MOLECULAR GENETICS OF CANCER

Joint Conference of the
American Association for Cancer Research
and the
European Association for Cancer Research

September 9-12, 1997
Hertford College, University of Oxford
Oxford, England

CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSONS
Sir Walter Bodmer / Oxford, England
Eric J. Stanbridge / Irvine, CA

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Keynote Lecture
Richard D. Klausner / Bethesda, MD

Low Eukaryotes - What they Tell Us About Cancer Genes
Roel Nusse / Stanford, CA
Tian Xu / New Haven, CT
Ronald H. A. Plasterk / Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Joan Massagué / New York, NY

New Approaches to Cloning Tumor Suppressor Genes
Adi Kimchi / Rehovot, Israel
Stanley N. Cohen / Stanford, CA
Carlo M. Croce / Philadelphia, PA
David H. Mack / Santa Clara, CA

Cell Cycle Genes and Cancer
Paul Nurse / London, England
Gordon Peters / London, England
Charles J. Sherr / Memphis, TN
Xin Lu / London, England

Molecular Analysis of Multistep Progression
Peter Collins / Goteborg, Sweden
Paul Cairns / Baltimore, MD
Helene S. Smith / San Francisco, CA
Ramon Parsons / New York, NY

Transgenic Mouse Models of Cancer
Walter Bodmer / Oxford, England
Terry A. Van Dyke / Chapel Hill, NC
Allan Bradley / Houston, TX
Anton J. M. Berns / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Molecular Genetics of Cancer of the Cervix
Eric J. Stanbridge / Irvine, CA
Karen H. Vousden / London, England
Garret M. Hampton / La Jolla, CA

Applicants are encouraged to submit abstracts for poster presentation.

Application deadline: June 30, 1997

Information and Application Forms
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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH
SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

JUNE 7-11, 1997
Cancer of the Central Nervous System
Conference with Neurosurgery Joint Section on Tumors
Chairpersons: Peter McL. Black, Boston, MA; Webster K. Cavenee, La Jolla, CA
Loew’s Coronado Bay Resort, San Diego, CA

SEPTEMBER 9-13, 1997
Molecular Genetics of Cancer
Conference with the European Association for Cancer Research
Chairpersons: Eric J. Stanbridge, Irvine, CA; Walter Bodmer, Oxford, England
Hertford College, Oxford, England

SEPTEMBER 26-30, 1997
Tumor Suppressor Genes
Co-Sponsored by the National Cancer Institute of Canada
Chairpersons: Stephen H. Friend, Seattle, WA; Philip Branton, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria, BC, Canada

OCTOBER 17-21, 1997
Transcriptional Control of Proliferation, Differentiation, and Development
Chairpersons: Robert Eisenman, Seattle, WA; Elaine V. Fuchs, Chicago, IL
The Sagamore Resort, Bolton Landing (Lake George), NY

DECEMBER 12-16, 1997
DNA Methylation, Imprinting, and the Epigenetics of Cancer
Chairpersons: Peter A. Jones, Los Angeles, CA; Stephen B. Baylin, Baltimore, MD; Timothy H. Bestor, New York, NY
El Conquistador Resort and Country Club, Las Crobas, PR

JANUARY 9-13, 1998
Mechanisms of Programmed Cell Death
Chairpersons: John C. Reed, La Jolla, CA; Vishva M. Dixit, Ann Arbor, MI
Renaissance Esmeralda Resort, Indian Wells (Palm Springs), CA

JANUARY 24-28, 1998
Angiogenesis and Cancer
Chairpersons: Judah Folkman, Boston, MA; Michael Klagsbrun, Boston, MA
Hyatt Orlando, Orlando, FL

FEBRUARY 16-21, 1998
Innovative Molecular Biology Approaches to the Prevention, Diagnosis, and Therapy of Cancer
Joint Meeting with the Japanese Cancer Association
Chairpersons: Edward Bresnick, Worcester, MA; Kaoru Abe, Tokyo, Japan
Maui Marriott Resort, Maui, HI

MARCH 28-APRIL 1, 1998
89th Annual Meeting
Chairperson: Frank J. Rauscher III, Philadelphia, PA
Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA
Abstract Deadline: October 28, 1997

AACR members will receive brochures on the above conferences as soon as they are available. Nonmembers should call or write:
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Transcriptional Control of Proliferation, Differentiation, and Development

October 17-21, 1997
The Sagamore, Bolton Landing (Lake George), New York

Conference Chairpersons
Robert N. Eisenman / Seattle, WA
Elaine V. Fuchs / Chicago, IL

Scientific Program

Keynote Session
Michael G. Rosenfeld / San Diego, CA
Stephen K. Burley / New York, NY
Michael R. Green / Worcester, MA

Transcriptional Mechanisms
Richard A. Young / Cambridge, MA
Joan L. Conaway / Oklahoma City, OK
James L. Manley / New York, NY
Cynthia Wolberger / Baltimore, MD

The Influence of Chromatin Structure on Transcription
Beverly M. Emerson / La Jolla, CA
Alan P. Wolffe / Bethesda, MD

