



UNSW
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
SYDNEY • AUSTRALIA

School of
Medical Sciences
Faculty of Medicine



SoMS SEMINAR SERIES 2009

4pm to 5pm on the dates indicated - Student Learning Space, Main Lecture Theatre, Lower Ground Floor, Wallace Wurth



Tuesday, 29th September

Prof Phil Hogg, Cardiovascular Research Centre & Children's Cancer Institute Australia

Seminar Title: **My Journey from the Bench to the Bedside with a New Type of Cancer Drug**

Genes encode proteins, which are the machinery of life. All life forms make proteins that contain bonds known as disulphide bonds. Some of these bonds have evolved to control how proteins work by breaking or forming in a precise way. These are called 'allosteric disulphides'. The application of this research has led to the development of a novel class of cancer drugs and a new cancer treatment. The new drugs starve the cancer tumours of their blood supply.



Tuesday, 27th October

Prof Pankaj Sah, Synaptic Plasticity Laboratory, The University of Queensland

Seminar Title: **Inhibitory Circuits in the Basolateral Amygdala**

The amygdala is a part of the limbic system that is involved in assigning emotional significance to cognitive events. In particular, the processing of fear producing stimuli. One form of learning in which the amygdala is involved in fear conditioning. Along with the autonomic symptoms of the fear response there are, in humans, cognitive effects such as feelings of dread and despair. Disorders of the storage of expression of fear related responses are thought to underlie such mental disorders as panic attacks, anxiety and PTSD.



Tuesday, 24th November

Prof George Muscat, Institute for Molecular Bioscience, The University of Queensland

Seminar Title: **Nuclear Receptors and the Regulation of Metabolism: Insights into Obesity and Glucose Homeostasis**

Nuclear Hormone Receptors (NRs) control lipid, glucose and energy homeostasis in metabolic, cardiovascular and endocrine organs. NRs in human health is underscored by the therapeutic utility of medicinals that target dysfunctional hormone signalling in the context of inflammation, cancer, endocrine and metabolic disease. NRs function as agonist-dependent DNA binding factors that translate nutritional, metabolic and pathophysiological signals into gene regulation.

For individual meetings with our invited presenters please contact Julie Ward at julie.w@unsw.edu.au to arrange a suitable time