DRUG DEVELOPMENT AND DIAGNOSTICS MINI-SYMPOSIUM

TRANSLATING MOLECULES TO TREATMENTS I

Tuesday January 15th 2019
Presidentti-auditorium, BioCity, Tykistökatu 6, 20520 Turku

13.00-13.10 Opening words by Associate Professor Diana Toivola

13.10-14.00 M. Bishr Omary

Molecular Pathogenesis of Porphyria and Therapeutic Approaches Using Zebrafish Models

M. Bishr Omary is Professor of Molecular & Integrative Physiology, the H Marvin Pollard Professor of Gastroenterology, Professor of Internal Medicine, and Special Advisor on Research to the Dean at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, USA. He is also guest professor in Drug Development and Diagnostics at Åbo Akademi University in Turku. Bishr is a world leader in the area of intermediate filaments and their associated diseases, with special focus on the regulation and function of keratins and lamins in digestive organs. Another active area of research in his laboratory involves studying the mechanism of porphyrin mediated cell damage in the context of the genetic porphyria disorders. He currently utilizes high throughput drug screening approaches to identify compounds with potential therapeutic benefits for intermediate filament associated diseases and for porphyrias.
https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/molecular-integrative-physiology/bishr-omary-md-phd

14:00-14.50 Caroline Heckman

Personalizing Patient Care to Overcome Drug Resistance in Hematological Malignancies

Caroline Heckman is a Group leader and Principal Investigator at the Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland FIMM, Helsinki Institute of Life Sciences, University of Helsinki in Finland. Caroline's research is focused on understanding the mechanisms driving disease progression and drug resistance in hematological malignancies. She also applies technologies for better translation of basic research results towards clinical implementation.
https://www.fimm.fi/en/research/groups/heckman

14.50-15.10 Coffee break

15.10-16.00 "The ABCs of a postdoc in the US" with M. Bishr Omary

This interactive session is open to all interested and will cover tips and advice on doing a postdoc in general and especially related to being a postdoc in US.

Register before Friday January 11th at
https://survey.abo.fi/lomakkeet/10837/lomake.html

For more information, contact Diana Toivola, e-mail: diana.toivola@abo.fi

Organisers: Cell Biology at Åbo Akademi University
Turku Doctoral Network in Molecular Biosciences (MolBio)
Drug Development and Diagnostics, Åbo Akademi University Strategic Research Profiling

Drug Development and Diagnostics

Åbo Akademi University

DRUG DEVELOPMENT AND DIAGNOSTICS MINI-SYMPOSIUM

TRANSLATING MOLECULES TO TREATMENTS II

Monday January 21st 2019
Presidentti-auditorium, BioCity, Tykistökatu 6, 20520 Turku

9.00-9.10 Opening words by Professor Lea Sistonen

9.10-10.00 Thomas Kirkegaard Jensen

Orphazyme - From Biology to Bedside
Thomas Kirkegaard Jensen is a PhD and Chief Scientific Officer of Orphazyme ApS in Denmark. Orphazyme develops new therapies for patients suffering from protein-misfolding diseases with no or limited treatment options available. Orphazyme was founded on the initial discovery made by Thomas during his doctoral studies in the laboratory of Professor Marja Jäättelä at the Danish Cancer Society, in which they found that the molecular chaperone, heat shock protein 70, reverts the pathology associated with lysosomal storage diseases. Based on this finding the company develops of new treatments for lysosomal storage diseases.

10.00-10.20 Coffee break

10.20-11.10 Rajwinder Lehal

From Cell to Cellestia - Transition of a PhD Project Into a Drug Development Company
Rajwinder Lehal is a PhD and co-founder of Cellestia Biotech AG in Switzerland. The aim of Cellestia Biotech is to develop innovative therapeutics for cancer treatment. At Cellestia Biotech, he is Chief Scientific Officer and serves on the Board of Directors. Cellestia Biotech has developed a targeted therapy designed to treat cancers resulting from a mutation of the Notch gene. Molecule CB-103, discovered by Rajwinder Lehal during his doctoral studies in Professor Freddy Radtke's laboratory at EPFL, cuts off Notch signals leading to cell death of cancer cells.

11.10-12.00 Mads Daugaard

Leveraging Placental Malaria Tropism for Cancer Therapeutic and Diagnostic Applications
Mads Daugaard is an Assistant Professor and group leader at Vancouver Prostate Centre at University of British Columbia and the Co-founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of three biotech companies; VAR2 Pharmaceuticals, OncoMal and VarCT Diagnostics in Canada. Mads is a molecular biologist specialized in tumour-associated stress signaling pathways and tumour targeting systems. His research focuses on alternative polyadenylation of mRNAs, chromatin context-dependent DNA repair, development of resistance to chemotherapy, and immune-evasion mechanisms in cancer. Another aspect of Mads' research relates to discovery and development of novel tumour targeting systems based on parasite-derived recombinant proteins relevant for therapeutic and diagnostic applications in cancer.

12.30-14.00 Round table lunch with speakers
Round table discussions including lunch for students and postdocs in groups of 10 students/postdocs per speaker. The 30 first to register will be admitted.

Register before Friday January 11th at
https://survey.abo.fi/lomakkeet/10837/lomake.html

Drug Development and Diagnostics

For more information, contact Annika Meinander, e-mail: annika.meinander@abo.fi

Organisers: Cell Biology at Åbo Akademi University
Turku Doctoral Network in Molecular Biosciences (MolBio)
Drug Development and Diagnostics, Åbo Akademi University Strategic Research Profiling

Åbo Akademi