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| Contributed by: Jeff Schinske, DeAnza College |
| Scientist Spotlight:  Ben Barres  Ben Barres is a Stanford professor of neurobiology. He studies diseases related to signaling in the nervous system, and in particular the roles of supporting cells around neurons. Dr. Barres is also a leader in science equity and the effort to address gender gaps. He is uniquely positioned to address these issues, since he has presented both as a female scientist and as a male scientist at different stages in his career. |
| 1. Please view the Wall Street Journal article about Ben Barres by [clicking here.](http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB115274744775305134)   2) Then, review at least the first page of Dr. Barres' article in the journal Nature by [clicking here](http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v457/n7230/full/457675a.html) (you may read beyond the first page if you wish) – If this link doesn’t work, you will need to go through the BC library, you can do this online through this EBSCO host search to get the article.  Step 1: Sign in to BC using your @#: <https://ezproxy.bakersfieldcollege.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost>  Step 2: click on academic premier box and hit continue  Step 3: put this into the search box: Neuroscience: Glia — more than just brain glue. |
| (If you are interested in hearing more from Ben Barres, you can search for him on YouTube. He has some videos on his research and also on his experiences as a transgender person.) |

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| After reviewing the articles, write a **250+ word**, paragraph form, double spaced reflection with your responses to what you saw. You might wish to discuss: |
| 1)  What was most interesting or most confusing about the articles you read about Dr. Barres?  2)  What can you learn about neuron signaling (action potentials, synapses, supporting cells) from these articles? |
| 3)  What do these articles tell you about the types of people that do science?  4)  What new questions do you have after reviewing these articles? |