Rubin named as Chair of National Academies Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences

NEW HAVEN — Philip Rubin, Ph.D., of Fairfield, Connecticut, Chief Executive Officer and a senior scientist at Haskins Laboratories, has been named to the National Academies Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences (BBCSS) and also will be serving as Chair of the Board. The National Academies are advisers to the nation on science, engineering and medicine. The BBCSS is an advisory board that helps the National Research Council, the research wing of the National Academies, to identify areas in which new scientific developments are creating opportunities or potential problems for public policy. Christine R. Hartel, Ph.D., the Board’s Director, indicates that:

“The Board seeks to offer the best analyses and judgment of the scientific community by identifying new ways in which the behavioral, cognitive, and sensory sciences can inform policy decisions, anticipate new policy issues emerging from behaviorally based technologies or practices, and assist in setting research agendas to move the behavioral and cognitive sciences in directions that will provide policy relevant knowledge. The Board serves as an intellectual resource for policy making communities and also for the National Research Council, especially in developing ideas for new projects.”

Rubin, a graduate of Brandeis University and the University of Connecticut, is also a Professor Adjunct in the Department of Surgery, Otolaryngology, at the Yale University School of Medicine and a Research Affiliate in the Department of Psychology at Yale University. He presently also serves as the Chairman of the Board of the Discovery Museum and Planetarium in Bridgeport, Connecticut. His scientific research spans a number of disciplines, combining computational, engineering, linguistic, physiological and psychological approaches to study embodied cognition, most particularly the biological bases of speech and language. He is best known for his work on articulatory synthesis (computational modeling of the physiology and acoustics of speech production), sinewave synthesis, signal processing, and perceptual organization, and continues active research collaborations with colleagues at Haskins, Yale, and other institutions. From 2000-2003, Rubin was Director of the Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS) at the National Science Foundation in Arlington, Virginia. He also served as the chair of the interagency National Science and Technology Council, Committee on Science, Human Subjects Research Subcommittee under the auspices of the President’s Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Acoustical Society of America, the American Psychological Association and the Association for Psychological Science, and a member of several other professional societies.

Haskins Laboratories was founded in 1935 by the late Dr. Caryl P. Haskins. This independent research institute has been in New Haven, Connecticut since 1970 when it formalized affiliations with Yale University and the University of Connecticut. The Laboratories’ primary research focus is on the science of the spoken and written word.