Transcriptional Regulation of the Cell Cycle
David M. Livingston / Boston, MA
Bruce A. Edgar / Seattle, WA
Charles J. Sherr / Memphis, TN
Erin K. O'Shea / San Francisco, CA

Signal Transduction and Transcription
Gerald R. Crabtree / Stanford, CA
Joan Massague / New York, NY
Hans C. Clevers / Utrecht, The Netherlands

Oncogenic and Anti-Oncogenic Transcription Factors
Carol Prives / New York, NY
A. Thomas Look / Memphis, TN
George F. Vande Woude / Frederick, MD
Robert N. Eisenman / Seattle, WA

Transcription Control of Differentiation
David Baltimore / Cambridge, MA
Bruce M. Spiegelman / Boston, MA
Elaine V. Fuchs / Chicago, IL

Gene Manipulating Strategies
Robb Krumlauf / London, England
Spyros Artavanis-Tsakonas / New Haven, CT
Eric N. Olson / Dallas, TX
Norbert Perrimon / Boston, MA

Applicants are encouraged to submit abstracts for poster presentation.

Application deadline: July 31, 1997

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This issue’s cover features Sir Walter Bodmer, Principal of Hertford College, University of Oxford, London, who is a pioneer in the development of the HLA system, particularly the role of changes in HLA expression in tumors as an indication of escape from immune attack. A striking correlation between changes in HLA expression and the mismatch mutation phenotype in sporadic colon carcinomas has been demonstrated and is being further investigated in this and other cancers.

The use of human peripheral blood lymphocytes to make human-mouse somatic cell hybrids led to the first somatic cell genetic analysis of linkage between human markers, as demonstrated by Sir Walter and his colleagues (Nature, 223: 358-363, 1969). This was a major contribution to the revolution in human gene mapping, as well as to the development of monoclonal antibodies. Early applications included the gene assignment of EsD to chromosome 13, later used for the analysis of retinoblastoma, and use in the production and analysis of sera and monoclonal antibodies of defined specificity, and their subsequent use in cancer diagnosis and for the analysis of the HLA system. Applications in cancer included the first mapping of oncogenes, specifically c-abl to chromosome 9, from which followed the molecular analysis of the Philadelphia chromosome translocation, and the assignment of the gene for familial polyposis to chromosome 5 and the demonstration by allele loss of its substantial role in sporadic colon carcinoma, the first tumor suppressor gene clearly identified for a major common cancer (Nature, 328: 614–616, 1987). In 1979, Lancer Solomon and Sir Walter pioneered the suggestion of the use of DNA polymorphisms and a well spread genetic map for the systematic analysis of human variation, which provided a major argument for the development of the Human Genome Project. This Project was first discussed in general terms by Sir Walter in 1980, and in more detail in 1986 (Cold Spring Harbor Symposia on Quantitative Biology, pp. 511–513. NY: Cold Spring Harbor, 1986). These genetic contributions have played a significant role in the revolutionary development of our understanding of the genetics of cancer and its ultimate application to prevention, diagnosis, early detection, and treatment.


Sir Walter carried out his undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of Cambridge (Clare College), where he received his B.A. in Mathematics in 1956 and his Ph.D. in Genetics in 1959. Following work as a Research and then Official Fellow at Clare College from 1958–61, Sir Walter moved on to Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto, CA, where he became Assistant Professor in the Department of Genetics in 1962, followed by an Associate Professorship from 1966–68 before becoming a full Professor there in 1968. He returned to England in 1970 as Professor of Genetics at the University of Oxford, a position he held until 1979, when he became Director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) in London, in which capacity he served until 1991, when he was appointed the Director-General of the ICRF. In 1996, he assumed his current duties as Principal of Hertford and Head of Laboratory, ICRF Cancer & Immunogenetics, Institute of Molecular Medicine, Oxford.

Sir Walter has over 500 publications and has contributed his time and talents to many advisory councils, including service as Chairman of the BBC General Advisory Council. He has been an active member of many professional societies, serving as President of the following: the Royal Statistical Society (1984–85); the British Association for the Advancement of Science (1987–88); the Association for Science Education (1989–90); the British Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (1990–91); the Human Genome Organisation (1990–92); the Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (1990–93); the International Federation of Associations for the Advancement of Science and Technology (1992–94); and, most recently, the European Association for Cancer Research (EACR) (1994–96). He is also a member of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), and he is co-chairperson, along with Eric Stanbridge of the University of California at Irvine, of the 1997 Joint AACR/EACR Conference on “Molecular Genetics of Cancer,” which is to be held at Hertford College in September 1997.

For his outstanding contributions and service to the field, Sir Walter has received many honors and awards, including the bestowing of his title in 1986. In addition he is a Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Fellow of the Royal Society and of the Royal College of Pathologists, and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, the Royal College of Physicians, and the Royal Society of Edinburgh. He is the recipient of several prestigious awards, including the William Allen Memorial Award of the American Society of Human Genetics (1980), the Conway Evans Prize of the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal Society (1982), and the Michael Faraday Award of the Royal Society (1994), and he holds honorary degrees from several universities, including Bath, Oxford, Edinburgh, Surrey, Bristol, London, and Aberdeen, among others.

Sidney Weinhouse