your desktop:



Search feeds

- Bioinformatics Aggregated RSS Feeds (BaRF) <http://barf.jcowboy.org/index.cgi/>
- HubMed for PubMed searches
www.hubmed.org
- Yahoo, Topix.net

Library - Research Oriented

- ResourceShelf <http://www.resourceshelf.com>
- beSpacific <http://www.bespacific.com>
- The Virtual Chase <http://www.virtualchase.com>
- LISNews.com <http://www.lisnews.com>
- Library Stuff <http://www.librarystuff.com>
- Shifted Librarian <http://www.shiftedlibrarian.com>
- j's scratchpad
<http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/jkbaumga>
- Christina's Library Rant
<http://christinaslibraryrant.blogspot.com>

Science Libraries

- The (sci-tech) Library Question
<http://stlq.info>
- Englib <http://englib.info>
- Confessions of a Science Librarian
<http://jdupuis.blogspot.com>
- Ga. State Univ.
<http://www.library.gsu.edu/news/>



Library News and Subject Blogs

[Changes in GALILEO for 2004-2005](#)

[Posted: 08/20/04 at 2:23 PM by [Doug](#) in [Library News](#)]

October 29, 2004

[Tech Help for Students: WebCT, Vista, eTraining, etc.](#)

[Posted at 9:58 AM by [Teri](#) in [Science News](#)]

October 28, 2004

[Indonesia: Compromise cabinet](#)

[Posted at 1:51 PM by [La Loria](#) in [Political Science News](#)]

[The Internet and Democratic Debate](#)

[Posted at 12:50 PM by [La Loria](#) in [Political Science News](#)]

[E-Gov and E-Policy](#)

[Posted at 12:50 PM by [La Loria](#) in [Public Administration and Urban Studies News](#)]

[Brain Facts \(Society of Neuroscience\)](#)

[Posted at 11:37 AM by [Teri](#) in [Science News](#)]

Subject Specific Blogs:

- [XML](#) (All Blogs - Feed Only)
- [XML](#) [Library News](#)
- [XML](#) [African American Studies News](#)
- [XML](#) [Alpharetta Center Library](#)
- [XML](#) [Behavioral Sciences News](#)
- [XML](#) [Economics News](#)
- [XML](#) [Education News](#)
- [XML](#) [Gerontology News](#)
- [XML](#) [Government Information and Maps](#)
- [XML](#) [History News](#)
- [XML](#) [Issues in Scholarly Communication](#)
- [XML](#) [Middle East News](#)
- [XML](#) [Political Science News](#)
- [XML](#) [Public Administration and Urban Studies News](#)
- [XML](#) [Public Health](#)
- [XML](#) [Science News](#)
- [XML](#) [Sociology News](#)
- [XML](#) [Special Collections News](#)

[What does the orange XML button do?](#)

Science blogs

- SciencePORT.org
- Careers in Science
- <http://nextwave.sciencemag.org/feature/careerblog.shtml>
- WangBlog
<http://synapse.princeton.edu/lab/blog/blogindex.html>
- The Loom
<http://www.corante.com/loom/>
- My Lab is on Fire
<http://www.mylabisonfire.com/>
- Mass Spectrometry Blog
<http://ch335c.chem.lsu.edu/resources/ms/>
- Tangled Bank
• <http://tangledbank.net/>
– (suggested by C. Pikas)

03 November 2004

Tangled Bank Nr. 15

It's the day after the first Tuesday in November, and you know what that means. Countless millions -- in America and around the world -- are waiting eagerly to learn just one thing: *What will I find along the Tangled Bank today?* Fret no longer, your patience has been rewarded. It's my privilege to take a turn as host to this biweekly science and medicine-focused 'carnival of the vanities'.

As both PZ Myers (who will, I hope, find it in his atheist heart to forgive me for calling him 'The Pope of the Tangled Bank') and I are partial to invertebrates, it's appropriate that this edition of TTB kicks off with a contribution from *The Raw Prawn*. The Prawn's **Reena Ganga** tells us about India's burgeoning medical tourism industry. Sounds like a good deal to me: take in the Taj Mahal in the morning, and still have time to be on the table for your heart transplant in the afternoon.

