



“Reflections on the molecular machines of life’s energy supply”

Professor Peter Rich

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November 16th (Mon), 2015
11:00 - 12:00
Main Hall, Bldg.4

Research Keywords: Biochemistry, Biophysics, Bioenergetics, Biological energy production, Electron transfer, Mitochondria, Spectroscopy, Respiratory chain, Quinones, Molecular machines, Infrared spectroscopy, Medical Diagnostics

About Speaker:

Professor Peter Rich is an international authority in the field of molecular bioenergetics, specialising in biological energy production by the respiratory electron transfer chains of our intracellular mitochondria. He has received the A.N. Belozersky and Keilin Medals and has served on numerous editorial and conference committees. His training came from a Ph.D. in Cambridge University, followed by a postdoctoral post in the Johnson Research Foundation in Philadelphia. On returning to Cambridge, he established his reputation with his chemical and electrochemical studies of quinones, molecules central to most types of biological electron transfer chains including those in respiration and photosynthesis. Later, he succeeded Nobel Laureate Dr. Peter Mitchell as Director of his independent Glynn Research Institute, extending studies to basic mechanisms of the complex respiratory protein ‘molecular machines’. In 1997 he moved the laboratory into University College London, establishing a vibrational infrared spectroscopy facility to further investigate these same enzymes and directing part of these facilities to translational applications in medical diagnostics.

Career

1969 - 1972

B.Sc. Honours Biochemistry, Bristol University, UK

1972 - 1975

Ph.D. in Biochemistry, Cambridge University, UK

1975 - 1978

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Dept. Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, U.S.A.

1978 - 1986

Research Fellow, Cambridge University, UK

1986 - 1996

Fellow, Director of Research, and Foundation Chair, Glynn Research Institute, Bodmin, U.K

1996 - Present

Professor, Dept. Structural & Molecular Biology, UCL, London