

## Howard D. Lipshitz



**Howard Lipshitz** is a Professor in the Department of Molecular Genetics at the University of Toronto. He received B.Sc. (1976) and B.Sc. (Hons.) *cum laude* (1977) degrees from the University of Natal, Durban, South Africa; and his M.Phil. (1980) and Ph.D. (1983) degrees in Biology from Yale University. He then carried out postdoctoral work in the Biochemistry Department at Stanford University (1983-1986) during which he studied the first long non-coding RNA, from the *Drosophila* bithorax complex. He was Assistant (1986-1992) and then Associate (1992-1995) Professor of Biology at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California before moving to Toronto in 1995 as a Professor at the University of Toronto and a Senior Scientist in the Research Institute of the Hospital for Sick Children. He served as Associate Director of the Research Institute (1997-2001) and Head of what is now its Program in Developmental & Stem Cell Biology (2001-2005); then Chair of the Department of Molecular Genetics at the University (2005-2016). He also served as Associate Director of the Donnelly Centre for

Cellular and Biomolecular Research at the University (2007-2010). He is a founding Co-Director of the University of Toronto–Zhejiang University Joint Institute of Genetics and Genome Medicine (since 2015). Awards and honors include: the Damant Science Prize from the University of Natal (1975); South African National Scholarship (1978-1980); Helen Hay Whitney Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship (1983-1986); Searle Foundation Scholar (1988-1991); Canada Research Chair in Developmental Biology (2001-2008); Honorary Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Hong Kong (2012-2019); Adjunct Professor (2015-2017) and Qiushi Chair Professor (2017-2020) in the Zhejiang University School of Medicine; and Gordon and Betty Moore Distinguished Scholar in Biology and Biological Engineering at the California Institute of Technology (2017). He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Lipshitz' research focuses on post-transcriptional regulation of gene expression by RNA-binding proteins in *Drosophila* and, more recently, in autism. His research is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Solve RD – Rare Diseases Models & Mechanisms (Europe), Rare Diseases Models & Mechanisms (Canada), and the Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative. He served on the board of directors of the Society for Developmental Biology (2000-2006) and on the *Drosophila* Board (2006-2009); is a founding member of the Rare Diseases: Models and Mechanisms Network (Canada) serving on its Scientific Advisory Committee since 2012; served on the editorial board of *G3: Genes/Genomes/Genetics* as Associate Editor (2011-2016) and as Senior Editor (2016-2020). He was appointed Editor in Chief of the GSA's flagship journal, *GENETICS*, in January 2021. In May 2023 he was Elected Chair of the Board of Directors of anew not-for-profit, RNA Canada ARN.