



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### AAAS AND THE ALLEN INSTITUTE FOR BRAIN SCIENCE ANNOUNCE 2014 FELLOWS

*Allen Institute Chief Scientific Officer Christof Koch, Ph.D., honored for distinguished neuroscience research*

**WASHINGTON, D.C. — November 24, 2014** — Christof Koch, Chief Scientific Officer at the Allen Institute for Brain Science, has been named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Election as an AAAS Fellow is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers.

This year 401 members have been awarded this honor by AAAS because of their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications. New Fellows will be presented with an official certificate and a gold and blue (representing science and engineering, respectively) rosette pin on Saturday, 14 February from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the AAAS Fellows Forum during the 2015 AAAS Annual Meeting in San Jose, Calif.

“I am honored to be chosen by my highly distinguished peers as an AAAS fellow,” says Koch. “My cohort of fellows represents a group of diverse and talented scientists and engineers. I am grateful to be included among them.”

This year’s AAAS Fellows will be formally announced in the AAAS News & Notes section of the journal *Science* on 28 November 2014.

As part of the section on neuroscience, Dr. Koch was elected as an AAAS Fellow for distinguished theoretical and empirical contributions to understanding visual perception, selective visual attention, and the neuronal basis of consciousness in the human and animal brain.

The tradition of AAAS Fellows began in 1874. Currently, members can be considered for the rank of Fellow if nominated by the steering groups of the Association’s 24 sections, or by any three Fellows who are current AAAS members (so long as two of the three sponsors are not affiliated with the nominee’s institution), or by the AAAS chief executive officer. Fellows must have been continuous members of AAAS for four years by the end of the calendar year in which they are elected.

Each steering group reviews the nominations of individuals within its respective section and a final list is forwarded to the AAAS Council, which votes on the aggregate list.

The Council is the policymaking body of the Association, chaired by the AAAS president, and consisting of the members of the board of directors, the retiring section chairs, delegates from each electorate and each regional division, and two delegates from the National Association of Academies of Science.

#### **About the Allen Institute for Brain Science**

The Allen Institute for Brain Science ([www.alleninstitute.org](http://www.alleninstitute.org)) is an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit medical research organization dedicated to accelerating the understanding of how the human brain works in health and disease. Using a big science approach, the Allen Institute generates useful public resources used by

researchers and organizations around the globe, drives technological and analytical advances, and discovers fundamental brain properties through integration of experiments, modeling and theory. Launched in 2003 with a seed contribution from founder and philanthropist Paul G. Allen, the Allen Institute is supported by a diversity of government, foundation and private funds to enable its projects. Given the Institute's achievements, Mr. Allen committed an additional \$300 million in 2012 for the first four years of a ten-year plan to further propel and expand the Institute's scientific programs, bringing his total commitment to date to \$500 million. The Allen Institute's data and tools are publicly available online at [www.brain-map.org](http://www.brain-map.org).

\* \* \*

**About the AAAS**

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is the world's largest general scientific society, and publisher of the journal, *Science* ([www.sciencemag.org](http://www.sciencemag.org)) as well as *Science Translational Medicine* ([www.sciencetranslationalmedicine.org](http://www.sciencetranslationalmedicine.org)) and *Science Signaling* ([www.sciencesignaling.org](http://www.sciencesignaling.org)). AAAS was founded in 1848, and includes 254 affiliated societies and academies of science, serving 10 million individuals. *Science* has the largest paid circulation of any peer-reviewed general science journal in the world, with an estimated total readership of 1 million. The non-profit AAAS ([www.aaas.org](http://www.aaas.org)) is open to all and fulfills its mission to "advance science and serve society" through initiatives in science policy, international programs, science education, and more. For the latest research news, log onto EurekAlert!, [www.eurekalert.org](http://www.eurekalert.org), the premier science-news Web site, a service of AAAS.

# # #

**Media Contact:**

Rob Piercy, Sr. Media Relations Specialist  
206.548.8486 | [press@alleninstitute.org](mailto:press@alleninstitute.org)