



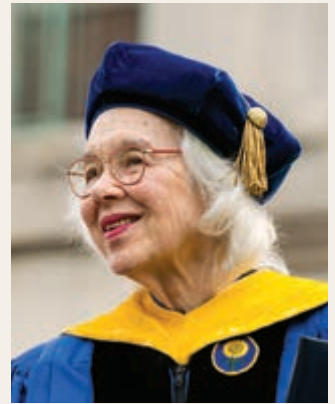
John Aldrich '75 (PhD)



Miguel Alonso '96 (PhD)



Steven Chu '70



Joan Feinbloom

COMMENCEMENT

## Honorees & Guests

Rochester alumni, faculty, and friends were recognized for their achievement and service during commencement ceremonies this spring.

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

**Miguel Alonso '96 (PhD)**

*Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching*

An associate professor of optics at Rochester, Alonso joined the faculty in 2003.

**Steven Chu '70**

*Eastman Medal*

A 1997 Nobel laureate in physics and this spring's commencement keynote speaker, Chu served as secretary of energy from 2009 until last April. Chu received an honorary degree in 1998.

**Harold and Joan Feinbloom**

*George Eastman Medal*

Longtime civic leaders and philanthropists in Rochester, the Feinblooms are widely recognized for their support of the arts, education, and community health. They have served in several leadership positions at the Memorial Art Gallery and the Medical Center.

**Rev. James Alexander Forbes Jr.**

*Doctor of Divinity (Honorary)*  
The Harry Emerson Fosdick

Distinguished Professor of Homiletics at Union Theological Seminary, Forbes was the first African American to serve as minister of the Riverside Church in New York City.

**Susan Hockfield '73**

*Doctor of Science (Honorary)*

The Marie Curie Visiting Professor at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Hockfield served from 2004 to 2012 as the president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she was the first woman and first life scientist to lead MIT.

**Dahpon Ho**

*G. Graydon Curtis '58 and Jane W. Curtis Award for Nontenured Faculty Teaching Excellence*

A specialist in East Asian history, Ho joined the faculty in 2010 as an assistant professor of history.

**Norman Leenhouts '56**

*Charles Force Hutchison and Marjorie Smith Hutchison Medal*  
Leenhouts is director and chief investment officer of the family-owned Broadstone Real Estate Inc. Along with his twin brother, Nelson '56, Leenhouts founded what is now Home Properties Inc. He is a life trustee of the University.

**Jie Zhang**

*Doctor of Science (Honorary)*  
Zhang has served as president



Rev. James Alexander Forbes Jr.



Susan Hockfield '73



Lawrence Kudlow '69



Norman Leenhouts '56



Edward Miller '68M (MD)



Jie Zhang

of Shanghai Jiao Tong University since 2006, when he became the youngest person to lead the Chinese university since 1949. A physicist, he previously held several positions in the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

#### DOCTORAL CEREMONY

##### Govind Agrawal

*William H. Riker University Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching*

A professor of optics and of physics and astronomy, Agrawal has been a member of the faculty for nearly 25 years. He is also a senior scientist at the Laboratory for Laser Energetics.

##### John Aldrich '75 (PhD)

*Distinguished Scholar Medal*

A leading scholar of American political behavior and institutions who's widely known for his book *Why Parties?*, Aldrich is the Pfizer-Pratt University Professor at Duke University.

##### Richard Aslin

*Lifetime Achievement Award in Graduate Education*

The William Kenan Jr. Professor in the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Aslin directs the Rochester Center for Brain Imaging. He is also a member of the Center for Visual Science.

#### SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

##### Edward Miller '68M (MD)

*Charles Force Hutchison and Marjorie Smith Hutchison Medal*

Arriving at Johns Hopkins in 1997, Miller was the first CEO of Johns Hopkins Medicine, the 13th dean of the Johns Hopkins medical school, and vice president for medicine at Johns Hopkins until his retirement in 2012.

