either nonspecifically or specifically by means of operator-like genomic sequences. Such binding events will sometimes interfere with normal gene expression and lead to cellular disturbances that will be erroneously attributed to expression of the evaluated gene. This caveat is particularly applicable to evaluations of genes that are thought to function as growth suppressors (for example, 2, 5, 6, 9–11, 13).

Empty-vector cell lines serve as excellent controls for general cellular effects of the transactivator fusion protein. Of course, no single cell line can control for idiosyncratic induction effects that may occur in a given tet-inducible cell line. This shortcoming highlights the general importance that final conclusions regarding the function of an evaluated gene are based on polyclonal analyses or on at least two independently derived tet-inducible cell clones. This is another often overlooked consideration (2, 4, 5, 11-13). This requirement will safeguard against erroneous conclusions based on responses that depend on the integration site of the tet-operator test gene construct.

James L. Sherley

Division of Bioengineering and Environmental Health, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 01139, USA. E-mail: jsherley@mit.edu

- References
- H. M. Blau and F. M. V Rossi, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 96, 797 (1999).
- 2. W. Li et al., Mol. Pharmacol. 55, 1088 (1999).
- 3. K. Khaleghpour *et al., Mol. Cell. Biol.* **19**, 4302 (1999).
- 4. E. Chu et al., ibid., p. 1582.
- 5. L. Fang et al., Oncogene **18**, 2789 (1999).
- 6. F. M. Rossi et al., Nature Genet. 20, 389 (1998).
- 7. F. Vollenweider et al., J. Cell Biol. 142, 377 (1998).
- 8. H. Kwon et al., J. Biol. Chem. 273, 7431 (1998).
- 9. H. Kim *et al., ibid*., p. 381.
- 10. H. Nguyen et al., Oncogene 15, 1425 (1997).
- 11. M. S. Sheikh *et al., ibid.* **14,** 1875 (1997).
- 12. J. Anrather et al., J. Clin. Invest. 99, 763 (1997).
- 13. Y. Q. Chen et al., Cancer Res. 55, 4536 (1995).
- 14. P. Shockett *et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* **92**, 6522 (1995).

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

In "Solar homes for the masses" by Alexander Hellemans (Energy, 30 July, p. 679), the first sentence of the third paragraph contained an error. It should have read, "Amersfoot gets much less sunshine than the world average of 1360 watts per square meter."

In the Report "*Equatorius*: A new hominoid genus from the Middle Miocene of Kenya" by S. Ward *et al.* (27 Aug., p. 1382), the first full paragraph of the second column on page 1383 should have begun, "**Etymology**: The name reflects the proximity to the equator of all localities from which the genus has been recovered. **Type species**: *Equatorius africanus* (Le Gros Clark and Leakey, 1950)." The reference referred to is W. E. Le Gros Clark and L. S. B. Leakey, *Q. J. Geol. Soc. London* **105**, 260 (1950).

NEMMERS PRIZES

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

THE ERWIN PLEIN NEMMERS PRIZE IN ECONOMICS

Тне

FREDERIC ESSER Nemmers Prize in Mathematics

\$100,000 Awards Presented by

Northwestern University Northwestern University invites nominations for the Erwin Plein Nemmers Prize in Economics and the Frederic Esser Nemmers Prize in Mathematics, to be awarded during the 1999–2000 academic year. Each award includes payment to the recipient of \$100,000. Made possible by a generous gift to Northwestern by the late Erwin Plein Nemmers and the late Frederic Esser Nemmers, the awards are given every other year.

Previous recipients were Peter A. Diamond (1994), Thomas J. Sargent (1996), and Robert J. Aumann (1998) in economics and Yuri I. Manin (1994), Joseph B. Keller (1996), and John H. Conway (1998) in mathematics.

Candidacy for the Nemmers Prizes is open to individuals with careers of outstanding achievement in their discipline, as demonstrated by major contributions to new knowledge or the development of significant new modes of analysis. Individuals of all nationalities and institutional affiliations are eligible, except current or former members of the Northwestern University faculty and recipients of the Nobel Prize.

The 2000 recipient of each Nemmers Prize will deliver a public lecture and participate in other scholarly activities at Northwestern University for 10 weeks during the 2000–01 academic year.

Nominations for both prizes will be accepted until December 1, 1999. Nominating letters of no more than three pages should describe the nominee's professional experience, accomplishments, and qualifications for the award. A brief *curriculum vitae* of the nominee is helpful but not required. Nominations from experts in the field are preferred to institutional nominations; direct applications for the Nemmers Prizes will not be accepted.

Send nominations to: Secretary Selection Committee for the Nemmers Prizes Office of the Provost Northwestern University 633 Clark Street Evanston, Illinois 60208-1119 U.S.A.

Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

