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Meyer

The Problems with Biomedical Research

NPR science correspondent and author Richard Harris visited the UIUC Spurlock Auditorium in Urbana, Illinois to speak about the issues with the funding of biomedical research. Harris has been called the “voice of science” by many individuals. Students, faculty and others all gathered in the audience and had the opportunity to ask questions. Harris also recently wrote a book discussing this topic by the name of “Rigor Mortis” discussing this issue overall.

Harris claimed that since 2003, there was a 20% drop on government funding to the National Institutes of Health. This backed up his point on the lack of funding used on experiments. Harris also stated, “In science you want to be able to reproduce things, because that is how things happen”, which is a problem because 52% of scientists say there is a significant crisis is reproducibility.

Harris finished his speech up with questions from the audience regarding climate change, biomedical research and the environment overall.