

## Joel M. Goodman

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**Current Position:** Professor of Pharmacology at University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas

**Education:** Ph.D. in Pharmacology (1980) from University of Southern California School of Medicine in Los Angeles, CA where he studied the role of flavins in stimulating insulin-like effects on adipocytes through their generation of oxygen radicals, in Paul Hochstein's laboratory

**Non-scientific Interests:** Playing piano

As a graduate student in the laboratory of Paul Hochstein, I was interested in the role of oxygen radicals on intermediary metabolism. We found that flavins at physiological concentrations can generate enough reactive oxygen species to produce insulin-like effects in rat adipocytes. At the time, I was only marginally interested in lipid droplets within these cells, but I was aware of their importance. Following a postdoctoral period in the laboratory of Bill Wickner on protein translocation across membranes and organelle biogenesis, I melded my two scientific interests — oxygen metabolism and organelles — by investigating the assembly of peroxisomes, using yeast as a model system.

After two decades of studying peroxisomes, my lab stumbled onto the observation that peroxisomes make close physical contact with lipid droplets, which causes the stimulation of lipolysis and fatty acid oxidation. This piqued my interest in droplets as organelles and their biogenesis. Fortunately, Richard Anderson was already studying droplets in cultured mammalian cells here at UT Southwestern, and his collaboration has been very helpful in our establishing the yeast droplet model in the lab.

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**Read Dr. Goodman's article entitled:** The Gregarious Liquid Droplet

<http://www.jbc.org/cgi/content/full/283/42/28005>