#### SIMON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

##### Lawrence Kudlow '69

*Doctor of Laws (Honorary)*

CEO of the economic research firm Kudlow & Co. and host of CNBC's *The Kudlow Report*, Kudlow is a nationally syndicated columnist and contributing editor of *National Review* magazine, and columnist and economics editor for *National Review Online*.

For more about this spring's commencement ceremonies, visit [www.rochester.edu/commencement/2013](http://www.rochester.edu/commencement/2013).

looking for, even if Amazon, for example, makes recommendations for you based on your previous searches, the issue is, how are you going to be aware of titles you might see by walking into a brick and mortar store?

But a lot of people don't feel this way. A lot of people feel that there's more product than ever, more choice than ever, and that's probably true.

#### Has the rise of self-publishing had any notable impact on literary agents? Have you personally experienced any impact?

It's having a big impact. As agents, we're going to have to decide what we can do for clients. Will we be doing more in terms of shaping marketing plans? Will we be doing more editorial work? Not that we haven't been involved in some aspects of that all along, but will we have to be more active?

And what happens when existing clients of mine decide they want to self-publish? If I'm helping them get published, then it's perfectly reasonable for me to get a commission, but if I'm not, should I get a commission or not? And the argument among many agents is, "I've built your reputation for the most part. I got you published for the first time. And I've been nurturing your career all this time."

#### Why should writers with a book manuscript still seek out an agent?

For many reasons. First, the literary agent is going to make the match. You know all the editors who would possibly like the material. You have personal relationships with them. Then, after you find hopefully more than one person who wants to buy the book, it's your job to be the negotiator and to figure out what's the best possible contract you can get for your client. After that, your job is to follow up on all of the details that go into making sure the book is published properly, making sure it's sold to the foreign rights markets, making sure if it warrants film or television exposure that it gets that. Not to mention chasing down the money, making sure your client gets paid, and keeping track of their payments. It's a lot of detail work.

#### It's often said the fiction market is in decline. Do you agree?

No, there's nothing wrong with the fiction market. The fiction market is perfectly fine. People do ask me, "Well, what are the trends?" And my answer is, "Look at a best-seller list and that will tell you what kinds of fiction people are being drawn to."

#### Leisure Reading: 10 Picks

As a literary agent, Bernstein reads all the time for work. Does she have time to read for enjoyment when the workday is over?

"I do," she says. "It's hard, but I do. It's really something I always loved to do, and I don't want to lose that pleasure just because I have so much I have to read for work."

Bernstein says she reads books that come recommended by others, or books that she reads about and thinks might be intriguing. She also belongs to a book club—a group she joined on a friend's recommendation that employs a professional facilitator and has been meeting since 1997.

She offers a few of her favorite titles.

- *A Fine Balance* by Rohinton Mistry (Vintage International, 2001)
- *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz (Penguin, 2008)
- *Angle of Repose* by Wallace Stegner (Doubleday, 1971; Penguin Twentieth-Century Classics, 2000)
- *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet* by David Mitchell (Random House, 2011)
- *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn (Crown, 2012)
- *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed (Vintage, 2012)
- *Defending Jacob* by William Landay (Delacorte, 2012)
- *Swamplandia* by Karen Russell (Vintage, 2011)
- *Tenth of December* by George Saunders (Random House, 2013)
- *The Yellow Birds* by Kevin Powers (Back Bay Books, 2013)

The young adult market has been very hot ever since J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter*. *Harry Potter* really created, I think, the craze for great young adult fiction. And book clubs have played a role—most notably Oprah's Book Club, which was very, very significant. Oprah pretty much created best-sellers with every book she selected. She had a committee to make recommendations, and she would read and select titles from among those. And when I go to writers' conferences, I tell people I'm looking for "Oprah-esque fiction," which is fiction with fabulous characters, written by a wonderful storyteller, with an intriguing voice. These are the things that make great fiction. **R**