Chris Clarke writes *Creek Running North* (again, an appropriate image for the Tangled Bank, *n'est-ce pas?*). Here he records his thoughts during a hike somewhere in the western United States. He achieves communion with the distant Permian past, quite literally: he is covered in its dust. Well, dust we are, and unto dust shall we return, of course. It was no different in Permian times, but the great Permian extinction made sure that lots of organisms returned to dust in very short order. Chris thinks about why this might

<http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/rihlib>

Rowland Institute Library Blog

Paper by Single Molecule Biophysics Lab

The Single Molecule Biophysics Lab at Rowland has a paper in Biophysical Journal describing recent observations of DNA hairpins in a nanopore. They apply voltage to the pore and observe how the molecules "unzip."

Posted by **Garrett Eastman** on 10/27/04; 9:42:49 AM - [Comments \[0\]](#) [Trackback \[0\]](#)
[Edit](#)

Miniature turbines to power your PDA

Roland Piquapille discusses an article on miniature turbines at his technology blog: "Today, our handheld devices are powered by batteries, which are heavy and inconvenient. Fuel cells are just arriving on the market as a replacement. But there is a new contender: **micro gas turbine engines** under development at the MIT. Engineers there shrunk jet engines to the size of a coat button. And their blades which span an area smaller than a dime can spin a million times per minute and produce enough electricity to power your PDA or your cell phone." (Source: Slashdot)

Posted by **Garrett Eastman** on 10/19/04; 3:50:52 PM - [Comments \[0\]](#) [Trackback \[0\]](#)
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Sep Nov

Home

[Rowland Institute at Harvard](#)

[RIH Library](#)

[Harvard Libraries](#)

[Aggregator](#)

[Blog archives \(prior to Dec. 2003\)](#)

[Open Access News](#)

[Edit](#)

[Weblogs Harvard Law](#)

[Weblogs Directory](#)

[Howtos and Help](#)

This is the weblog of the Rowland Institute at Harvard Library, maintained by Garrett Eastman, Librarian. Here I will post links to websites, articles and resources of interest to Rowland scientists as well as material about issues concerning science libraries.

What goes into RIH blog

- Links to and commentary about scientific resources
- Links to articles (news, reviews, special issues)
- News and info about Rowland research groups
- Harvard community news

New state of matter

Scientists at NIST and Colorado announced that they observed a new state of matter this week. From the news release: "In the current experiment, a gas of 500,000 potassium atoms was cooled to temperatures below 50 billionths of a degree Celsius above absolute zero (minus 459 degrees Fahrenheit) and then a magnetic field was applied near a special "resonance" strength. This magnetic field coaxed the fermion atoms to match up into pairs, akin to the pairs of electrons that produce superconductivity, the phenomenon in which electricity flows with no resistance. The Jin group detected this pairing and the formation of a fermionic condensate for the first time on Dec. 16, 2003."

The experiment is published in the **Jan. 30th issue of Physical Review Letters**.

Update: See also an excellent **Physics News Update** discussion that explains developments in the field that made the experiment possible.

Update (2/11/04): Dr. Deborah Jin, who made the experiments, will speak at Harvard on Wednesday, February 18, 2004, 4:30 p.m. at the Joint Atomic Physics Seminar, Jefferson Laboratory, Room 256, "Making Condensates with a Fermi Gas of Atoms."

Update (3/3/04): The research is profiled in **PhysicsWorld**, with speculation on future directions.

