



Jennifer LaVail, Ph.D.

Training: Dr. LaVail holds a doctorate in Anatomy from the University of Wisconsin. Her subsequent training was with Richard Sidman in the Department of Neuropathology at Harvard Medical School where she was also on the faculty until joining UCSF.

Department and Position: She is a Professor of Anatomy and Ophthalmology at the University of California San Francisco. She is a member of the Neuroscience Program, Program in Biological Sciences and Biomedical Science Program. She is also Professora Afiliada at the Universidad Autonoma d Nuevo Leon, Mexico.



Career Profile: Dr. LaVail's seminal studies on the mechanism of retrograde axonal transport were critical for our understanding of the role that neurotrophic receptors play in development and axonal regeneration. More recently, she has focused on understanding the regulation of the targetted delivery of neurotropic viruses in the CNS.

She has served on the NIH NINDS Board of Scientific Counselors, the NSF Graduate Fellowship Program and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Doctoral Fellowship Program. Her service on NIH study sections has included Visual Sciences A, Experimental Virology, SYN, SNZ1 and Virology A.

Within the University, she has chaired the Committee on Academic Personnel and served as Secretary of the Academic Senate Executive Committee as well as numerous other committees. Currently, she enjoys working on the Biosafety Committee.

Personal Profile: Dr. LaVail has two grown children who live and work on the East Coast.

