

# **STATISTICS COLLOQUIUM**

MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2010

TALK: 4:00 PM — SCIENCE CENTER, ROOM 309

RECEPTION: 5:15 PM — SCIENCE CENTER, 7TH FLOOR

**“Are Your Prescription Drugs Safe to Use?”**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The Food and Drug Administration has an elaborate, multi-year process for approving new drugs as "safe and effective." Nonetheless, in recent years, several approved drugs have later been withdrawn from the market because of serious and sometimes fatal side effects. How can this happen? I will discuss the approval process in the context of some recent withdrawals. I will also describe newer approaches to ensuring drug safety that tap into massive medical data bases in novel ways.