Gazette article on maverick Bogota mayor

there's an article on the front page today's Harvard University Gazette that delighted me as much as anything I've read recently.... "Academic turns city into social experiment" profiles Antanas Mockus (is that his real name or was he sent to "Mock us"?), mayor of Bogota, who recently spent two weeks as a visiting fellow at Harvard. In a city racked by murder and despair, Mockus used theater to get people back into the idea of civic investment. The picture on the front page shows a "traffic mime" waving an "incorrecto" sign at a jaywalker. Other innovations included a ladies-only night in the city, during which men went home and policewomen were in charge of security. Mockus got to people to use cards ("thumbs-up" or "thumbs-down") to express approval or disapproval of their fellow citizens' public behavior and launched an anti-terrorism march, "a vaccine against violence", asking people to draw the faces of the people who had hurt them on balloons, which they then popped." the latter drew 50,000 participants. As a result, among other improvements, people are saving water, paying taxes and engaging in civic life. Extraordinary....



From the Harvard University Gazette, March 11, 2004

Rowland Institute Library Blog

ACS symposium on single molecule and single cell spectroscopy

Looks as though everybody and his postdoc from the single molecule spectroscopy community will be presenting at the ACS symposium, Biophysical Chemistry and Novel Imaging of Single Molecules and Single Cells, taking place next week in Philadelphia. This has been a big area of research at Rowland, and **Amit Meller's group** will be among those presenting in Philly. The topic has gotten considerable attention recently; for a while, an entire journal was devoted to it, Wiley's **Single Molecules**. Also, **the Journal of Chemical Physics** and **Science**, to name a couple, have dedicated sections of issues to single molecule studies. Meanwhile, Kwonmoo Lee has compiled a **listing of single molecule biophysics research group websites**.

Posted by **Garrett Eastman** on 8/18/04; 1:40:43 PM - **Comments [0]** **Trackback [0]**

Rowland news

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Rowland Institute Library Blog

Electronics Engineering Lab Project Highlights

The Electronics Engineering lab, under the direction of [Winfield Hill](#), co-author of [The Art of Electronics](#), has designed and built more than 500 instruments for the research groups at the Rowland Institute. Two are exhibited in their site's [Project Highlights](#). Take a look at the "[Tweezer Squeezer](#)," designed by [Chris Stokes](#) for picking up very particular phenomena. The [Rowland USB Response Box \(RURB\)](#) was designed for [brain mapping](#) experiments once conducted at the Institute and with MGH, but has attracted considerable interest from users in other fields. More to come.

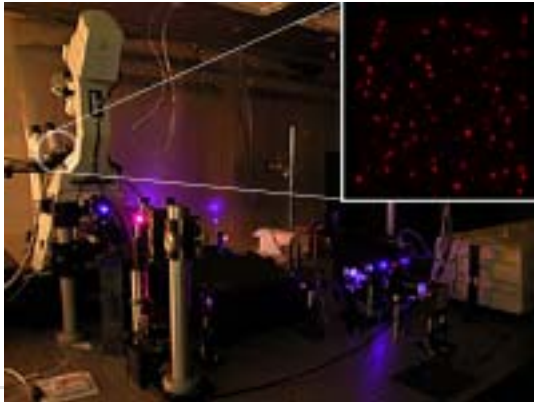
Posted by [Garrett Eastman](#) on 1/30/04; 4:35:24 PM - [Comments \[0\]](#) [Trackback \[0\]](#)
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New Rowland publication

How bacterial chemoreceptors work together

Howard Berg (of Rowland's Bacterial Motor Works and Harvard's MCB) and Victor Sourjik have studied bacterial signalling networks using fluorescence resonance energy transfer. Recent papers, including their latest in **Nature** (**Harvard affiliates enter here**) demonstrate the interactions and cooperativity of the proteins that make up these networks.

Funding award announcement



Rowland lab nets NIH grant for DNA sequencing technology

Rowland's Amit Meller won a major NIH grant for his **single molecule biophysics lab**. A number of grants were awarded for DNA sequencing projects. The Meller group has spent several years observing the dynamics of DNA in nanopores and now plans to develop technology enabling data collection from several pores at once.

Posted by **Garrett Eastman** on 10/14/04; 1:19:13 PM - **Comments [0] Trackback [0]**
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Summary

- Present complementary information in blog postings
- Build on news items and other information
- Link to related papers, web sites, other sources

Finally

- Blogs are useful for pointing out and providing access to resources of interest to your users
- You can use a blog to manage and enhance knowledge for your organization