

ASTRONOMY

The Far, Far
Future of Stars

DIGITAL

A "Shadow" Web to
Protect the Internet

MEDICINE

Blocking HIV's
Attack on Cells

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The Neuroscience of Identity

How "jumping genes"
in the brain make
each person unique

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ON THE COVER



Each of our identities depends on a subtle interplay between genes and the environment. Neuroscience has begun to discover just how subtle the genetic contribution can be in the brain. Small fragments of DNA known as jumping genes can bounce around in neurons and alter the brain in ways that cause even identical twins to behave very differently. Image by Jean-Francois Podevin.



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Jumping genes that move around in brain cells help to ensure that no two people are alike.

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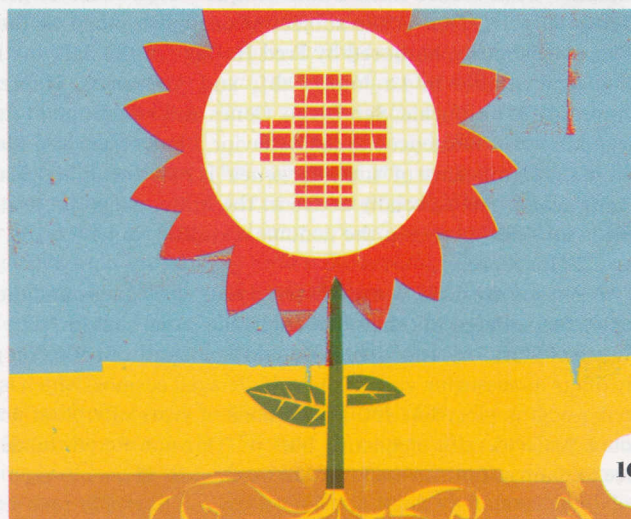
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Can global, cross-disciplinary science collaborations ensure food, water and energy for all? That was the question facing scientists and policy makers at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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