Randy Schekman is a University Professor and Investigator in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology at the University of California, Berkeley. He trained in biochemistry at Stanford University and developed an interest in the biogenesis of membranes during postdoctoral study at the University of California, San Diego. At Berkeley, the Schekman lab developed a genetic and biochemical approach to the mechanistic dissection of the secretory pathway in yeast and has since explored avenues of vesicular traffic in mammalian cells, now focusing on the sorting of small RNAs into exosomes secreted by human cells. He is a member of a variety of Academies and has received recognition with awards including the Gairdner Prize (1996), the Lasker Prize (2002) and the Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine (2013). He has served as President of the American Society for Cell Biology and as Editor of the Annual Reviews of Cell and Developmental Biology, and Editor-in-Chief of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and eLife.