



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *114th* CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

House of Representatives

Statement for the Record
The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
September 16, 2015

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor three New York scientists - Professors Walter Mischel, Joel Cohen and Christopher Small - for receiving the 2015 Golden Goose award for research within their respective fields.

Founded in 2012, the Golden Goose Award recognizes researchers whose obscure, federally funded research has returned significant benefits to society. This annual contest was inspired by my friend, Representative Jim Cooper of Tennessee, as a way of highlighting the tremendous human and economic benefits of federally funded research.

Dr. Mischel of Columbia University, in conjunction with Drs. Philip Peake and Yuichi Shoda of Stanford University, were recognized for their "Marshmallow Test." This project measures human behavior, specifically our self-control, by offering children one marshmallow immediately or two if they could wait just 15 minutes alone with their potential treat. The project revealed the importance of self-control and how the trait can be cultivated to appropriately teach our children. Dr. Mischel's work was made possible by funding from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Drs. Cohen and Small received the 2015 Golden Goose award for their study on population densities at various altitudes. Working out of the Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory in my district, Drs. Cohen and Small developed the first global map of human population distribution with respect to Earth elevation. This innovative way of looking at population density will help us understand how events such as natural disasters or sea-level rise impact population distribution and health. Their work was made possible by funding from the NSF.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Professors Walter Mischel, Joel Cohen and Christopher Small for receiving the 2015 Golden Goose Award. Their projects symbolize the importance of federal funding for scientific research and the creativity that research fosters. I urge my colleagues to join me in commending them for their hard work.