

"Targeting the innate immune signaling network for the treatment of inflammatory and autoimmune disease"

Professor Sir Philip Cohen FRS FRSE FMedSci

Date: Tuesday May 31, 2016

Time: 11.00 a.m.

Venue: SAHMRI Auditorium



Sir Philip Cohen FRS, FRSE, FAA

Professor of Enzymology, MRC Protein Phosphorylation and Ubiquitylation Unit, University of Dundee

Philip was trained at University College, London and then spent two years at the University of Washington, Seattle, USA before joining the Biochemistry Department at the University of Dundee, Scotland in 1971, where he has worked ever since. He was a Royal Society Research Professor from 1984-2010, Director of the Medical Research Council Protein Phosphorylation Unit from 1990-2012, and the Director of the Scottish Institute for Cell Signalling from 2008-2012. He founded the Division of Signal Transduction Therapy (DSTT) in 1998, which is Europe's largest and longest running collaboration between academia and the pharmaceutical industry.

Philip is best known in science for his pioneering work in the field of "Protein Phosphorylation", a biological control mechanism that regulates most aspects of cell life. He discovered enzymes that became the targets for new drugs that are used to treat cancer and worked out how insulin converts glucose in the blood to its storage form glycogen in muscles. His current research focuses on understanding how the innate immune system protects against infection and why its de-regulation causes inflammatory and autoimmune diseases.

Philip's awards include the Swiss Louis Jeantet Prize for Medicine, the Prix Van Gysel of Belgian Royal Academy of Medicine, the Pfizer Award for Innovative Science in Europe, the the Rolf Luft Prize of the Karolinska Institute, Sweden, the UK Medical Research Council's Millenium Medal and the Albert Einstein World Award of Science from The World Cultural Council. He has been elected a Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA and Australia. He was knighted by the Queen in 1998.

Philip Cohen has published over 530 papers and reviews (excluding abstracts) and one book. His H-factor is 144 (i.e. 144 papers cited at least 144 times). He has given over 320 invited and named lectures at National and International Scientific Meetings. 44 students have received a Ph.D. under his supervision and 72 postdoctoral researchers have worked in his laboratory.

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